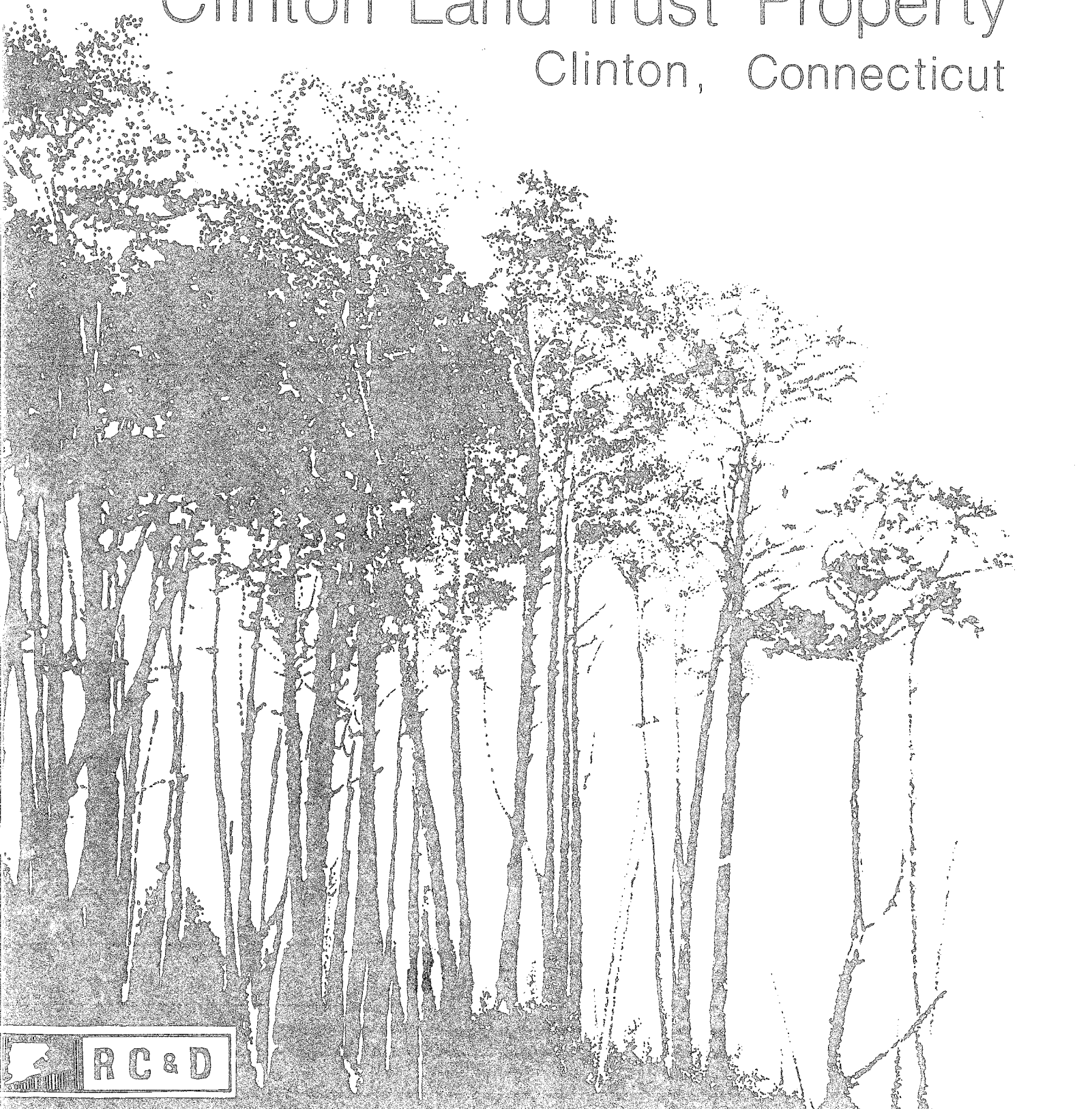


Environmental Review Team Report

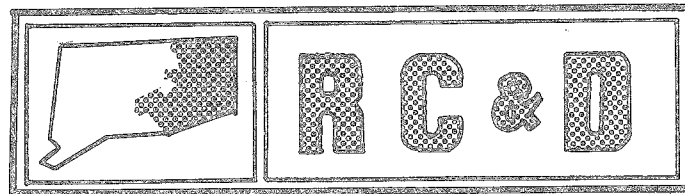
Clinton Land Trust Property
Clinton, Connecticut



EASTERN CONNECTICUT RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA, INC.

Environmental Review Team
Report
on
Clinton Land Trust Property
Clinton, Connecticut

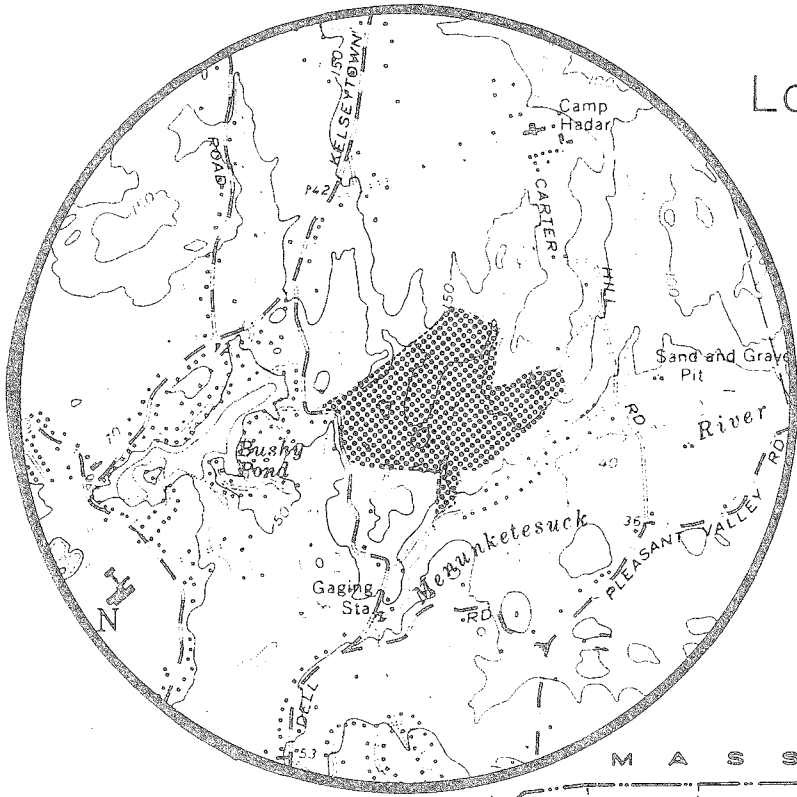
October, 1981



eastern connecticut resource conservation & development area
environmental review team
139 boswell avenue
norwich, connecticut 06360

Location of Study Site

CLINTON LAND TRUST
CLINTON, CONNECTICUT



EASTERN CONNECTICUT
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW TEAM REPORT
ON
CLINTON LAND TRUST PARCEL
CLINTON, CONNECTICUT

This report is an outgrowth of a request from the First Selectman of Clinton to the Middlesex County Soil and Water Conservation District (S&WCD). The S&WCD referred this request to the Eastern Connecticut Resource, Conservation, and Development (RC&D) Area Executive Committee for their consideration and approval as a project measure. The request was approved and the measure reviewed by the Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT).

The soils of the site were mapped by a soil scientist of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Reproductions of the soil survey map as well as a topographic map of the site were distributed to all ERT participants prior to their field review of the site.

The ERT that field-checked the site consisted of the following personnel: Barry Cavanna, District Conservationist, SCS; Mike Zizka, Geologist, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); Rob Rocks, Forester, (DEP); Karl Lutz, Biologist (DEP); Ed Meehan, Planner, Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency; Andy Petracco, Recreation Specialist, DEP; and Jeanne Shelburn, ERT Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area.

The team met and field-checked the site on Thursday, August 20, 1981. Reports from each Team member were sent to the ERT Coordinator for review and summarization for the final report.

This report is not meant to compete with private consultants by supplying site designs or detailed solutions to development problems. This report identifies the existing resource base and evaluates its significance to the proposed development and also suggests considerations that should be of concern to the developer and the Town of Clinton. The results of this Team action are oriented toward the development of a better environmental quality and the long-term economics of the land use.

The Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area Committee hopes you will find this report of value and assistance in making your decisions on this particular site.

If you require any additional information, please contact: Ms. Jeanne Shelburn, Environmental Review Team Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area, 139 Boswell Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 06360, 889-2324.

Topography

— Site Boundary

0 660'
scale



INTRODUCTION

The Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team was asked to prepare a natural resource inventory for a 60± acre parcel owned by the Clinton Land Trust. The property is centrally located in the town, on the eastern side of Brickyard Road and on the northern side of Valley Road. The Clinton Land Trust will eventually use the information in this study to prepare a long range plan and to design trail layouts for the property.

The site has a variety of steeply sloping topography and narrow flat expanses. Rock outcrops are prevalent. Several small intermittent streams flow through the central and western sections of the property. Soils on site include the Charlton series and the Hollis series which are described in detail in the soils section of this report. The site is entirely forested at present, however, gypsy moth damage on the hemlocks has been severe. Dominant species on the site include Canadian hemlock and mountain laurel. Access to the site is available through a 300-foot right-of-way from Valley Road and a narrow (approximately 50 foot) right-of-way from Brickyard Road. All other road frontage for the property has been subdivided into single family home lots.

This report catalogs the natural resource base of this site and discusses the best use of the land. In the general opinion of the Team, the most practical uses of the site include forestry management, passive recreation, nature education and some types of active recreation (i.e., cross-country skiing). These issues are discussed in more detail in the separate sections of the report which follow.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

TOPOGRAPHY

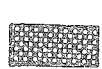
The Clinton Land Trust parcel comprises a series of rocky knobs and ridges alternating with narrow flat valleys. The maximum elevation is about 152 feet above mean sea level, reached along the easternmost section of the northern boundary of the parcel. The minimum elevation is about 25 feet above mean sea level, at the point where the site's central stream exits the property at Valley Road. The knobs and ridges are oriented in a generally north-south pattern. The principal valley is traversed by the central stream. This valley is relatively broad in the central section, but it is considerably narrower in the northern and southern sections. The central ridge has a clifflike slope on its eastern side, facing the principal valley; the western slope of the ridge is steep but not precipitous. The eastern side of the western line of ridges and rocky knobs is also clifflike in some places, particularly toward the south, but the western side is merely steep. The central ridge offers attractive, but only short-distance, vistas into the principal valley. A longer vista southeast toward the Menunketesuck River valley is provided by a rocky knoll at the easternmost edge of the site.

Surficial Geology

— Site Boundary



EXPLANATION



Area of extensive bedrock outcrops and very thin, patchy till.



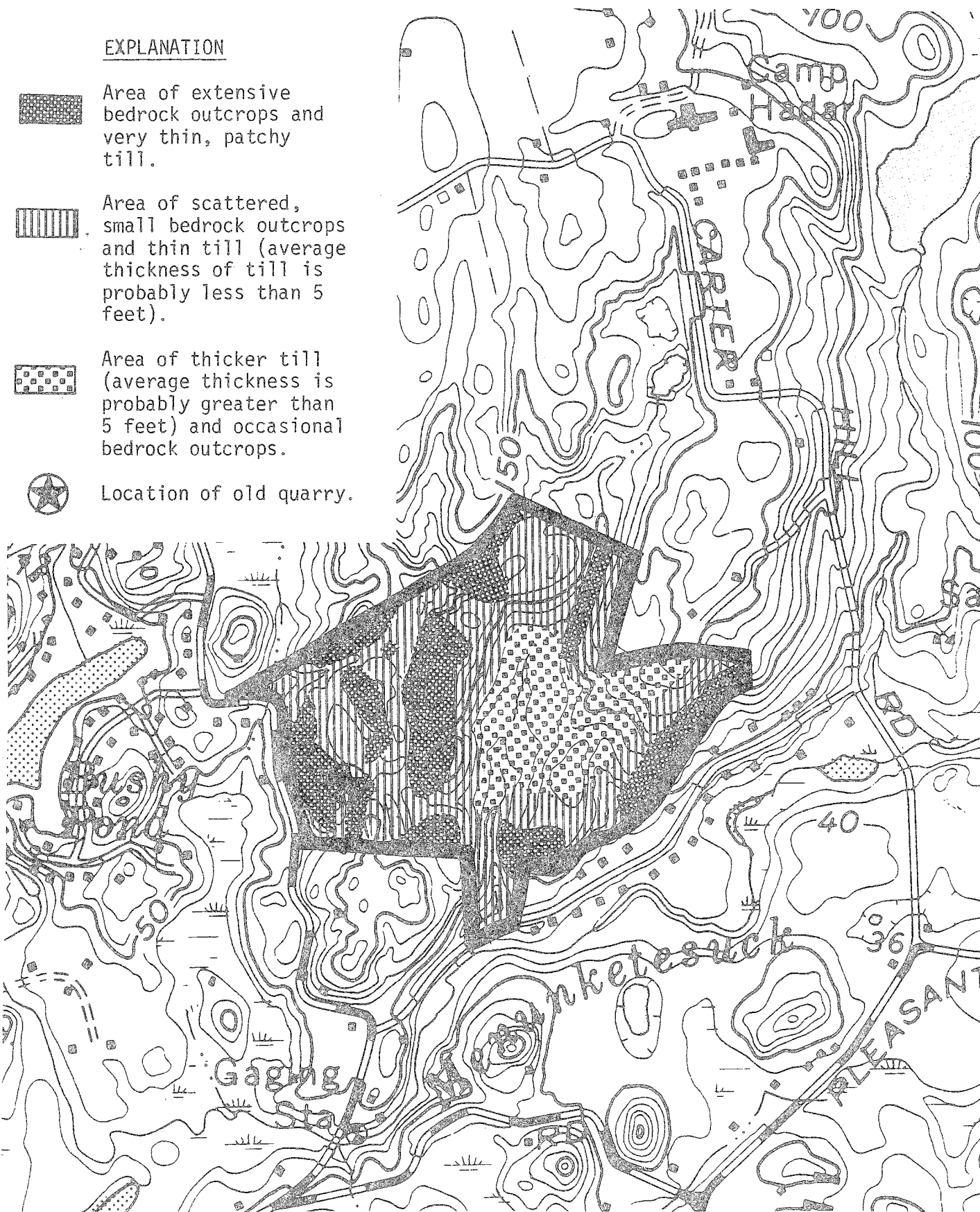
Area of scattered, small bedrock outcrops and thin till (average thickness of till is probably less than 5 feet).



Area of thicker till (average thickness is probably greater than 5 feet) and occasional bedrock outcrops.



Location of old quarry.



GEOLOGY

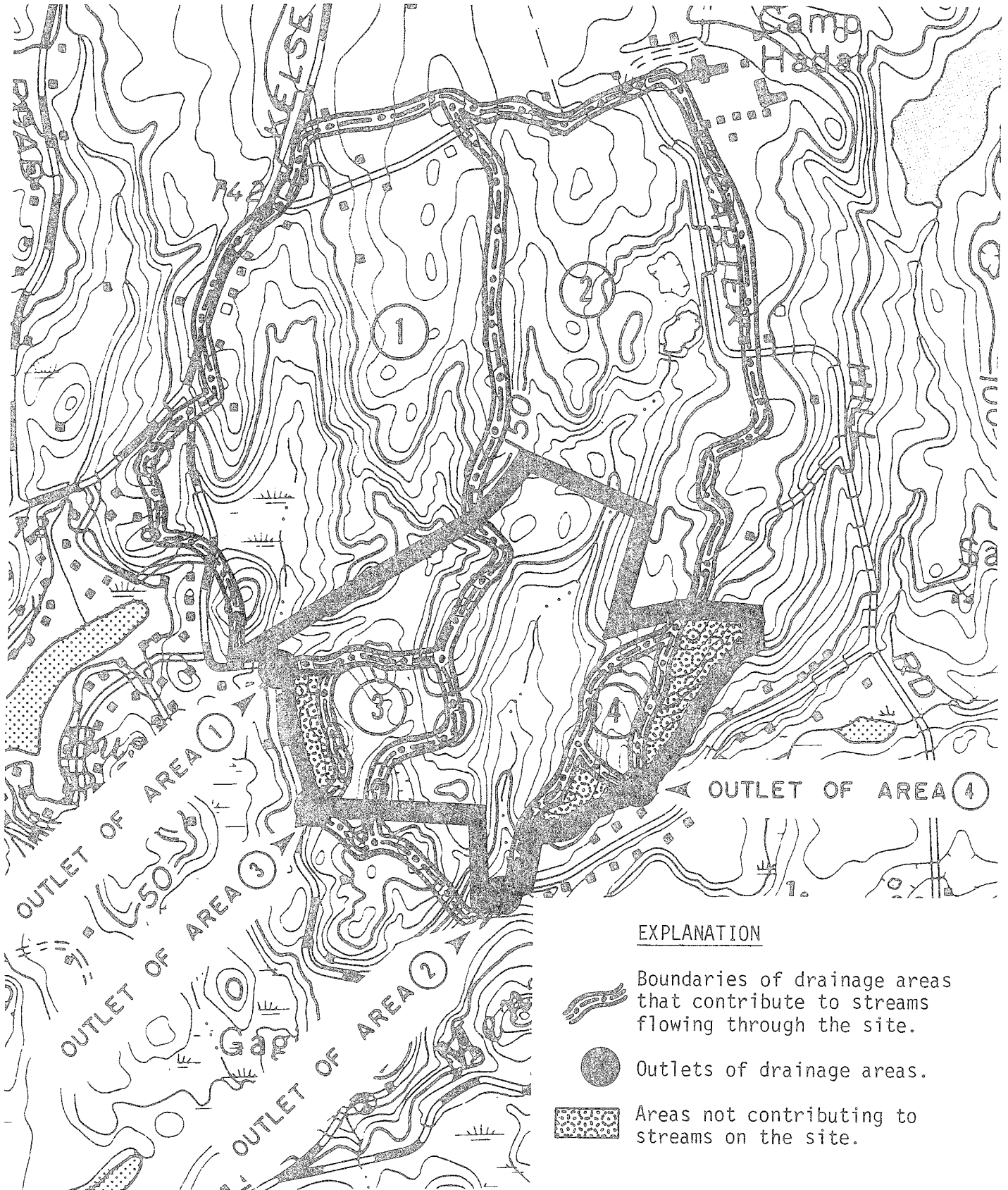
The geology of the Clinton Land Trust parcel may be described very simply. Ridges and knobs of Monson Gneiss are covered incompletely and generally thinly by glacial till. The Monson Gneiss is a bedrock formation that consists largely of light to dark gray biotite-plagioclase-quartz gneiss with black amphibolite layers. The term "gneiss" is given to metamorphic rocks (rocks that have been geologically altered by high pressures and/or high temperatures) in which thin bands of elongate, platy, or flaky mineral grains alternate with generally thicker bands or layers of granular mineral grains. "Amphibolite" is a term given to rocks composed mostly of minerals in the amphibole group (usually hornblende). The bedrock on the property differs from the typical Monson Gneiss rocks in that it contains layers and irregular masses of pink granite pegmatite and granitic gneiss (granitic rocks have more potash feldspar than plagioclase). Some of this granitic rock is exposed in the old abandoned quarry area, on the eastern side of the ridge in the southwestern section of the parcel. The approximate distribution of bedrock outcrops on the site is shown in an accompanying illustration.

The unconsolidated materials which discontinuously cover bedrock are classified as till. "Till" refers to rock particles and fragments or other types of sediment that were deposited directly from glacier ice. Since the ice indiscriminately collected, transported, and released particles of widely ranging sizes as it passed over the preglacial surface, the till is composed of a nonsorted, generally nonlayered mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel, and boulders. The till on the site is mostly less than 10 feet thick, but deeper pockets may be present, particularly in the valleys. The texture of the till is variable, but it frequently is sandy, extremely stony, and relatively loose. In the wetter portions of the valleys, the till may be overlain by a mixture of sand, silt, clay, and organic materials. These swamp sediments are probably no more than 5 feet thick in any area.




HYDROLOGY

The parcel lies entirely within the watershed of Menunketesuck River, which flows eastward along Valley Road immediately south of the site. Several intermittent streams, tributary to the river, flow south through the property. None are large; the principal stream on the site drains a total area of only about 95 acres, 32 acres of which are within the parcel. The second largest stream on the site cuts through the western corner and drains a total area of about 75 acres. Only about 10 acres of the second stream's watershed lies within the parcel. A very minor stream originating in a swamp near the old quarry in the southwestern section of the property drains about 10 acres within the site and 1 acre south of the site. Another tiny watercourse in the southeastern portion of the site drains about 5 acres, all within the parcel. The various drainage areas are shown in an accompanying illustration.

The parcel contains no particularly significant aquifers (sources of groundwater supplies). Bedrock would be the only suitable aquifer for a well on the site. Bedrock is normally capable of yielding small amounts of water (less than 10 gallons per minute), which are suitable to meet the needs of individual families. High yields from bedrock (more than 50 gallons per minute) are rare.



EXPLANATION

-  Boundaries of drainage areas that contribute to streams flowing through the site.
-  Outlets of drainage areas.
-  Areas not contributing to streams on the site.

SOILS

A detailed soils map of this site is included in the Appendix to this report, accompanied by a chart which indicates soil limitations for various urban uses. As the soil map is an enlargement from the original 1,320 feet/inch scale to 660 feet/inch, the soil boundary lines should not be viewed as absolute boundaries, but as guidelines to the distribution of soil types on the site. The soil limitation chart indicates the probable limitations for each of the soils for on-site sewerage, buildings with basements, buildings without basements, streets and parking, and landscaping. However, limitations, even though severe, do not preclude the use of the land for development. If economics permit large expenditures for land development and the intended objective is consistent with the objectives of local and regional development, many soils and sites with difficult problems can be used. The soils map, with the publication Soil Survey, Middlesex County, Connecticut, can aid in the identification and interpretation of soils and their uses on this site. Know Your Land: Natural Soil Groups for Connecticut can also give insight to the development potentials of the soils and their relationship to the surficial geology of the site.

Soil series typical of the site are described as follows:

Charlton-Hollis very stony fine sandy loams, 3 to 15 percent slopes: This complex consists of gently sloping and sloping well drained and somewhat excessively drained soils on ridges where the relief is affected by the underlying bedrock and on upland glacial till plains. These soils formed in glacial till derived from gneiss, schist, and granite. Stones and boulders cover 0.1 to 3 percent of the surface. This complex is about 50 percent Charlton soils, 30 percent Hollis soils, and 20 percent other soils and bedrock outcrops. The soils of this complex are in such an intricate pattern that it was not practical to map them separately.

Typically, the surface layer of the Charlton soils is dark brown fine sandy loam 2 inches thick. The subsoil is 34 inches thick. The upper 30 inches is dark yellowish brown, yellowish brown, and light olive brown fine sandy loam. The lower 4 inches is light yellowish brown gravelly sandy loam. The substratum is brown fine sandy loam to a depth of 60 inches or more.

Typically, the surface layer of the Hollis soils is very dark grayish brown fine sandy loam 3 inches thick. The subsoil is yellowish brown fine sandy loam 11 inches thick. Hard, unweathered schist bedrock is at a depth of 14 inches.

Included with this complex in mapping are small, intermingled areas of well drained Canton, Montauk, and Paxton soils; moderately well drained Woodbridge soils; poorly drained Leicester and Ridgebury soils; and very poorly drained Adrian and Whitman soils. Also included are bedrock outcrops and a few areas where the stones and boulders have been cleared from the surface.

The permeability of the Charlton soils is moderate or moderately rapid. Available water capacity is moderate. Runoff is medium to rapid. Unlimed areas of the Charlton soils are very strongly acid to medium acid.

The permeability of the Hollis soils is moderate or moderately rapid above the bedrock. Available water capacity is low. Runoff is medium to rapid. Unlimed areas of the Hollis soils are very strongly acid to medium acid.

This complex is poorly suited to cultivated crops. It is limited mainly by stoniness, bedrock outcrops, and the shallow depth to bedrock in many places. The complex is suited to orchards and pasture. It has a moderate to severe erosion hazard, and minimum tillage and maintaining permanent vegetative cover help to control erosion.

This complex is suited to trees. Trees on the Hollis soil are subject to windthrow because of the shallow rooting zone above the bedrock.

This complex has fair potential for community development. The shallow depth to bedrock in the Hollis soils and the bedrock outcrops make excavation difficult. Onsite septic systems require very careful design and installation, and an area of more than two acres is sometimes needed as a suitable site for an onsite septic system. In a few areas, bedrock outcrops have aesthetic value for homesites.

Hollis-Charlton extremely stony fine sandy loams, 15 to 40 percent slopes: This complex consists of moderately steep to very steep, somewhat excessively drained and well drained soils on ridges where the relief is affected by the underlying bedrock on upland glacial till plains. These soils formed in glacial till derived mostly from granite, gneiss and schist. The areas have a rough surface with bedrock outcrops; narrow, intermittent drainageways; and small, wet depressions. In most areas, 3 to 5 percent of the surface is covered with stones and boulders. The total acreage of this complex is about 40 percent Hollis soils, 35 percent Charlton soils, and 25 percent other soils and bedrock outcrops. The soils of this complex are in such an intricate pattern that it was not practical to map them separately.

Typically, the surface layer of the Hollis soils is very dark grayish brown fine sandy loam 3 inches thick. The subsoil is friable, yellowish brown fine sandy loam 11 inches thick. Hard, unweathered schist bedrock is at a depth of 14 inches.

Typically, the surface layer of the Charlton soils is dark brown fine sandy loam 2 inches thick. The subsoil is 34 inches thick. The upper 30 inches is dark yellowish brown, and light olive brown fine sandy loam. The lower 4 inches is light yellowish brown gravelly sandy loam. The substratum is friable, brown fine sandy loam to a depth of 60 inches or more.

Included with this complex in mapping are small, intermingled areas of well drained Canton, Montauk, and Paxton soils and moderately well drained Woodbridge soils. Also included are bedrock outcrops, areas of soils with slopes of less than 15 percent, and a few nonstony areas.

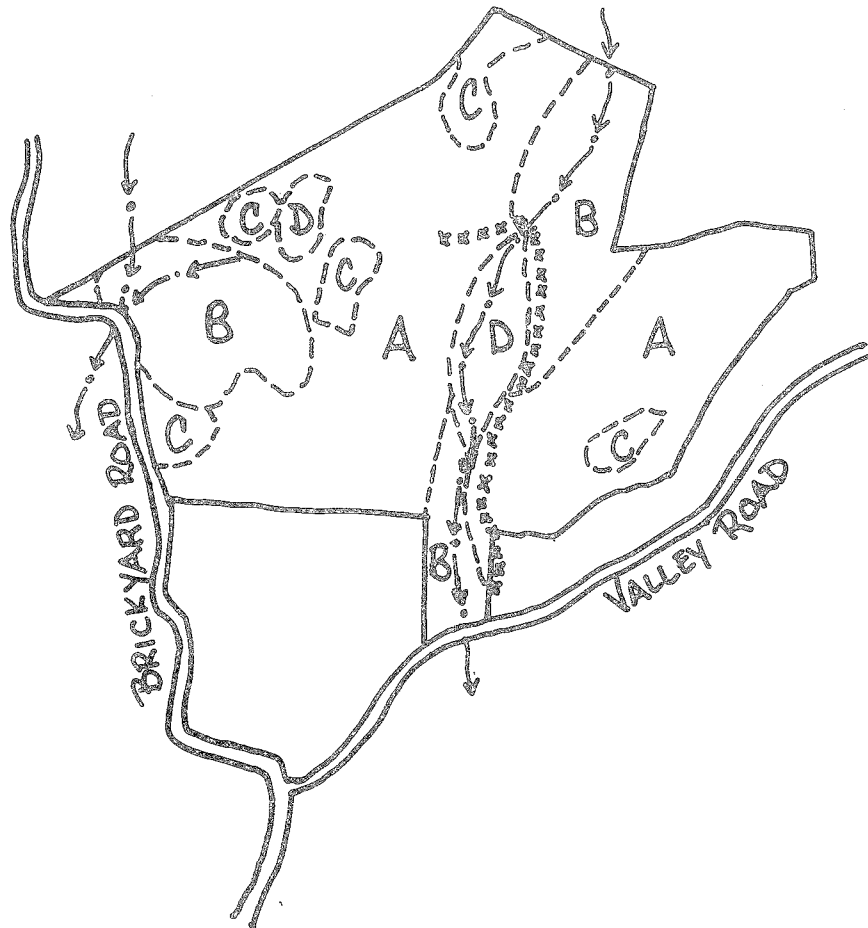
VEGETATION

Four vegetation types are present within the 56 acre Clinton Land Trust parcel. These include softwoods/hardwoods, 25[±] acres; hemlock, 20[±] acres; oak ridge, 6[±] acres, and hardwood swamp/stream belt, 5[±] acres. (See Vegetation Type Map.) Large, healthy trees which have high aesthetic value are present within both the softwood/hardwood stand and the hemlock stand. Windthrow is

Vegetation

— Site Boundary

0 660'
scale



LEGEND

- Road
- Property Boundary
- Vegetation Type Boundary
- Stream
- Trail

VEGETATION TYPE DESCRIPTIONS*

- TYPE A. Softwood/hardwoods, 25 \pm acres, fully to over-stocked, pole to sawtimber-size.
- TYPE B. Hemlock, 20 \pm acres, fully-stocked, pole to sawtimber-size.
- TYPE C. Oak ridge, 6 \pm acres, under-stocked, pole-size.
- TYPE D. Hardwood swamp/streambelt, 5 \pm acres, over-stocked, pole-size.

- * Seedling-size = Trees less than 1 inch in diameter at 4 1/2 feet above the ground (d.b.h.)
- Sapling-size = Trees 1 to 5 inches in d.b.h.
- Pole-size = Trees 5 to 11 inches in d.b.h.
- Sawtimber-size = Trees 11 inches and greater in d.b.h.

a potential hazard throughout this entire parcel. Selective thinning where access is feasible would improve the health and stability of the residual trees. These thinnings should remove no more than one-third of the total volume which is present. The best trees should be left to form the residual stand.

Vegetation Type Descriptions:

Type A. (Softwoods/Hardwoods.) This 25 \pm acre fully to over-stocked stand is made up of pole to sawtimber size eastern hemlock, black oak, red oak, white oak, black birch, shagbark hickory with scattered red maple and yellow birch intermixed. Many of the trees in this stand are declining in health and vigor. The understory vegetation which is present includes hardwood tree seedlings, patches of mountain laurel, maple-leaved viburnum, flowering dogwood, highbush blueberry, hemlock seedlings and witch-hazel. Canada mayflower, club moss, striped pipsissewa, wild sarsaparilla, dewberry, rattlesnake plantain, enchanters nightshade, partridge berry, horsebalm, Christmas fern, evergreen wood fern, royal fern, Virginia creeper and poison ivy are the most abundant ground cover species which are present in this stand.

Type B. (Hemlock.) Pole to sawtimber size eastern hemlock dominate in this 20 \pm acre fully-stocked stand. Other tree species which are present include black oak, white oak, chestnut oak, black birch and red maple. Patches of mountain laurel, maple-leaved viburnum and hemlock seedlings are present, but not widespread. Ground cover vegetation includes pink lady's-slipper, Canada mayflower, rattlesnake plantain, striped pipsissewa, Christmas fern and rock polypody.

Type C. (Oak Ridge.) Approximately 6 acres of this property is under-stocked with slow growing malformed pole-size chestnut oak and black birch. The understory is sparsely vegetated with chestnut oak and black birch seedlings and mountain laurel. Ground cover vegetation is made up of huckleberry, Canada mayflower, club moss, rock polypody, Pennsylvania sedge, and reindeer lichen.

Type D. (Hardwood Swamp/Stream Belt.) The two hardwood swamp areas which are present within this tract total 5 \pm acres. They are vegetated with crowded pole-size and occasional sawtimber-size red maple, along with low numbers of yellow birch, white ash and tuliptree intermixed within the stream belt area. Spice bush, highbush blueberry and sweet pepperbush form a dense understory in this area. Herbaceous vegetation includes skunk cabbage, false nettle, touch-me-not, cardinal-flower, water pennywort, sensitive fern, marsh fern and scattered tussock sedge.

Present within both the softwood/hardwood stand (Vegetation Type A) and the hemlock stand (Vegetation Type B) are large healthy red oak, black oak, white oak, and black birch which have high aesthetic value. These trees should be retained, especially if management of the vegetation through selective thinning is desired. Development of trails for passive recreation through these areas should be designed to pass nearby, but not so close to cause root damage to these selected specimen trees.

There are many large hemlock trees which are located within the northern portion of the ravine area. This entire area has high aesthetic value, however, development of trails may be limited by the extreme stoniness of the area.

Windthrow is a potential hazard throughout this tract. The shallow to bedrock soils which are present do not allow trees to become securely anchored. Where the underlying bedrock is highly fractured, however, the roots may be able to penetrate deeper and increase tree stability. The windthrow potential is severe in the oak ridge area (Vegetation Type C). Here trees are growing in small areas between rock outcrops. These oak ridge areas are droughty, caused by the shallow depth of soil to underlying bedrock. This lack of moisture and exposure to severe conditions causes their malformed appearance. The saturated soils which are present in the hardwood swamp/stream belt area (Vegetation Type D) do not allow the trees which are present to develop deep root systems. As a result, these trees are not very stable and are very susceptible to windthrow. Large openings made within any of these areas may increase the windthrow hazard by allowing wind to pass through rather than over these areas.

Gypsy moth infestation has caused partial defoliation in both the softwood/hardwood stand and parts of the hemlock stand. Where hemlocks were completely defoliated, their survival is doubtful. Two successive defoliations may severely stress hardwood trees, allowing secondary insect and disease infestation to cause mortality. Light thinnings in the sections of these stands which are accessible would help to reduce crowding and eventually allow the trees to become healthier and more vigorous. Healthy trees are less susceptible to mortality brought on by gypsy moth defoliation.

The softwood/hardwood stand and the hemlock stand would both benefit by receiving thinnings which selectively remove damaged trees, unhealthy trees, poor quality trees and trees that are directly competing with high quality trees. However, poor access, steep slopes and rockiness limit the feasibility of such thinnings throughout much of this tract. Where these conditions are not a limiting factor (along the trail which runs north-south through these stands), one-third of the total volume could be removed. These thinnings will reduce the competition between residual trees for space, light, nutrients and water. If accessible areas are not large enough for a commercial harvest of sawtimber, fuelwood could be removed. Care should be taken not to create large openings which will increase the windthrow hazard.

A public service forester or private forester should be contacted to help mark the trees that are to be removed should thinning of these stands be desirable. The forester could also help lay out a trail system and identify specimen trees.

WILDLIFE

This area has a steeply sloping topography and is entirely forested with two general habitat types: a deciduous hardwood stand and an evergreen hemlock stand. There are also two streams which run through the property.

The hemlock areas consist of a thick overstory of mature hemlock with a light understory of young hemlock, mountain laurel and a sparse mixture of invading hardwoods. These areas do not offer very much in the way of food for

wildlife, but are excellent for cover, especially in the winter since the hemlock and mountain laurel are evergreen.

The hardwood stand contains red oak, white oak, hickory, beech, and birch with an understory of huckleberry, grapevines, greenbrier, spicebush and a variety of flowering plants. On the lower slopes and valleys, the understory is lush and offers much to wildlife in the way of food and cover. The streams in the area are a good water source for wildlife. On the ridgetops, the understory is more scrubby and sparse. There are a number of cavity trees located over the entire area which provide nesting sites for cavity-using wildlife. These cavity trees should be left standing. There were several squirrel nests seen on the site and a variety of tracks were seen in the wet areas, including deer and raccoon. A few dusting sites that were probably used by ruffed grouse were also observed. This entire hardwood stand was moderately defoliated by the gypsy moth this past summer. This defoliation may hurt the mast production (fruits and nuts) which are primary food sources for wildlife.

The total area contains some good wildlife habitat in general. Species that you would most likely see on this area would include deer, squirrel, raccoon, opossum, small mammals, ruffed grouse and a variety of songbirds.

Anything that can be done to create a diversity in habitat or create an edge (area where two or more types come together) will benefit wildlife on this site. By putting a walking trail through the area, you can accomplish both. A winding trail as opposed to a straight trail will contain more edge. Widening of the trail on curves will let more sunlight reach the forest floor, thus stimulating the growth of more understory plants. Motorbikes should be restricted from using the area.

For further assistance in wildlife matters, contact the Wildlife Unit, Department of Environmental Protection.

PLANNING CONCERNS

This parcel is located in the northeastern section of Clinton. The tract will afford conservation of approximately 59± acres of rough terrain in an area of town which experienced the majority of the Town's subdivision developments during the late 1960's and early 1970's. The Town's Plan of Development makes no specific land use proposal for this tract. The parcel has high potential for passive outdoor recreational uses. By virtue of its location and frontage on Brickyard and Valley Roads, the Land Trust has an opportunity to lay out a trail system which could offer users winter (X-Country skiing) and hiking routes. Although this parcel is not identified in the Town Plan for forest use, it is in the general area of the forest preserve recommended in the Plan of Development and has adequate size to function as such. (See accompanying illustration.)

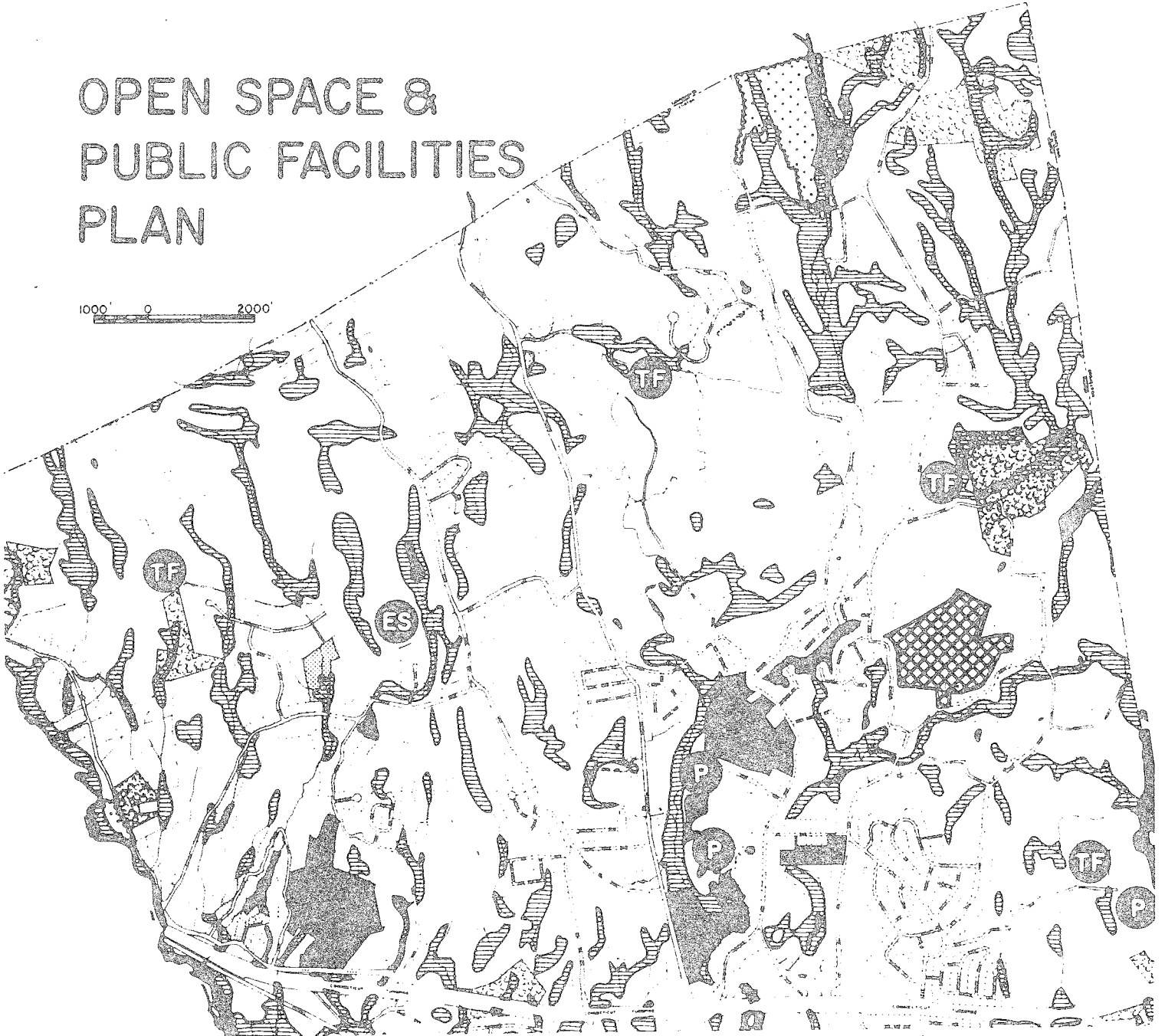
RECREATION POTENTIAL

The property is wooded and has little level land. There are ledge outcrops and some wetlands which make the tract more suitable to passive recreation

TOWN OF CLINTON CONNECTICUT

OPEN SPACE & PUBLIC FACILITIES PLAN

1000' 0 2000'








EXISTING:

-  WETLANDS
-  PRIVATE RECREATIONAL
-  STATE
-  WATER COMPANY
-  TOWN
-  LAND TRUST

 CLINTON LAND TRUST PARCEL

PROPOSED:

-  AQUISITION
-  SCHOOL
-  PARKS
-  BEACH
-  TOWN FOREST



and limit use of portions of the land for logging and other operations requiring at least limited vehicular access.

A blend of forest management and trail related activities appears to be a practical use of the property. Picnicking could be accommodated on the tract, but it and other active recreation is not advocated since these activities would require constant attention and frequent maintenance.

Access to the property would be logically located at the present gravel road coming off Valley Road. Road frontage and terrain limitations point to locating a parking area along or at the end of the gravel road entering the tract. A modest six to ten car parking area should be adequate to meet the needs of trail users. The potential exists for unwanted nighttime activity, bothersome to residents near the access road. Some of the possible problems are vandalism to any gates, signs, or structures, and improper uses (e.g. stealing trees for firewood, nighttime beer parties, trash dumping, etc.). These are problems which certainly are not unique to any one piece of unpatrolled open space land.

Forest management is compatible with most recreation uses and would be a sound component for management and use of the tract. The forest management and utilization could be depicted in an interpretive/educational program via the use of signs (involving some expense and prone to vandalism) or by numbered stations cross-keyed to handout literature. The effects of manipulating the forest resource can be shown by such means and through observations of the woodland itself. The wood products derived, their uses, and the effects that selective tree harvesting has on the site and on the remaining trees can also be illustrated.

The natural features comprising the property can also be fit into an interpretive/educational program which could, in layman terms, given an overview of the geological forces which formed the tract's terrain and why specific types of vegetation are growing where they are (in favorable micro-habitats). These aspects would relate to the forest management potential of the property and illustrate why woodland management has such wide-ranging profit potential due to habitat requirements and the operability limitations imposed on logging equipment.

Depending on budget constraints, the simplest and most cost-effective way to convey information about the tract would probably be via a handout leaflet incorporating a map of the tract. A distribution box at the parking lot could provide these maps, or a sign could be posted notifying those interested where the leaflets might be obtained. In any event, a property map (one mounted leaflet) would be desirable to have at this location. The distribution box method would necessitate someone replenishing the leaflet supply periodically, even though a message could be posted on the box appealing to users to return the leaflet when finished in the interest of litter reduction and reduced printing budgets.

The informal target shooting area located near the access from Brickyard Road should be eliminated and this use discouraged. The site does not meet established criteria for target ranges. The combination of residence proximity, poor landform, and possibly conflicting management goals point to discontinuation of any target shooting here as being in the best interest of the land trust and adjacent homeowners. If under consideration, the possibility of

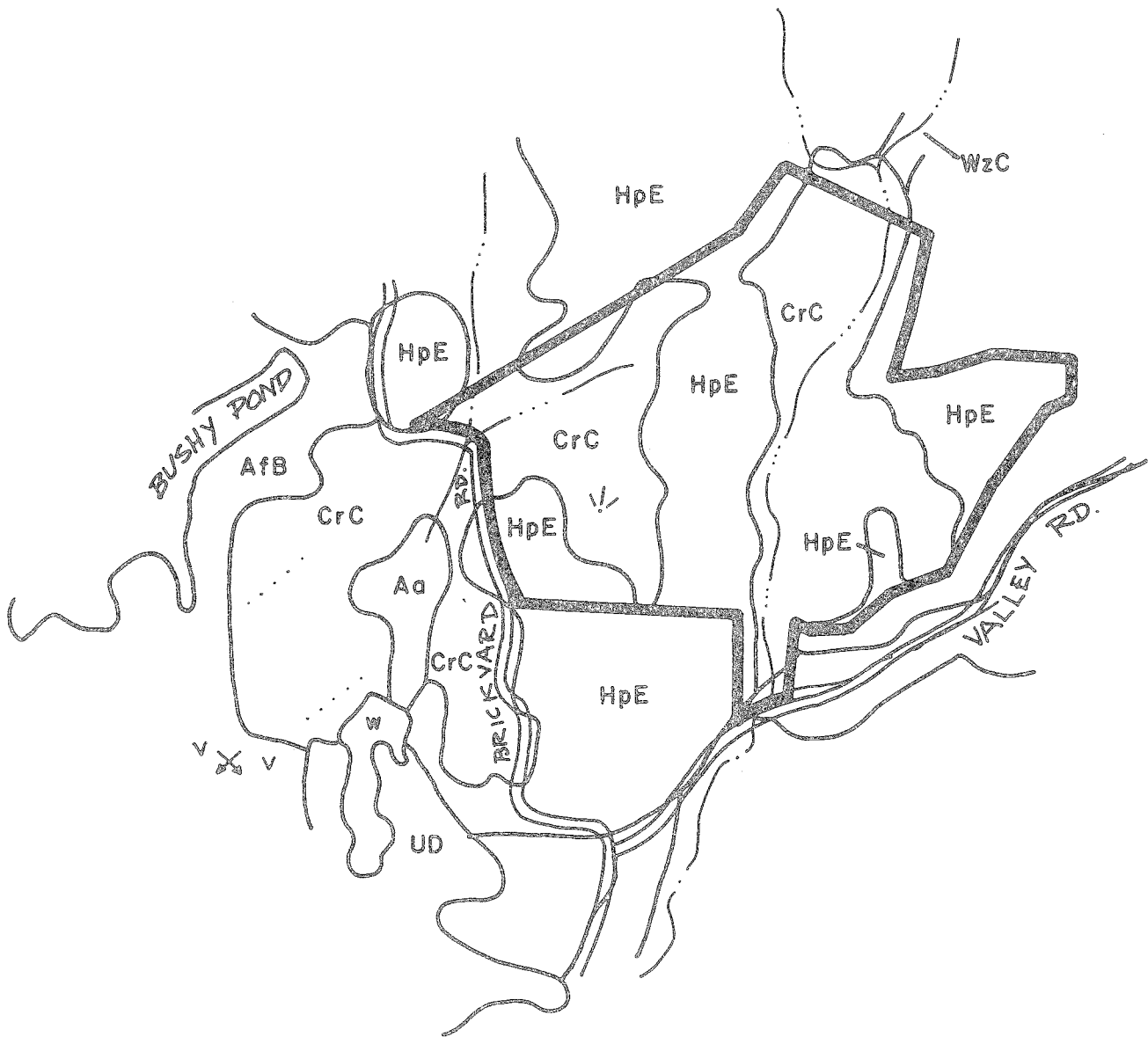
incorporating hunting should be critically analyzed.

Unless a specific use is intended for the log cabin located on the property, it will probably become a greater liability than an asset and subject to vandalism.

Some of the trail related activities possible for the site are hiking, bird-watching/nature studies, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. Backpack camping may be accommodated, although the proximal residences do not make a "wilderness" type experience really possible. Unwanted motorcycle activity can be somewhat discouraged by barriers and trail layout, but cannot be eliminated. Concerted law enforcement action is the only effective tool in deterring this activity. Trail motorcycle mobility and agility preclude barring an area to their use if the rider is intent on riding in that area, posted rules notwithstanding.

Appendix

Soils



CLINTON LAND TRUST
Clinton, Connecticut

PROPORTIONAL EXTENT OF SOILS AND THEIR LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN LAND USES

Soil Series	Natural Soil Group	Soil Symbol	Approx. Acres	Percent of Acres	Principal Limiting Factor	Urban Use Limitations*				Paths & Trails
						On-Site Sewage	Buildings with Basements	Streets & Parking	Land-Scaping	
Charlton-Hollis Charlton Part Hollis Part		CrC	32	58	Slope, depth to bedrock	2	2	2	2	2
						3	2	3	3	2
Hollis-Charlton		HpE	$\frac{23}{55}$	$\frac{42}{100}$	Slope, large stones	3	3	3	3	3

Limitations: 1=slight; 2=moderate; 3=severe

SOIL INTERPRETATIONS FOR URBAN USES

The ratings of the soils for elements of community and recreational development uses consist of three degrees of "limitations:" slight or no limitations; moderate limitations; and severe limitations. In the interpretive scheme various physical properties are weighed before judging their relative severity of limitations.

The user is cautioned that the suitability ratings, degree of limitations and other interpretations are based on the typical soil in each mapping unit. At any given point the actual conditions may differ from the information presented here because of the inclusion of other soils which were impractical to map separately at the scale of mapping used. On-site investigations are suggested where the proposed soil use involves heavy loads, deep excavations, or high cost. Limitations, even though severe, do not always preclude the use of land for development. If economics permit greater expenditures for land development and the intended land use is consistent with the objectives of local or regional development, many soils and sites with difficult problems can be used.

Slight Limitations

Areas rated as slight have relatively few limitations in terms of soil suitability for a particular use. The degree of suitability is such that a minimum of time or cost would be needed to overcome relatively minor soil limitations.

Moderate Limitations

In areas rated moderate, it is relatively more difficult and more costly to correct the natural limitations of the soil for certain uses than for soils rated as having slight limitations.

Severe Limitations

Areas designated as having severe limitations would require more extensive and more costly measures than soils rated with moderate limitations in order to overcome natural soil limitations. The soil may have more than one limiting characteristic causing it to be rated severe.

About the Team

The Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) is a group of professionals in environmental fields drawn together from a variety of federal, state, and regional agencies. Specialists on the Team include geologists, biologists, foresters, climatologists, soil scientists, landscape architects, archeologists, recreation specialists, engineers and planners. The ERT operates with state funding under the supervision of the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area.

The Team is available as a public service at no cost to Connecticut towns.

PURPOSE OF THE TEAM

The Environmental Review Team is available to help towns and developers in the review of sites proposed for major land use activities. To date, the ERT has been involved in reviewing a wide range of projects including subdivisions, sanitary landfills, commercial and industrial developments, sand and gravel operations, elderly housing, recreation/open space projects, watershed studies and resource inventories.

Reviews are conducted in the interest of providing information and analysis that will assist towns and developers in environmentally sound decision-making. This is done through identifying the natural resource base of the project site and highlighting opportunities and limitations for the proposed land use.

REQUESTING A REVIEW

Environmental reviews may be requested by the chief elected officials of a municipality or the chairman of town commissions such as planning and zoning, conservation, inland wetlands, parks and recreation or economic development. Requests should be directed to the Chairman of your local Soil and Water Conservation District. This request letter should include a summary of the proposed project, a location map of the project site, written permission from the landowner allowing the Team to enter the property for purposes of review, and a statement identifying the specific areas of concern the Team should address. When this request is approved by the local Soil and Water Conservation District and the Eastern Connecticut RC&D Executive Council, the Team will undertake the review on a priority basis.

For additional information regarding the Environmental Review Team, please contact Jeanne Shelburn (889-2324), Environmental Review Team Coordinator, Eastern Connecticut RC&D Area, 139 Boswell Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.