

**Forest Management Plan
for the
ROWLAND ROBINSON MEMORIAL
MUNICIPAL FOREST**

**on
Shellhouse Mountain, Ferrisburgh**

**Prepared by the
Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
November 9, 2010**

Adopted by the Ferrisburgh Selectboard on November 16, 2010

A Brief History of the Municipal Forest: A substantial portion of the 135-acre (+/-) parcel that now comprises the Ferrisburgh Municipal Forest was first created in 1881, in the distribution of Rowland T. Robinson's estate (1796 – 1879), which created a parcel called "the Mountain Lot". It was passed down eventually to Elizabeth N. Robinson, wife of Rowland T. Robinson (1882 – 1951) grandson of the original Rowland T. Robinson. In her will (as decreed in 1962 and again in 1975), Elizabeth Robinson bequeathed to the Town "the 100-acre woodlot on Shellhouse Mountain for a Municipal Forest", and a smaller portion of her estate to the Rowland E. Robinson Memorial Association (35 adjacent acres). In 1976, the Memorial Association deeded its parcel to the Town. A right-of-way to the Mountain Lot from Buckwheat Lane (then called East Road) across the intervening parcel (called "the Mountain Pasture") was mentioned in various deeds, including the original 1881 deed.

Past Management of the Municipal Forest: The records show that a significant timber sale occurred in 1951-52 in the Forest. In 1967, Municipal Forester Eugene E. Keenan reported the management objectives for the parcel to be: revenue to the town through timber production, water conservation, employment outlets for local labor, a woodland management demonstration area, recreational development, and fish and game. In 1973, Charles Vile, Public Lands Forester for the State of Vermont, assumed management of the forest, at the request of the Town.

In the early 1990s, the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission realized that forest conditions and management concepts had changed, so we began an update of the management plan for the Forest by enlisting the assistance of Dave Wetmore, a local consulting forester. In 2002, Addison County Forester David Brynn assisted the Conservation Commission in further advancing the draft management plan by creating a Field Map of forest types and natural communities in the Forest, and by providing recommendations on management objectives. In 2009, Addison County Forester Chris Olson assisted in evaluating portions of the Forest. Advice and the Field Map from foresters Wetmore, Brynn and Olson form the basis of this Management Plan.

Since the 1990s, while periodically working on updating the written management plan, the Conservation Commission has managed the Forest with a very light-handed touch, with the goals of sustaining its notable wildlife habitat, preserving its high-quality examples of natural communities that are uncommon in Vermont, allowing limited and careful harvesting of high-value trees for non-profit or educational purposes, and supporting ecological research.

Natural Communities in the Municipal Forest: The Municipal Forest was mapped by the Addison County Forester in 2002, who identified that it contains at least five types of upland natural communities, some of which are quite rare in the State. Refer to the Field Map; Lands of Ferrisburgh Town Forest, by David Brynn, August 2, 2002. The natural communities are:

1. Valley Clayplain Forested Swamp (12 acres): a diverse mix of tree types growing in wetland silt-clay soils. Likely a remnant of the dominant forest of the Champlain Valley prior to European settlement, and considered very rare in the state;
2. Dry Oak Forest (37 acres): several different types of oaks, including some of the northernmost chestnut oaks in the state, growing in shallow-to-bedrock dry soils. This high-quality example is uncommon in the state, and is an important food source for wildlife;
3. Mesic-Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest (44 acres): includes a wide variety of northern and central hardwood tree species, with occasional softwoods. The Forest's acreage is a high-quality example of this natural community, which is uncommon in the state. It comprises excellent (and very rare) maternity colony habitat for the federally-endangered Indiana bat;
4. Temperate Calcareous and Acidic Cliff (17 acres): a natural community developed on rock cliffs of calcareous or non-calcareous bedrock. The Forest's west-facing cliffs represent high-quality examples of this community which is uncommon in the state. The cliffs include known bobcat denning sites, and support rich diversity of wildflowers.
5. Hemlock Forest (5 acres): an area of predominantly mature and large hemlocks, with a variety of hardwood species as well, comprising a small portion in the southeastern corner of the Forest, and providing excellent wildlife habitat including winter cover for deer.

The Vermont State Department of Fish and Wildlife has identified the Shellhouse Mountain area, including the Municipal Forest, as one of eleven ecologically significant areas in town that are worthy of a high level of protection. It is described as a rugged limy forest with dry chestnut oak woodland, and some unusual swamp forest stands of red and silver maple and green ash, with several state-listed threatened and rare plants.

The Ferrisburgh Town Plan (2006), regarding the Municipal Forest: The 2006 Ferrisburgh Town Plan mentions the Town Forest or its characteristics in several places:

- It recommends that the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission maintain and implement an updated Town Forest Management Plan (Section 4.1 "Natural Resources Policies", I. "Forestlands", Policy #1);
- The Forest is listed as worthy of a high level of protection in the section on Ecologically Sensitive Areas (Section 3.1 "Natural Resources", L. "Ecologically Sensitive Areas");
- The Forest is listed as a town-owned property with recreational value (Section 3.2 "Human Resources", J. "Recreation");
- Two "Guiding Principles" in the Town Plan are pertinent to the management objectives for the Forest (Sect. 1.2):
 - Guiding Principle B.1 ("... to protect natural resources, open space, [and] forestland ...");
 - Guiding Principle B.2 ("... to establish policies for the protection of ... critical habitats, wildlife corridors, areas with state rare or endangered species or ecological communities, deer wintering areas and wetlands");
- Regarding motorized travel in the Forest, the Town Plan recommends that "ATV use should be limited to private property" (Section 4.2. "Human Resources Policies", J. "Recreation", Policy #7).

Management Objectives for the Rowland Robinson Memorial Municipal Forest:

1. Maintain the uncommon, rare and/or fragile natural communities that are found in the Municipal Forest. Protect and maintain the present level of biological diversity in the Forest.
2. If a timber harvest is essential to meeting the management objectives for the forest, best management practices should be followed, with advice from the Addison County Forester.
3. Maintain the current wildlife habitat of all species that inhabit the forest today, as well as those that may adapt to it or adopt it in the future. Specific attention should be paid to maintaining the existing high-quality habitat for bobcats and other mammals denning and raising young in the forest, and roost trees and maternity colony habitat for the federally endangered Indiana bat.
4. Develop a plan for inspecting and managing unwanted exotic plant species in the Forest.
5. Retain the cultural and historic values of this property for hunting, bird watching, and wildlife corridors and habitats. Continue the policy of not posting the Forest against hunting, while also encouraging the maintenance of a viable bobcat population.
6. Minimize any maintenance or improvements to the trails in the Forest, and minimize the use of Forest and its trails by groups, in order to maintain the high-quality habitat for wildlife. This means making only those erosion control improvements to the existing trails that are absolutely necessary to protect the water quality, wetlands, and riparian zones.
7. Limit any timber harvests, since timber or firewood production is not a primary objective of the management plan for the Forest. Minimal timber harvesting for local non-profit or educational groups should be allowed and encouraged, with the advice of the Addison County Forester and if done in a manner that maintains or furthers the other management objectives for the Forest. Ecologically sustainable demonstration forestry projects could be part of an educational program.
8. Motorized travel in the Forest is only allowed on the north-south road in the eastern part of the Town Forest, and only if the rider(s) are current members of clubs who have current permission from the Selectboard (such as snowmobile, ATV, or dirt-bike clubs).
9. Develop a clear legal understanding of the location and details of the current right-of-way to the Forest from the west. This right-of-way should not be available for motorized travel into the Town Forest, except for specific activities if approved by the Selectboard, and with advice from the Conservation Commission. Consider the possibility of arranging for legal access from the east, if any landowners are willing.
10. Maintain open communications and good relations with owners of abutting parcels. Keep the Forest's boundary lines well-blazed.
11. Maintain an inventory of locations (indicated by GPS coordinates, and shown on a map of the Town Forest) of all activities in the forest – management, maintenance, timber harvesting, research or study sites, areas of damage, and so on.

Attachment: *Field Map; Lands of Ferrisburgh Town Forest*; David Brynn, August 2, 2002.

References: The following documents provide information regarding the Town Forest, some of which are included in the following pages.

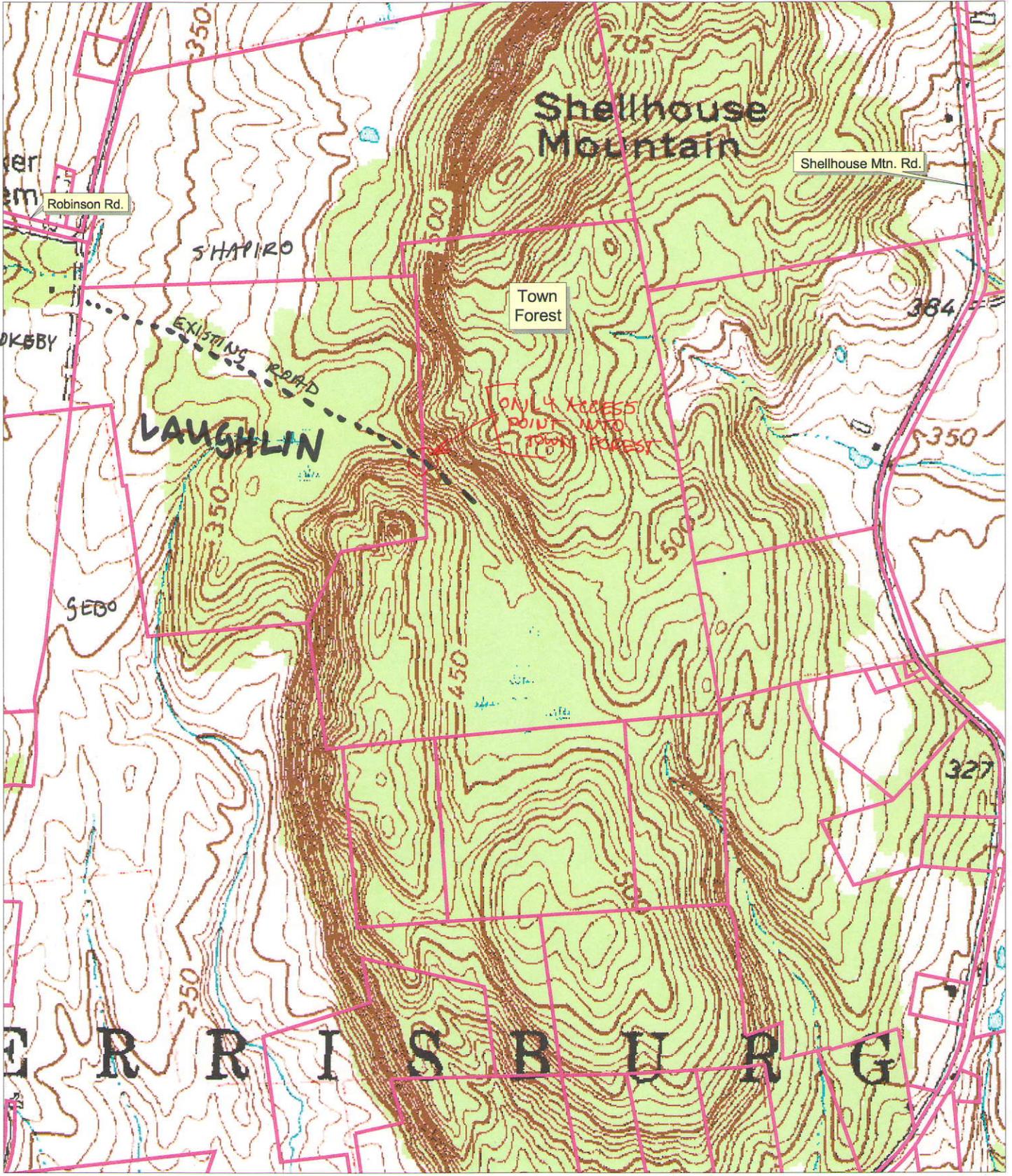
Report on Site Visit to Ferrisburgh Town Forest (Shellhouse Mountain); The Nature Conservancy. May 2, 2005.

Forest Management Guidelines for Indiana Bat Habitat; Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. February 2009.

Summary of Biodiversity Survey Conducted by the University of Vermont; Vermont Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Aiken Center, UVM, Dr. Therese Donovan, July 2004.

Field Survey, Eric Sorenson, VT Nongame and Natural Heritage Program, ANR, Summer 2002. Incorporated into *Field Map; Lands of Ferrisburgh Town Forest*, 2002 (no separate report).

Deed Research on Right of Way to the Rowland T. Robinson Municipal Forest; May 10, 2009, Silas Towler (Ferrisburgh resident, member of Ferrisburgh Historical Society).



BASE MAP: USGS TOPO. (1974?)

Ferrisburgh Town Forest



PINK LINES:
Parcels: 2006, from ACRPC



ADD ONLY ACCESS POINT,
3-7-2010.

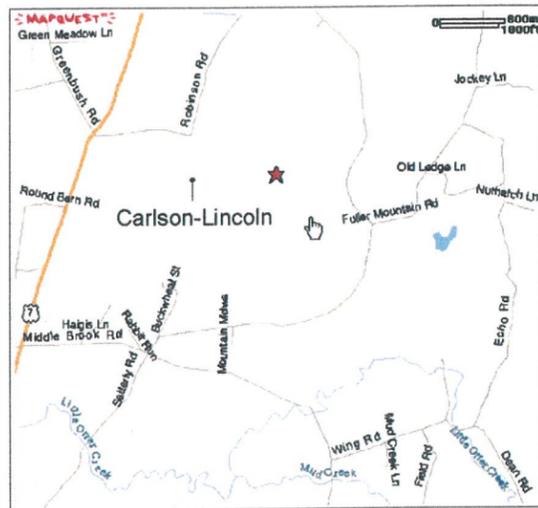
Scale: 1" = 800 ft.

Ferrisburgh Town Forest
on USGS with 2006 Parcels
Ferrisburgh ConservComm; Feb. 2009

Field Map

Lands of
Ferrisburgh Town Forest
 Ferrisburgh, Vermont
 116 Acres

Location



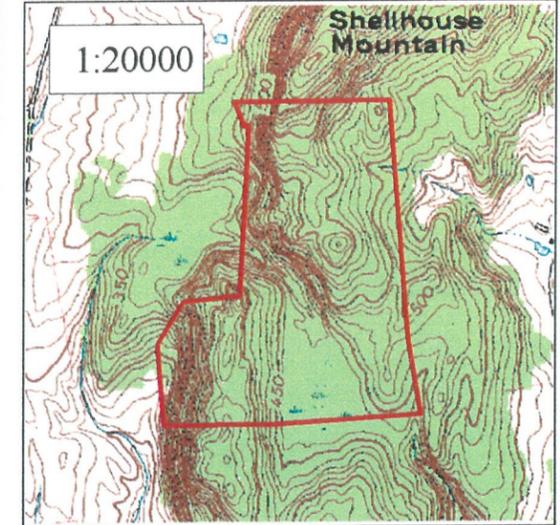
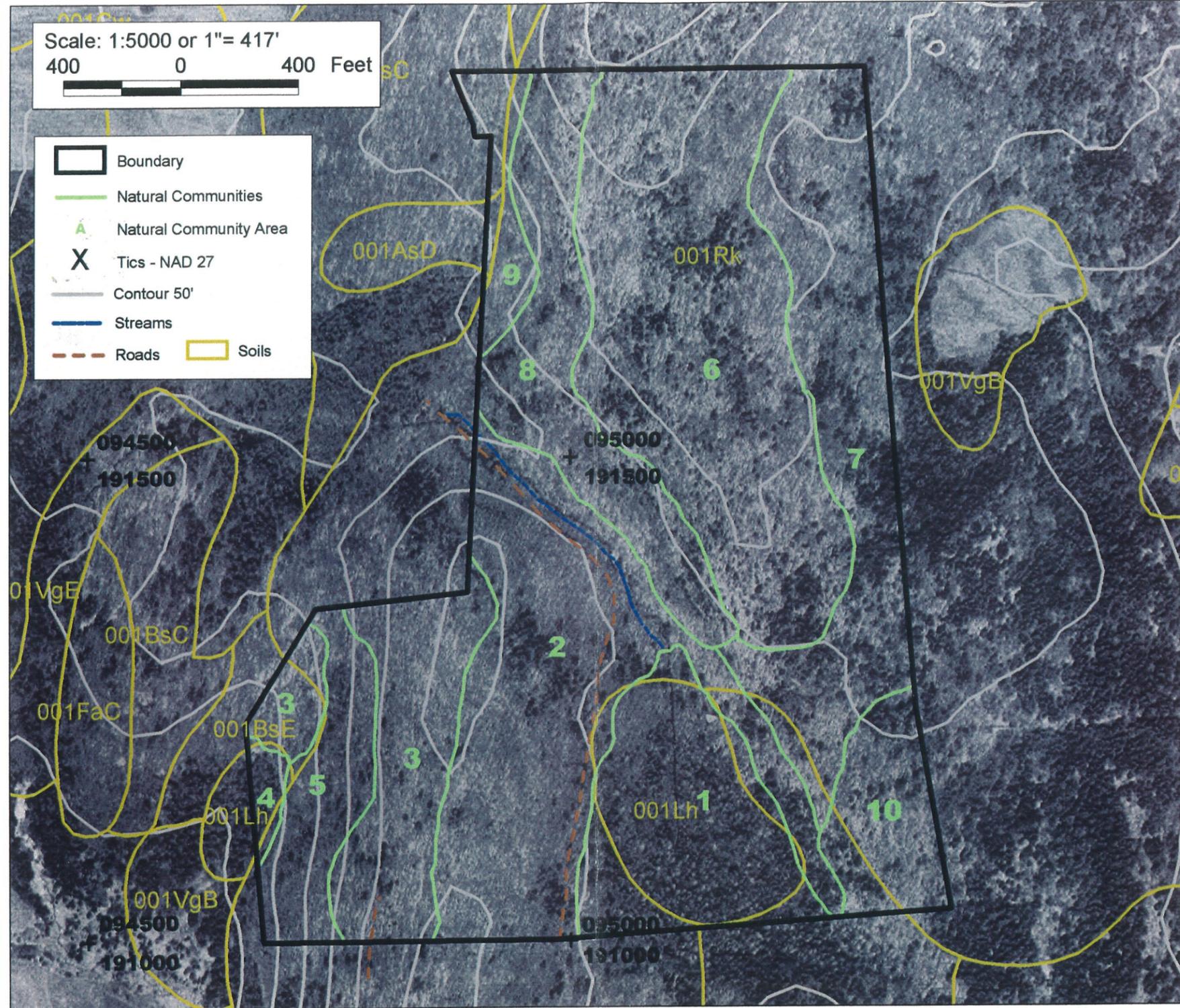
This property
 is part of



VCS
 Grid North



P.O. Box 254
 Bristol, VT 05443
 www.familyforests.org
 802-453-7728



Map Notes:

Natural Community Field Review -
 David Brynn.

Natural Communities based on information
 contained in Thompson, Elizabeth, H., and
 Sorenson, Eric, R. (2000) Wetland,
 Woodland, Wildland: A Guide to the Natural
 Communities of Vermont.
 University Press of New England.

Final GIS map produced by Laura French,
 Consulting Forester with R. J. Turner Company,
 Bristol, Vermont.

Vermont Mapping Program Orthophoto base:
 # 092192 .

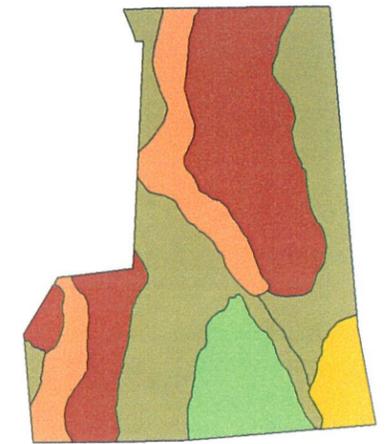
Tics in NAD 27.

This map is not a survey.

Map printed: August 2, 2002

Natural Communities

1:15000



Area	Acres	Natural Community Type
1	12.0	Valley Clayplain Swamp
2	22.2	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest
3	9.0	Dry Oak Forest
4	0.8	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest
5	5.7	Temperate Calcareous & Acidic Cliff
6	27.6	Dry Oak Forest
7	17.6	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest
8	11.3	Temperate Calcareous & Acidic Cliff
9	2.9	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest
10	5.4	Hemlock Forest

**SELECTED
REFERENCES:**

- *Site visit to Ferrisburg Town Forest (Shellhouse Mountain)*; May 2, 2005. The Nature Conservancy, Montpelier, VT.

- *Summary of Biodiversity Survey Conducted by the University of Vermont*; July 2004. Therese Donovan, Vermont Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Aiken Center, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

- *Deed Research on Right of Way to the Rowland T. Robinson Municipal Forest*; May 10, 2009. Silas Towler (Ferrisburgh resident, member of Ferrisburgh Historical Society).

Site visit to Ferrisburg Town Forest (Shellhouse Mountain)
The Nature Conservancy
May 2, 2005

Site location and goals of visit

On May 2 2005, staff of The Nature Conservancy of Vermont visited the Ferrisburg town forest on Shellhouse Mountain. The town land is approximately 120 acres and is located just south of the highest peak and continues south to encompass a wetland. The western boundary follows the steep ledges on the western side of the mountain, usually just at the base of the slope. The site contains good examples of Dry Oak Woodland and Transitional Hardwood Talus Forest communities. The state of Vermont's Nongame and Natural Heritage Program listed Shellhouse Mountain in its "Biological Natural Areas of Western Addison County" report, which was published in 1993.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) believes the site is ecologically significant. The purpose of TNC's visit was to evaluate the site and identify any threats to its natural communities. Specifically, TNC was creating an inventory of invasive exotic plant species found in or near the property for the purpose of informing the town of their presence and making recommendations for invasive species control.

Natural community overview

Shellhouse Mountain has high quality examples of Dry Oak Forest and Transitional Hardwood Talus Forest natural communities. The Heritage report states that they both, "owe their existence largely to three factors, calcareous soil, droughty conditions, and relatively long frost free seasons." The report also notes that the ridge top and western slopes show remarkably few signs of disturbance, such as logging.

A dry oak forest community is found along the ridge of Shellhouse Mountain. It is a relatively uncommon natural community in Vermont that is found on rocky ridge tops. They have relatively shallow soils that do not readily hold moisture. Open oak woodlands are dominated by red oak, white oak, and chestnut oak. The chestnut oaks on Shellhouse reaches 15" diameter at breast height and are some of the northernmost chestnut oaks in the state of Vermont.

The site also contains part of the Transition Hardwood Talus Forest community described in the Heritage report. These communities are steep slopes of jumbled rocks amidst areas of rich soil. They are not easily utilized for agriculture or forestry, and canopy coverage is not usually dense. These communities often harbor rich herbaceous layers and Shellhouse Mountain is no exception. Ginseng, large yellow lady's-slipper, Virginia spring beauty, bloodroot, and foam flower are just a few of the wildflowers that have been documented in this community. The 1993 heritage report states, "The steep talus slopes and outcrops of the western face are among the most beautiful in the Champlain Valley. Large, pale, blocky boulders, half overgrown with lush mosses spill down a 50-foot very steep slope."

Invasive species can be a threat to natural communities. Invasive species are species, usually exotic, that are able to proliferate and aggressively alter or displace native biological communities. Buckthorn, for example, may displace and crowd out native shrubs and increase at

a site to extremely high densities. At high densities Buckthorn can alter the site's soil chemistry and favor the recruitment of some trees over others. Given time, severe infestations may result in a change of forest composition. Effects of invasive species vary with each species, but usually result in a simplified, less diverse natural community.

Town forest site visit

TNC staff members Rose Paul, Heather Huffstutler, and Daniel Dietz visited the site on the morning of May 2, 2005 to evaluate the site and identify threats to the natural community. Determining the extent and nature of invasive species infestations was the main objective, although an old drainage ditch was also examined.

Invasive species

TNC parked off of Robinson Road and walked along a path to the western border of the town's property. Dense stands of bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera sp.*) and common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) were present along the roadway. Away from the roadway, honeysuckle could not be found and common buckthorn becomes sparser. Small pockets of mature buckthorn could be found throughout the neighboring property, even at the base of the talus slope community, which is the boundary of the town forest.

TNC walked along the base of talus slope and eventually climbed to the ridge of Shellhouse Mountain. After waking north along the ridge we dropped down the eastern slope and walked south until we came climbed down a steep slope to what appeared to be a VAST trail just to the north of a wetland. We followed a straightened stream northwest until we exited the property. We did not see any invasive species.

While the lack of invasives on Ferrisburg town forestland is very encouraging, the town should not overlook two potential avenues for future invasion. The presence of buckthorn at the town's border could mean that it will soon appear on town land and the VAST trail could also become a vector for invasives. The most cost-effective way to deal with invasives is to prevent their establishment, detect populations early, and rapidly respond to them. Action can be taken to mitigate the potential threats of the neighboring properties and the VAST trail.

The buckthorn in the interior of the neighboring property is currently at a fairly low density, but mature buckthorns can be found within 20 feet of the town's property. Buckthorns readily invade natural areas and can form thickets that crowd out native shrubs and alter the recruitment of trees. They are spread when birds or other wildlife eat their fruits and distribute them into new areas. It is unclear why they have not yet invaded the town forest. It is possible that site's drier conditions may be slowing its spread, although common buckthorn can utilize a variety of habitats, including the understory of open oaks and exposed rocky outcrops. Buckthorn, like many invasives, often establishes in disturbed areas, so Shellhouse Mountain's relatively undisturbed soils may also be slowing its spread. As buckthorn increases in the surrounding landscape, however, more seeds will be deposited onto the town forest, increasing the risk of invasion.

There are several actions the town could take to lessen the chance of buckthorns coming in from a neighboring property. One is to not create disturbances on town land. Logging, trail building, and other disturbances create bare patches of ground where buckthorn seedlings can

easily take root. Another is to encourage neighboring landowners to remove invasive species from their property. The National Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) often will reimburse landowners for 75% of invasive removal expenses. Landowners could be put in touch with local NRCS representatives. County foresters in Windham, Orange, and Bennington counties have noted that logging operations, both large and small are often followed by large increases of invasive species thanks to ground disturbances and increased light to the understory weeds. Landowners should be encouraged to remove invasives before any logging operations are undertaken. The town should consider hosting an invasive species removal workshop for landowners of woodland areas.

The VAST trail is found in the relatively flat section of the town forest, to the northeast of the wetland. Trail corridors can often be vectors for invasive species, especially garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiloata*). Garlic mustard is a biennial weed that invades forests. It can form a dense carpet that crowds out native herbaceous plants. Recent research has suggested that it has allelopathic properties and impacts forest recruitment. Garlic mustard is more common in southwest Vermont than in the Champlain Valley, but has been spreading rapidly. In Bennington County it is common in floodplains and valley floors, but uncommon in drier upland sites. On upland TNC sites, it is usually found along trails. Presumably seeds are brought in on the boots of hikers or the tires of mountain bikes, ATVs and other off road vehicles. Once established, it spreads rapidly into the surrounding woods.

The town should monitor the trail every few years to so any problems can be detected early. Also, many VAST trails are maintained in the fall with the use of ATVs. The local snowmobile club should be contacted and asked to clean any vehicles they use for maintenance before driving on the trails to wash off any seed infested mud. If the trail starts to be abused through illegal ATV use, then steps should be taken to block their access.

Invasive species prevention is a long-term project. The town should monitor the site at least once every three to five years to protect the exemplary natural communities on their town forest. This could easily be accomplished by a volunteer who has a good knowledge of what invasive species to expect. Outreach to neighboring landowners and trail users could also help protect the site and raise awareness of invasive species within the community.

Drainage Ditch

A wooded swamp is found in the southern part of the town forest. The main outlet stream that drains this swamp appears as though it may have been straightened in the past. There is an apparent ditch bringing water from the northern side of the wetland into the stream outlet. Plugging this ditch may enhance the wetland and restore more of the site's natural conditions, but more research is needed. Local NRCS agents have experience plugging old agricultural ditches and would be able to comment on what results the town could expect from this action.

Summary of Biodiversity Survey Conducted by the University of Vermont

Property: Ferrisburgh

Transect Number: 348

Transect Location: See attached map(s) (PDF format)

Contact Person: C. Heindel

Surveyed for: Carnivores Birds Herpetofauna

I. METHODS

We attempted to detect 3 carnivore species (black bear, fisher, and bobcat) on a 2-km triangular transect.

Scat Detection

The 3 carnivores were surveyed using specially trained dogs to locate scat. Because scats from different wildlife species can be similar in morphology, we are sometimes unsure whether a specific scat was deposited by a given carnivore. When collecting scats in the field, we therefore assign each scat a confidence level (high, medium, low) reflecting how confident we are that the scat is from the presumed species. Typically, only bear scats are scored at the highest confidence level in the field, as fishers and bobcats are more difficult to confirm morphologically. All medium- and low-confidence scats are ultimately sent to a DNA laboratory for final confirmation. Confidence categories can be broadly defined as follows:

High = Very confident. Scat shape and contents are consistent with the presumed species and are inconsistent with any other species.

Medium = Fairly confident. Scat appears consistent with the presumed species but could have possibly been produced by another species.

Low = Scat is consistent with more than one species or is in too poor of condition to allow us to determine its original shape or contents.

In the Results section below we report the highest confidence level scat(s) found on the transect for each of the 3 carnivore species surveyed.

Remote Camera

On some transects a remote camera was deployed and a carnivore scent lure used to attract the 3 target carnivore species.

PLEASE NOTE that the failure to detect a given species does not necessarily mean the species does not occur at this location, but only that our survey(s) on the day(s) visited failed to detect the species.

II. RESULTS

Carnivores

Date of Carnivore Survey(s): 29 July 2004

Scat Detections

Bear: None detected

Fisher: Medium confidence

Bobcat: Confirmed

Remote Camera

Deployed: 17 Aug 2004

Removed: 6 Sept. 2004

Photos: Deer, turkey vulture

For more information please contact:

Dr. Therese Donovan
Vermont Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit
Aiken Center
University of Vermont
Burlington, VT 05405

**Deed Research on Right of Way to the Rowland T. Robinson Municipal Forest
by Silas Towler**

May 10, 2009

Assembled with the able assistance of Craig Heindel, Chet Hawkins, and Pam Cousino.

On May 7th and 8th, 2009, I searched through the Town records looking for a deeded description of the public's access to our Town Forest. In the course of this research, I discovered many things, among them the formal name for these woods, as given by its donor (noted above). The piece of property we've always crossed to get to the Town Forest is owned by Anne Perkins Wylie, and was historically referred to as "the mountain pasture".

The Robinson family has been central to our Town's history for many years. During their lifetimes, they were active Quakers, farmers, artists, and a few of them were Town Clerk. They've left us with the legacy of Rokeby, the Town Forest, and preserved land along Little Otter Creek and the East Slang.

This was a very strong and tight family. I think it might be helpful to know the characters, so I've included the chart below.

The Robinson Family:

Rowland T. Robinson-abolitionist/farmer(1796-1879)

His children—

1. Rowland E. Robinson(1833-1900)(author/illustrator) m.Anne Stevens(1841-1920)
their kids-a. Rachel R.(d.1919) m. Robert Elmer
b. Rowland T. Robinson(1882-1951) m.Elizabeth Donaway(1882-1961)
c. Mary R.(1884-1931)m.Llewellyn Rood Perkins(b.1874)
their daughter---Anne Perkins Wylie
2. George Robinson(1825-1894)
3. Thomas R. Robinsonm. Charlotte
their kids-a. M.W. Harmon
b. William G. Robinson
c. Sarah
4. Ann.....m.Lloyd Minturn
their kids...a. Rowland Minturn ..b. Frances.....c. Agatha

A Brief Overview...

The Robinson family had a farm that stretched from Shellhouse Mountain to the shores of Little Otter Creek. This was maintained as one big holding until the death of Rowland T. Robinson in 1879. On his death, his will divided the farm into sections, or lots, that were left to some of his children. Basically, two of these lots evolved into the Town Forest and the Wylie lot. Over time, these lots were left to one family member, sold to another, left in wills back to another, and so forth until we have our present situation.

I found three mentions of access to the Town Forest.

1. In 1881, in Rowland T.'s distribution of his estate, there were created, among others, two lots, one called 'the mountain pasture', now the Wylie property, and one 'the mountain lot', now the Town Forest. This is found in Book 20, P. 107-9. Regarding the mountain lot, this includes..."containing 140 acres, more or less, which we set to the said Rowland E. Robinson, together with the right-to carry in pipes and use necessary water from a spring in the mountain on land herein set to George R. Robinson."
2. In 1914, there is a deed conveying title of the mountain pasture from Anna, widow of Rowland E., together with Mary and Llewellyn Perkins, to Rachel Elmer. This is found in Book 25, page 160-1. This includes..."Also the right-to carry in pipes and use necessary water from a spring in the Notch on land of Anne R. Minturn. A right of way across the land herein conveyed to reach this mountain wood lot is reserved to Anna and Rowland T. Robinson."
3. In 1924, there is a deed conveying title of three lots from Mary R. and Llewellyn Perkins to Rowland T. Robinson. This is found in Book 27, p. 395. This includes.... "Also a certain right of way appurtenant to said wood lot across the land of the said estate of said Rachel Elmer to said wood lot from the East Road, so called, running north and south past the old Friends Burying Ground."

Finally, to achieve current status, in 1962(Book 38, p.133), and again in 1975(Book 47, p.127-130), there are will decrees of Elizabeth N. Robinson that convey her property to either the Rowland E. Robinson Memorial Association, the Town, or, in the case of the mountain pasture, to Llewelyn R. Perkins and Ann Perkins Wylie. At first, Elizabeth left 100 acres of mountain wood lot to the Town (with the provision..."The occupants of Rokeby are to have what wood and lumber are needed for the farm free."), and 35 acres

of mountain wood lot to the Memorial Association. Later, in 1976(Book 48, p.239-240) the Memorial Association deeded the 35 acres to the Town. There are no descriptions of property here in any of these will decrees or deeds.

I found no deeded description of just where this right of way to the mountain wood lot might be. There is a survey map of the Town Forest, dated August 21, 1970, done by Donald Hamlin, on record in Volume 1, page 21, in the Town survey books. This describes the Town Forest, and is describes in surveyors' description, the location of the road historically used as access.

Details and list of transactions:

1. Book 20, p. 107-9...6/9/1881... distribution of Rowland T. Estate, creates lots in question
2. Book 20, p. 114...2/1/1881...George sells "mountain pasture" to Rowland E.
3. Book 21, p. 638...6/4/1893...George's will, leaving all lands to Rowland E.
4. Book 21, p. 639...12/4/1895...George's estate distribution...part of mountain lot goes to Anna Minturn.
5. Book 25, p. 378.... ...Anna Minturn back to Elizabeth D. and Rowland T.
6. Book 25, p. 160-1.... 3/27/1914....Anna (widow), Mary R. and Llewellyn Perkins give mountain pasture, and more, to Rachel Elmer.
7. Book 27, p. 345....Estate decree of Anna...goes to Rowland T., and Mary R. Perkins
8. Book 27, p. 395...3/28/1924...Mary R. and Llewelyn Perkins to Rowland T., all interests in three parcels: home farm, mountain wood lot, marsh land along East Slang
9. Book 30, p.577...3/30/38...Lands of the late Robert Elmer (through Rachel) back to Rowland T.
10. Book 38, p. 133...11/11/1962..., and Book 47, p.127...9/24/1975...Will decree of Elizabeth, widow of last Rowland T., giving land to Town, Rowland T. Robinson Memorial Association (Rokeby), and Llewellyn Perkins with Anne Perkins Wylie.
11. Book 48. p. 239...8/31/1975.....Memorial Association gives last 35 acres of wood lot to Town