

A Tribute to Mason's Generous Landowners

On the occasion of Mason's 250th Anniversary Celebration, Mason Conservation Commission recognizes with gratitude our town's generous landowners who have donated 976 acres of land and 703 acres of conservation easements to the Town of Mason over the past 50 years. Their gifts of land and conservation easements have assured that much of Mason's natural beauty will remain for future generations to enjoy.

1972 Theresa Smyth Coyne gave the 25 acre Coyne Wildlife Sanctuary on Coyne Lane.

1972 The King family gave the 30 acre Beck "Scripture" Lot next to Mason Quarry and the Railroad.

1986 Bronson Potter gave 13 acres on Merriam Hill Road, site of Cliff Hastings Nature Trail and now part of Nose Meadow Conservation Land.



Bronson Potter

1991 Ted Stewart's gift of a 72-acre conservation easement on his land on Jackson Road and **Frank Doonan's gift** of a 12-acre conservation easement on Starch Mill Road along the shore of Spaulding Brook Pond made possible the town's acquisition of the 163 acre Spaulding Brook Conservation Land.

1998 Charlotte Hastings gave 2.3 acres on Fitchburg Road along Walker Brook, in memory of her son Scott W. Hastings.

1998 Donald Gingras gave 5.2 acres on Fitchburg Road in the Walker Brook Gorge, abutting the Scott W. Hastings Memorial Land.

1999 Reginald Lyons gave a bargain sale discount allowing the town to purchase the 100 acre Mitchell Hill Conservation Land on Mitchell Hill Road.

2002-2004 The d'Arbeloff family gave 3 conservation easements on Darling Hill Road, totaling 111 acres of private land permanently conserved.



Woodie Fifield

2004 The Fifield family gave the Fifield Tree Farm Conservation Easement with a partial grant from NH Land & Community Heritage Investment Program, forever conserving 508 acres of private forest land on Black Brook, Mitchell Hill, and Old County Roads, crossed by Spaulding Brook with public access to trails.

2004 Bronson Potter gave the town of Mason 574 acres for conservation through his will. These lands are on Greenville Road, Merriam Hill Road and Old Ashby Road, and include the scenic view on Greenville Road, beaver ponds, a variety of wildlife habitat, and many trails.

2007 Florence Roberts gave 38 acres on Valley Road to remain a natural forest forever. Thanks to the Boy Scouts and other community volunteers, the Florence Roberts Forest now has nearly 3 miles of trails.



Florence Roberts

2007 The Esau Stanley family gave 2.5 acres on Campbell Mill Road along Gould Mill Brook, as a Wildlife Refuge in memory of Esau “Ace” Stanley, Jr.

2008 Dr. Robert Lipin and Dr. Evelyn Ellis gave 47 acres on Scripps Lane next to the Railroad Trail, along Rocky Brook. At their request, this land is named the Downs Forest in honor of Town Forester Bill Downs.

2013 George Schwenk and Dick Morley, Mason Quarry LLC gave 110 acres on Scripps Lane that includes the Mason Quarry, after protecting this land with a conservation easement held by Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF). In 2014 the town of Mason granted SPNHF a conservation easement covering 3 parcels around Mason Quarry (Beck Lot, Jefts Lot, Downs Forest), to create the 207-acre Mason Quarry Conservation Area. **Cathy Schwenk** funded a botanical study of Mason Quarry lands by New England Wildflower Society.



George Schwenk

2015 Dorie and James French gave 21 acres off Greenville Road in memory of beloved long-time Town Clerk Charles Crathern, father of Dorie French.

2016 George and Cathy Schwenk gave 8 acres in Nose Meadow next to Bronson Potter's 1986 gift of 13 acres, completing the 21-acre Nose Meadow Conservation Land, where Mason Brook begins. Cathy funded the Mason Brook Headwaters botanical study by New England Wildflower Society, covering Nose Meadow and abutting lands, including Bronson Potter's gift of 125 acres along Mason Brook on Merriam Hill Road.