



AVALONIA LAND CONSERVANCY, Inc.

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# Avery Preserve

## Property Management Plan

27, 32, 35 and 57R Avery Hill Road  
Ledyard, New London County, Connecticut

Ledyard Town Committee is responsible  
for stewardship of this property

Plan Prepared by:  
Michael Goodwin  
2 January 2014

Approved by Stewardship Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Board of Directors: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## OVERVIEW

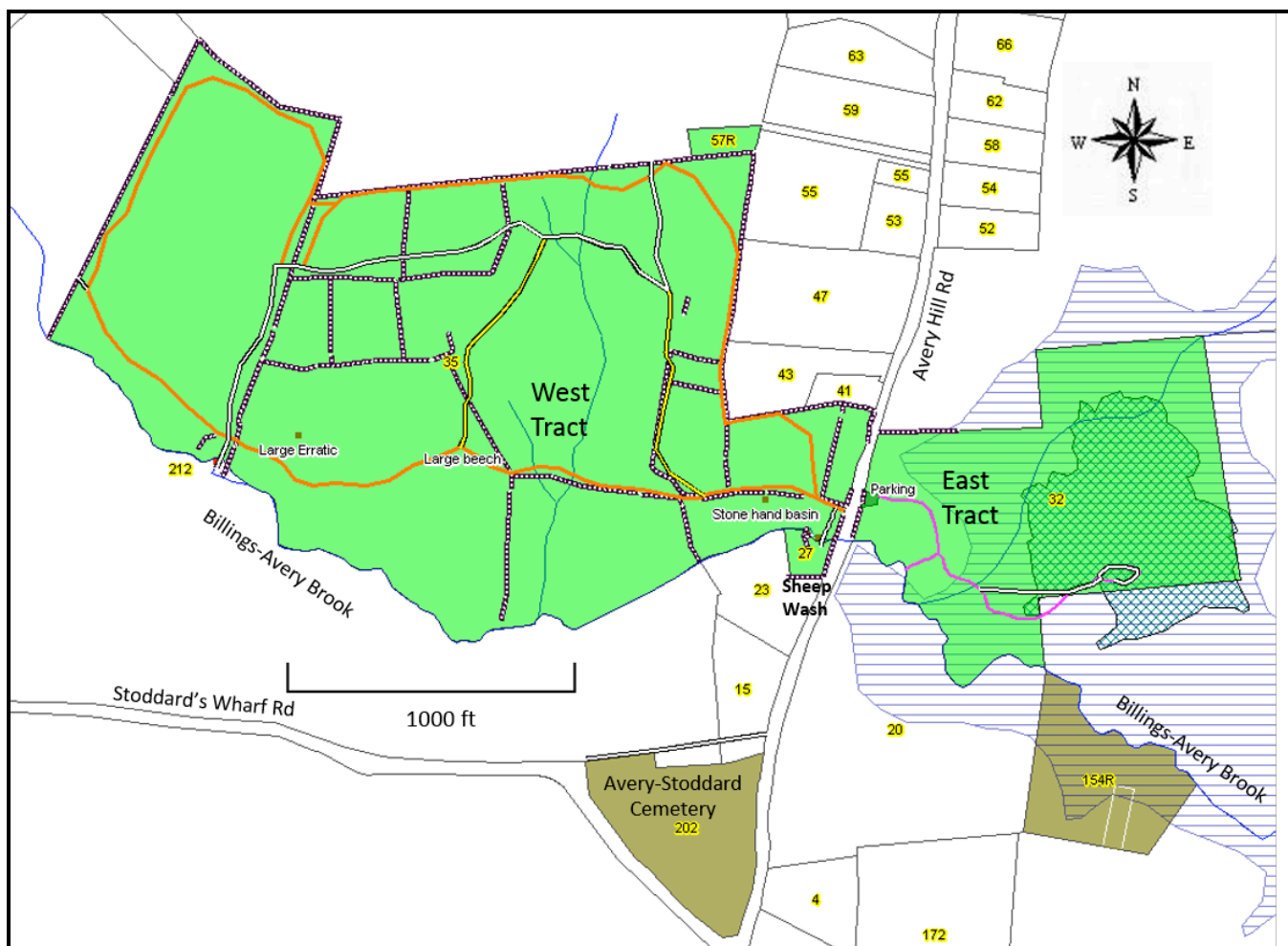
This plan covers three adjacent properties known as the Avery Preserve West Tract (77.12 acres), the East Tract (22.48 acres), and the Sheep Wash (0.49 acres). The West Tract consists of 35 and 57R Avery Hill Road. The East Tract is at 32 Avery Hill Road and the Sheep Wash is at 27 Avery Hill Road. All are in Ledyard, CT. The entrance to the properties is located about one third mile north of Stoddards Wharf Road (Route 214) off Avery Hill Road. A small parking area is located east of Avery Hill Road in the East Tract. See the map that follows. Visitors are welcome. See signs for property access restrictions. All four parcels are owned by Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc.

The parcel at 35 Avery Hill Road (76.59 acres) was donated to Avalonia (then the Mashantucket Land Trust, Inc.) by Amos and Elizabeth Avery in 1970. The parcel at 57R Avery Hill Road (0.53 acres) was transferred from the Town of Ledyard to Avalonia in 2014. The East Tract donation was made in 1977 by Amos and Elizabeth Avery. Amos Avery donated the Sheep Wash in 1995.

All three parcels are part of a 1653 land grant that had been handed down from father to son for 10 generations. The stone-walled sheep pen along the brook was an area where the sheep were washed and treated to kill parasites.

The parcels are mostly wooded with deciduous trees, a few white pines, some Eastern Red Cedar, and some Atlantic white cedar. The East Tract has a large stand of Rhododendron Maximum. The land is a habitat for birds, deer, and smaller mammals. Blazed hiking trails are maintained for visitor access.

Parking is available in a small lot by Avery Hill Road in the East Tract. In the following map stone walls are shown by black lines dotted with white. Avalonia owned parcels are shown in green. Ledyard town owned parcels are shown in light brown. The West Tract has orange, yellow, and white blazed trails as shown. A short white blazed trail near the entrance leads to the Sheep Wash. Here you will find an old sheep pen used to hold sheep during washing. The East Tract has an unmaintained and very wet trail (shown in pink) that leads into the Rhododendron grove. The white trail location on the East Tract is the proposed relocation of this trail on a boardwalk. The East Tract is very wet as shown by the horizontally hatched area representing wetlands. There is a large grove of Rhododendron Maximum shown cross-hatched in the middle of the wetlands. Billings Avery Brook runs along the south side of the East and West Tracts and north of the Sheep Wash.



## SITE INFORMATION

### The property

Appendix I contains copies of the deeds with the legal description of each property.

The preserve is largely surrounded by forested tracts and some farm land. A few houses are adjacent along Avery Hill Road. The West Tract has a forested tract to the north for approximately a quarter mile until you come to the houses along Bittersweet Drive. Open space continues north of Bittersweet Drive and extending NW along forested tracts and farms to land owned by The Nature Conservancy along Poquetanuck Cove. The West Tract is bordered on the west and south by forested parcels. The largest of these is owned by Pfizer, Inc. This parcel has trails which connect to trails on the West Tract. Part of the Pfizer parcel is leased to the Town of Ledyard for use as a ball field. The open space continues

south of Stoddards Wharf Road with another large forested parcel owned by Pfizer. This land connects to other largely forested parcels to the SE until you come to the large tract owned by the City of Groton which contains town reservoirs. The East Tract has forested and farmed parcels extending over a mile to the north, east and NE. These tracts of land also connect to the City of Groton reservoirs.

The properties represent a significant open space connected to other forested properties forming important wildlife corridors. The properties also represent land that has been used only for farming since Colonial times. The property is heavily used for hiking. The East Tract contains a large tract of Rhododendron Maximum which is rare in Connecticut. The Sheep Wash tract preserves an old sheep wash from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The East and West Tracts are bordered on the south by Billings-Avery Brook which is listed as a trout stream by the state.

### Acquisition history

The West Tract was the first acquired. It was deeded to Avalonia (then called the Mashantucket Land Trust, Inc.) by Mr. and Mrs. Amos G. Avery on December 23, 1970 (Recorded January 25, 1971). The East Tract followed on March 25, 1977 (Recorded March 30, 1977). This was also a gift from Amos and Elizabeth Avery both of whom are now deceased. The final parcel was the Sheep Wash which was donated on April 18, 1995 by Mr. Avery. The Town of Ledyard transferred 57R Avery Hill Road to Avalonia in the summer of 2014 as an addition to the West Tract.

The Amos Avery deed for the West Tract states that the transfer is effective “for so long as the land is held as a nature preserve, for scientific, educational, recreational, and esthetic purposes and is kept entirely in its natural state without any disturbances whatever of habitat or plant or animal populations excepting the undertaking of scientific research, any measures necessary for the proper management of the plant and animal populations, and the maintenance of such fences and foot trails as may be appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes without impairing the essential natural character of the premises. Should the premises cease to be used solely as provided herein then the estate hereby granted to the Mashantucket Land Trust, Inc., its successors and assigns, shall cease and determine and shall revert to and vest in The Nature Conservancy, its successors and assigns, to hold the property for the above described purposes ...”

The deed for the East Tract has similar provisions. “The conveyance is made subject to the express condition and limitation that the premises herein conveyed shall forever be held as a nature preserve, for scientific, educational, recreational, and aesthetic purposes, and shall be kept entirely in its natural state except for the maintenance of foot-trails, fences, signs and a small vehicle parking area as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes without impairing the natural character of the premises. Should the premises cease to be used solely as provided herein, then the estate hereby granted to the Mashantucket Land Trust, Inc., its successors and assigns, shall cease and determine and shall revert to and vest in The Nature Conservancy, its successors and assigns ...”



For the Sheep Wash transfer it was agreed that "The grantee shall provide maintenance in perpetuity of the existing sheep wash and a section of sluiceway leading to an ancient water-powered mill. The grantee shall maintain the parcel in an open and park-like condition by periodic removal of short-lived trees such as red maples and white woods, and weed underbrush such as sweet pepperbush." There is also a reverter clause to the grantor or heirs if grantee fails to carry out the above conditions.

There was no direct third party involvement in the transfers except as stated in the reverter clauses above.

The town property transfer had no restrictions.

#### Land use history

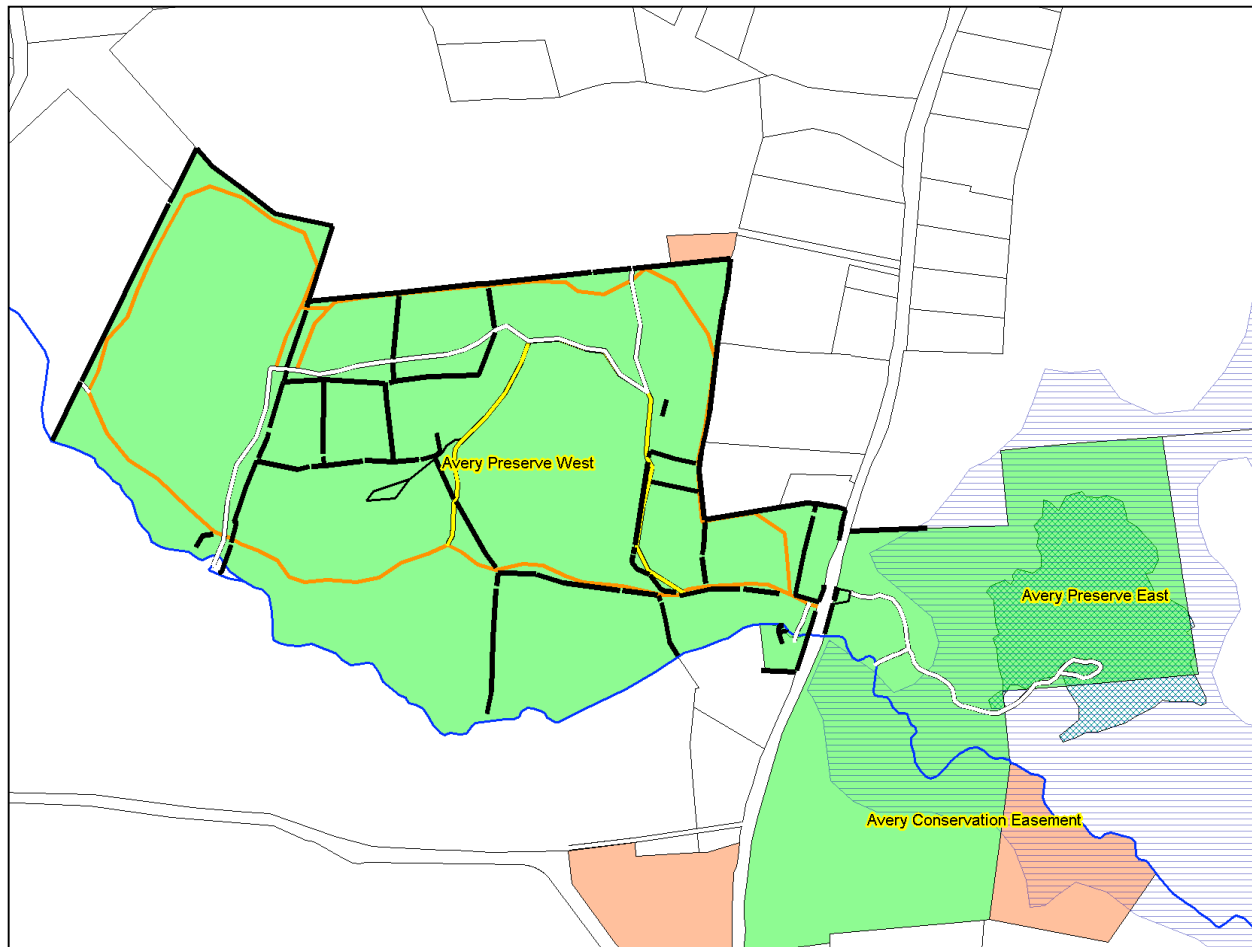
"April 25, 1650. 1, Unquas, Sachem of Manhekon, doe give freely unto Jonathan Brewster of Pequett, a tract of land, being a plaine of arable land, bounded on the south side with a great Coave called Poccatannoc ke, on the north with the old Poccatuck path that goes to the Trading Coave, etc. For, and in consideration thereof, the said J. B. binds himself and his heirs to keep a house for trading goos with the Indians." (600-700 acres). As a note of interest, Mr. Brewster had been trading all along the coast from New England to Virginia and had met with heavy losses. When he came up here to Pequot his bay creditors had stripped him of his estate.

Early in 1653, a series of farms were laid out adjoining Brewster's land, namely, the farms of Allyn, Avery, Coite, Isbell, Picket and others which were called the Pocketannock grants.

All three parcels are part of this 1653 land grant that has been handed down from father to son for 10 generations. Much of the West Tract was cleared and fenced for sheep pasture in the 19<sup>th</sup> and possibly the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The stone-walled sheep pen along the brook was an area where the sheep were washed and treated to kill parasites. From 1880 until 1946 the owner was not living in Connecticut and after 1946 the land was not farmed. No record could be found stating whether the land was leased out for farming after 1880.

#### Public use resources

The three properties are open to the public for all standard Avalonia passive recreational activities. Bicycle riding and horseback riding are not permitted. The property is posted with use restrictions. Blazed hiking trails are maintained on the West Tract and are frequently used. A trail map on the next page shows the existing trails. There is an unmarked loop trail on the East Tract that is very wet and usable only in the driest months of the year. It leads to the grove of Rhododendron Maximum on the property.



In the West Tract, an orange blazed trail leads from the entrance which is diagonally across from the parking area in the East Tract. This orange trail forms a long loop most of which follows the property boundaries as shown above. The yellow trail loops up into the center of the property along an old farm road. For some distance it runs concurrent with the white trail. The white trail runs from a bridge crossing to Pfizer owns property in the SW and then north and east to exit the north side of the property near the orange trail. A short, unmarked loop trail lies in the middle of the West Tract and is shown by a narrow black line above. The wide black lines indicate the location of stone walls previously used to hold sheep. A short, white-blazed trail extends down to the Sheep Wash from near the entrance. On the East Tract there is an unmarked and poorly maintained trail that leads to the Rhododendron grove. This is a very wet trail and often under water. A spur trail leads to a bridge over the brook to the private property where Avalonia holds a conservation easement.

The only official access points are along Avery Hill Road near the small parking area in the East Tract. However, visitors do access the property from the Pfizer property south and west of the West Tract and infrequently by the end of the white trail on the north side of the West Tract.

There are wooden entrance signs on both the East and West Tracts near Avery Hill Road. Property use restrictions are posted here and at the three other unofficial entrances mentioned above. The trails in the West Tract are blazed with paint on trees at frequent intervals. Avalonia or Mashantucket Land Trust signs are posted along the property boundaries.

### Natural resources

Much of the following information was taken from Appendix III, an Environmental Review Team Report prepared for the Avery Preserve in June 1985. Updates are included from Appendix II which was prepared in 2010. (pending)

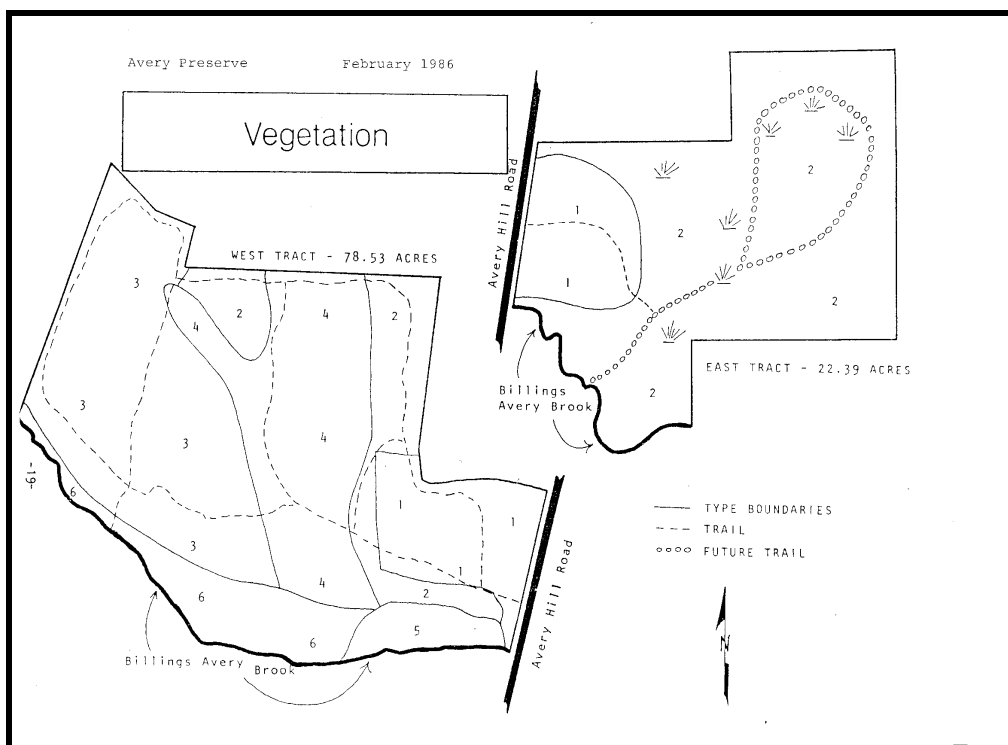
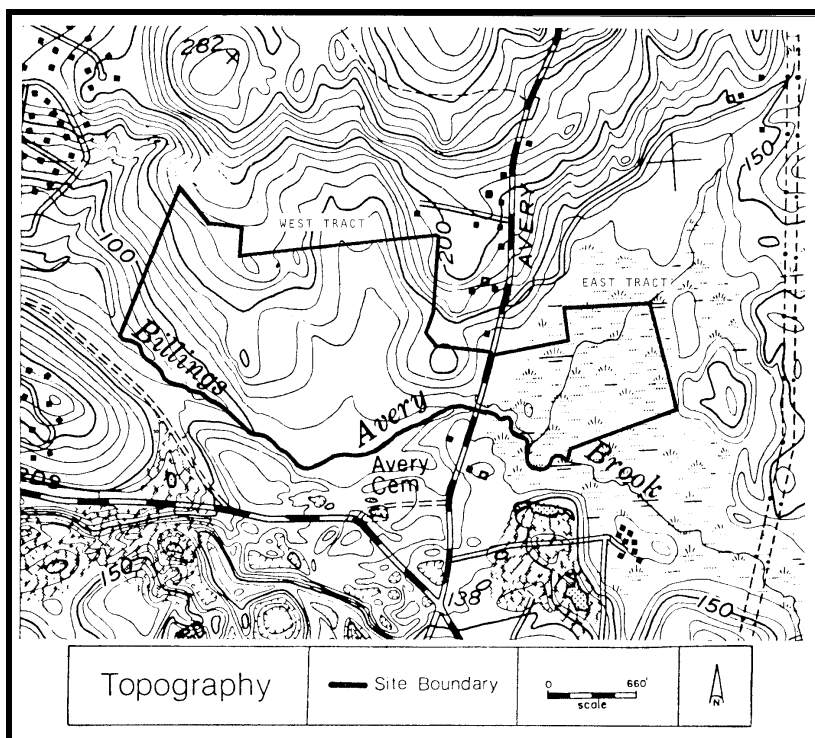
The properties comprise an upland woodland with glacial boulder deposits, a brook, and some swamp. Formerly, portions of the land were cleared pasture (probably for sheep) or under cultivation. The West Tract is bordered on the south by Billings-Avery Brook. The land slopes moderately to Billings-Avery Brook on the east and west sides of the tract. The central portion slopes gently to the brook. Elevations range from a high of about 190 feet to a low of about 80 feet [above sea level]. The East Tract is also bordered on the south by Billings-Avery Brook. An unnamed tributary to Billings-Avery Brook bisects the central portion of the tract. Slopes throughout the tract are relatively flat. A topographic map of the properties and surrounding area is on the next page. This map was taken from the Environmental Review Team Report as are several other maps in this document.

### West Tract Vegetation

Area #1 [see map on next page] - Old Field Type - This area varies from small openings of grass and sedges to 30 [55 in 2010] year old oaks and red cedar. This area represents a different habitat than the rest of the tract in that it is in a transitional stage from field or pasture to a nearly pure hardwood stand.

Species found in this area include: red cedar, white, scarlet and black oaks, red maple, black cherry and a few pignut hickories. Most of the woody understory is either blueberry, ironwood, azalea or one of the viburnums (mapleleaf, arrowwood and nannyberry).

Management of the area allows several choices: (1) do nothing, and allow natural succession to take place; (2) release the red cedars from competing hardwood to maintain this area in as much of an evergreen stand as possible. It is the only evergreen stand on this tract; (3) keep the area cut back and maintain in as much of an old field condition as possible.



Area #2 - Oak-Hickory Type - This main canopy trees are in the 8-14 inch diameter class making this a large pole-small sawlog class. In general, this stand is overstocked in the small 6"-8" size trees, and should be thinned with this size tree as the main target.

A light "understory" type thinning will not change the light intensity, i.e., the amount of understory brush that develops, but it will put all the remaining growth potential onto the remaining larger trees.

Species in this area include: oaks (black, white and scarlet), hickory (mostly pignut) with some white ash, black birch, red maple, and American beech. The understory is fairly light but there are seedlings of red maple, black cherry, flowering dogwood, blueberry, and an occasional azalea.

Area #3 - Mixed Hardwood Type - This is also a mixed hardwood type in the large pole-small sawlog size category; however, the species composition is different. More of the oak is red oak, with some black oak and white oak and very little scarlet oak. There is a good deal of American beech, some black and yellow birch, red maple and, in places, a good deal of sugar maple. Most of the understory is beech sprouts, but there are seedling-saplings in the overstory species, plus some flowering dogwood, mapleleaf viburnum, and at least one patch of mountain laurel.

This stand is also overcrowded, and although this appears to be a better growing site, it should be handled the same as Area #2; that is, it should be thinned by removing selected smaller or deformed trees, allowing growth to be put on the sound, better quality stems.

Area #4 - This is also a mixed hardwood stand, but the area is much flatter and quite moist. It has a high component of red maple, but there is also a lot of tulip poplar, or whitewood, and to a lesser extent white ash, yellow birch and black gum or tupelo.

The understory varies according to how wet the particular area is and how open the overstory is. Species include spicebush, azaleas, highbush blueberry, ironwood (blue beech), witch hazel, mapleleaf viburnum, arrowwood, and seedling-saplings of red maple and birch.

This stand needs only light thinning to release some of the white ash and tulip poplar.

Area #5 - Red maple-White cedar Type - This area along the brook is a typical red maple swamp with very wet ground conditions. The white cedar component may be the natural balance between cedar and maple, but it is suspected that the stand is becoming more and more red maple. In colonial times, the cedar was highly prized for house shingles and for making lightweight rowing work boats. Because of its value, most of these areas were carefully weeded of competing hardwood, but without that care they are now reverting to a minor component of white cedar.

About the only other species in the overstory are a few sycamore and black gum trees. The understory is quite a dense tangle of spicebush, nannyberry, and arrowwood. It would be interesting to try to bring this area back into a nearly pure white cedar stand. Very little work is being done in these stands because the fragile ground condition would require a high amount of hand labor.

Area #6 - This is the same type as Area #4, but there are very few white cedars. Other than the cedar, the same species of tree and shrubs are present.

## East Tract Vegetation

Area #1 - Mixed pine-Hardwood Type - This is the only high ground on this side of the road. The overstory consists of 6-12" scarlet oaks, white oaks, red maple, white pine, and a few black birch. The understory is a mixture of mountain laurel, black and yellow birch saplings, and sweetpepper bush, with a few greenbriars to make the tangle complete.

From a forestry standpoint, the white pine should be released from the competing hardwoods as the pine is a far better timber species on this site than the hardwoods.

Area #2 - Red Maple Swamp Type - This is not a pure red maple stand as there are also yellow birch, black birch, black gum, white cedar, and white pine mixed in. There is a heavy understory of sweetpepper bush, spicebush, mountain laurel, great rhododendron, greenbriars, and a small section of blackberries.

Most of this area is not commercially operable and should be pretty much left as is. Some noncommercial cutting or killing of the overtopping hardwoods would enhance the flowering on the laurel and rhododendron.

Additional information on the vegetation of the properties is in Appendix IV, a report of a Connecticut Botanical Society field trip from May 14, 1977.

## ANIMALS, FISH, AND BIRDS

There are no known endangered species on the properties. The predominant large animals on site are whitetail deer which pass through the properties regularly. Most of the food supply consists of mast. Smaller animal tracks are rare but there are likely to be small animals around the brook and other wetlands. The woods support species of birds that need mature forests. There is little in the way of early successional growth or grasslands. Billings-Avery Brook stays relatively cool in the summer and supports trout and other cool water species.

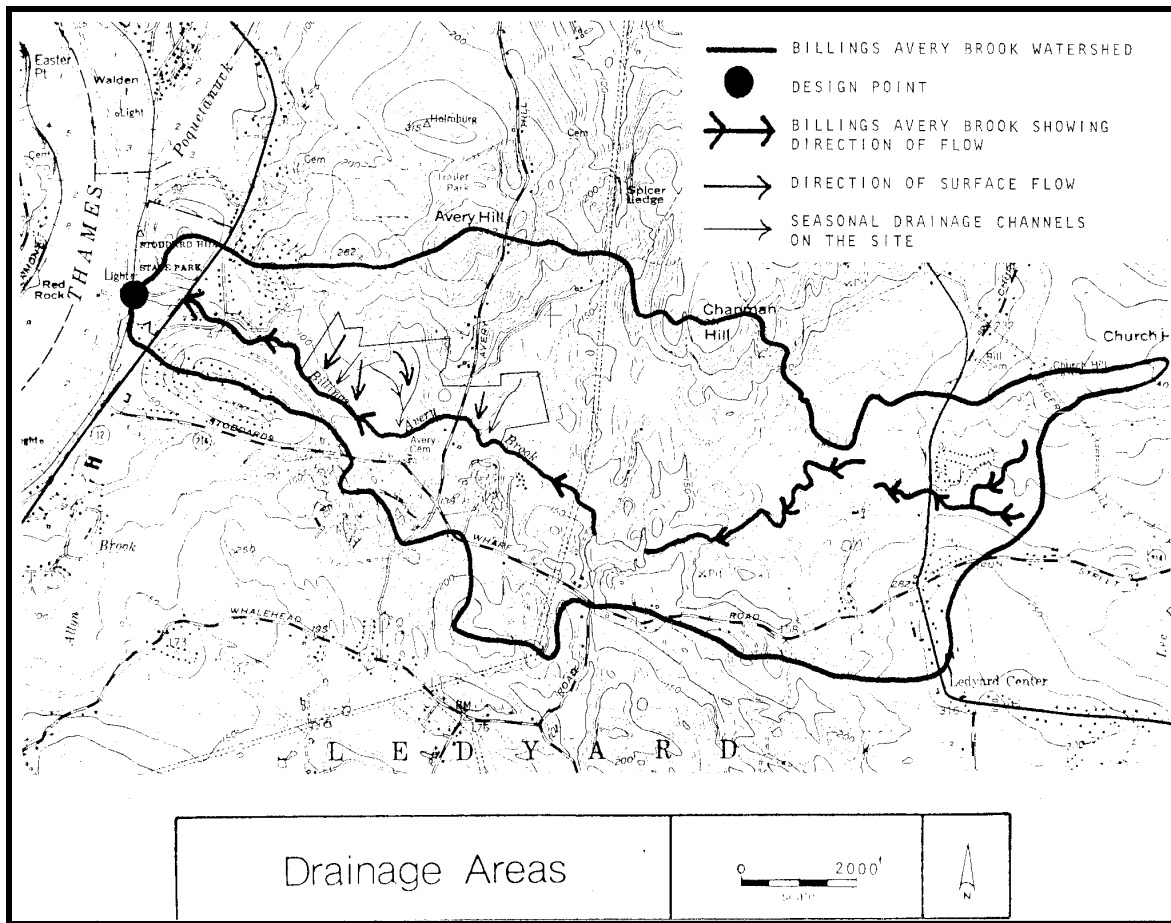
In Appendix III it was reported (as of 1985) that "At present, the overall habitat for a variety of wildlife is only fair to good. There is a lack of diversity of habitats, interspersions and edge. There is a definite lack of herbaceous and brushy openings. The species using the area now are those that require a mature hardwood forest type of habitat." Since that time Avalonia has done little to modify the habitat and the hardwood forest is now 25 years more mature.

## SOILS AND BEDROCK GEOLOGY

Appendix III has maps and a discussion of the soils, bedrock geology, and surficial geography of the properties.

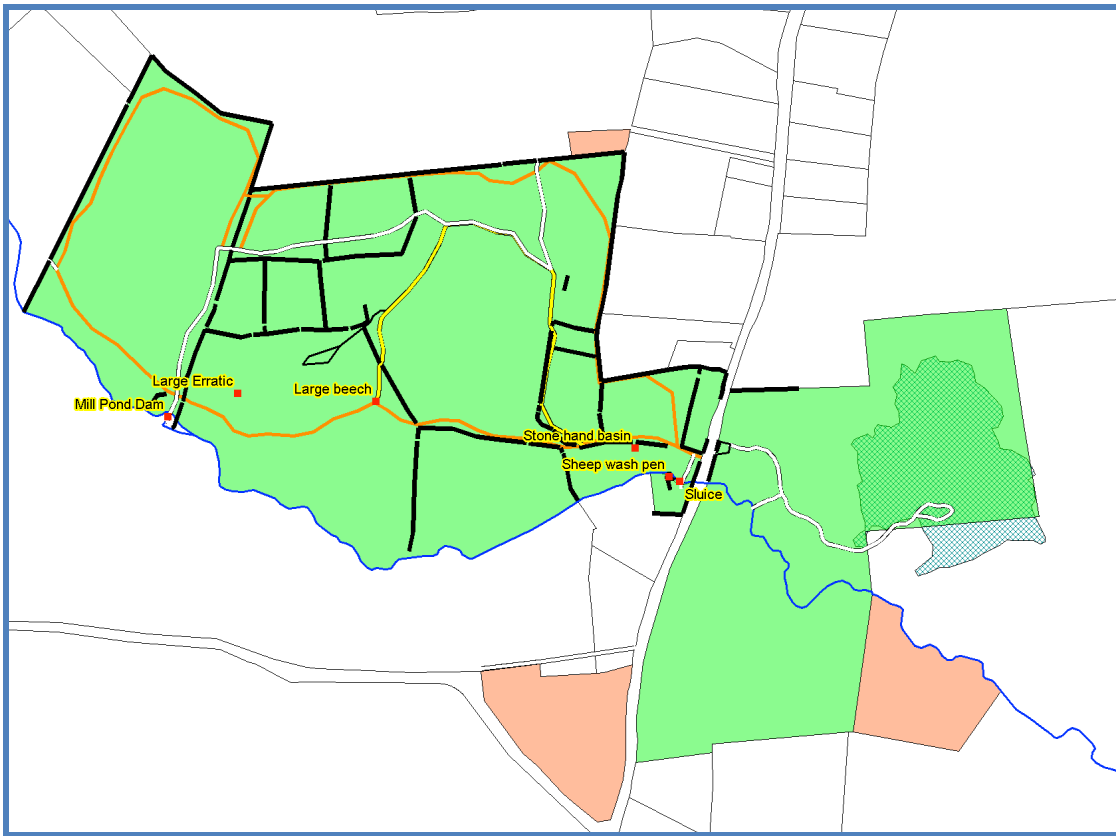
## HYDROLOGIC FEATURES

The following map from Appendix III shows the drainage on the property and surrounding area. There is an unnamed tributary to Billings-Avery Brook in the East Tract that flows SSW and has water most of the time. The West Tract has two small and sometimes intermittent streams that flow south through the middle of the tract.



## SPECIAL FEATURES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The map that follows shows the special terrain and cultural features of the three properties. Locations of stone walls are shown as wider black lines. The East Tract contains a large grove of *Rhododendron Maximum* shown in the cross-hatched area on the map. These plants are relatively scarce in Connecticut. On the West Tract from west to east are found an old mill pond dam, a large glacial erratic, a large beech with carved initials, a stone hand basin, a sheep pen and a sluice for an even older mill near Avery Hill Road. Some of these features are documented in the photographs on succeeding pages.







Natural Hand wash basin



Large beech tree with initials



Stone sheep wash holding pen on Sheep Wash Tract



Sluice for old mill near sheep wash



Mill pond dam

## MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Stewardship policies Avalonia Land Conservancy Fee Land Stewardship Principles were approved on December 16, 2009 and the document is available at the Conservancy's office on Hatch Street in Mystic, CT. This document sets forth the general principles governing stewardship of all Avalonia properties. The document or any approved successor is hereby incorporated as part of this management plan.

### Protection

As with all Avalonia properties, the exterior boundaries of these preserves shall be marked with approved Avalonia Land Conservancy boundary signs following the guidance given in Avalonia stewardship policies.

Entrance signs are currently in place and shall be maintained or replaced as necessary to mark the entrances of the West and East Tracts.

An annual walk around the boundaries of the properties is required to ensure that boundary signs are in place and that there are no intrusions. Other surveillance should take place using due vigilance on occasional hikes on the properties.

All motorized vehicles are prohibited on the properties except for the parking area on the East Tract.

All three properties are open to the general public. Visitor controls consist only of posted entrance signs giving accepted activities on the properties. Persons found in violation of these restrictions on use may be asked to leave. If significant problems persist, visitors may be cited for trespass and asked not to come back.

Protection of special natural and cultural features has not been an issue to date. The features will be monitored for damage in the future to detect problems.

### Maintaining properties appearance

No mowing has taken place or is planned on these properties. Boundary walls are generally clear of significant plant growth. The parking area must be monitored because it has been the site of disposal of plant debris in the past. Trails should be maintained clear of deadfalls on routine hikes through the property. Significant deadfalls should be reported to the Ledyard Town Committee for cleanup.

### Public use

All three tracts are open to the public and hiking trails are maintained for the use of visitors. Motor vehicles, bicycle riding, and horseback riding are not permitted. Hunting and the use of firearms on the property including bow hunting and target practice are not permitted. Camping is not allowed. Dogs



must be kept leased. Visitors are not allowed to pick vegetation or disturb wildlife excessively. Otherwise, the properties are open to all passive recreational activities including fishing in Billings-Avery Brook.

A parking area is located along Avery Hill Road on the East Tract. This is also the access point for the existing trail on the East Tract. The entrance to the West Tract and Sheep Wash is located diagonally across the road.

An extensive trail system is maintained on the West Tract with a spur trail leading into the Sheep Wash. See the map on page 6. The East Tract currently has a loop trail into the Rhododendron grove. This trail is extremely wet and nearly impassable for much of the year. The trail will not be maintained in the future but may be used for now.

Rules of use signs are posted at all the entrances including the off-site trails at the end of the white trail and at the trail leading west from the orange trail along the brook. These signs will be maintained in the future. Trails in the West Tract are blazed in three colors, orange, yellow, and white as shown on the map on page 6. The blazes are approximately 2 inches wide by 6 inches tall and are rectangular. Where trails are concurrent, both blaze colors are used.

There are no interpretive signs on the property at present. Such signs may be added in the future if found appropriate.

Trail maps are available on the Avalonia website: <http://www.avalonialandconservancy.org>. Other trail information may be added in the future including posting of maps on the entrance signs and/or providing a brochure or maps in the map box at the West Tract entrance.

Special events are permitted on the property at the discretion of the Ledyard Town Committee or the Board of Directors. Events to date have consisted of guided hikes on the properties.

Enhancing wildlife habitat(s) (pends development of the Forestry Management Plan)

Some additional input from walk with Joan Nichols on June 6, 2013

Mockernut pronounced with long o.

Found Sycamores by mill pond.

Found mandrake behind sheep wash pen.

False Heliobore by stream.

Lots of New York fern, some Hayscented, Royal, and Christmas ferns. Lots of Cinnamon fern.

Euonymus along orange trail.

Japanese honeysuckle along yellow trail road.

Japanese barberry along stream.

Some scattered Oriental bittersweet but not bad.

Some elm seedlings along lower orange trail.

Some big Sassafras.

Sugar maple seedlings likely come from old shade trees (wolf trees)

Hickories with diamond pattern are Pignut hickory.

Nice sized Chestnut under pines on East tract still doing well.

Need to remove trees back to stone wall by entrance to create a landing area. Loggers have bridges for small streams.

Providing early succession habitats

Releasing fruit and mast producing trees

Maintaining snags and cavity trees

Providing openings to stimulate production of hardwood sprouts for browse

Maintaining and enhancing wildlife corridors, water resources, nesting sites, and softwood cover

Seeding harvested areas with grasses that benefit wildlife

#### Controlling invasive species

Invasive species have not been a significant problem on the property. The main nuisance species is Round-Leafed Greenbriar which is widespread but native. Some Oriental Bittersweet is present mostly near Billings-Avery Brook. No control of invasives is necessary at this time but may be necessary in the future.

#### Erosion control

Erosion has not been a significant problem and no action is needed.

#### Productive uses

Forestry (pends development of the Forestry Management Plan)

#### Scientific and educational activities

These are permitted by our deed. The main activities at present are limited to educational guided hikes on the property.

#### Response to large natural disasters

The first response to a natural disaster will be to clear away trees and debris from the hiking trails and repair damage to bridges. Logging is permitted to recover trees knocked down or damaged in a major disaster.

#### Special management considerations

There are no special management considerations at this time.

## IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

### Recurring and occasional requirements

Trail hikes by one or more members of the Ledyard Town Committee should take place at least once each month to look for and clear deadfalls from the trails and to look for other problems. Our phone number is posted at the entrances so that visitors can contact us for resolution of serious problems such as down trees, graffiti, dumping, or other damage to the property.

### Annual obligations

A boundary walk around the outside perimeter of all three properties is required to look for intrusions and to ensure that the boundary is marked with Avalonia Land Conservancy signs.

### Short term plan (1 – 5 years)

Pends Forestry Management Plan

### Long term plan (5+ years)

Pends Forestry Management Plan

### Schedule for revising this plan

This plan shall be reviewed at least every five years and updated as necessary.

## APPENDICES

### I. Legal documentation

Survey maps are available at the Hatch Street Office of Avalonia.

Zoning map for property and surrounding area is available at the Ledyard Town Hall or online at <http://www.ledyardgis.com>. The West Tract and Sheep Wash are zoned R-60 and the East Tract R-80 as of the start of 2010.

Deeds and Restrictions follow



## II. Forestry Management Plan

### III. Environment Review Team Report

#### IV. Botanical Society Trip Report

Twenty-three members met at the Avery Homestead at 10:00 a.m. to botanize the two tracts of the Avery Preserve which lie just north of the historic homestead on Avery Hill Road. It was a perfect spring day with the sun smiling warmly and the air filled with bird-song.

Mr. Amos G. Avery, for many years a professor of botany and plant geneticist at Smith College, donated 100 acres to The Mashantucket Land Trust, Inc., a seven-town corporation serving Griswold, Groton, Ledyard, North Stonington, Preston, Stonington, and Voluntown. This land, part of a much larger holding, had been in the Avery family since the 1600's. Both tracts of the preserve are bounded on the south by the Billings-Avery Brook. Several sites comprise the area including the stream, red maple swamp with southern white cedar and great rhododendron, midslopes, upland (formerly sheep pasture), and lower slopes. Flora represent primarily upland species found along trails. A stone-walled sheep pound remains at the brookside from a time when the sheep were caught up here to be taken, one at a time, into the brook to be scrubbed. Beyond this pen and along the brook can be seen a rugged area of glacial bouldery end moraine left some 13,000 years ago by the receding Wisconsin glacier.

The 23-acre east tract is largely wooded wetlands with *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Nyssa sylvatica* (sour-gum), *Chamaecyparis thyoides* (southern white cedar), *Clethra alnifolia* (sweet pepperbush), and a thicket of *Rhododendron maximum* (great rhododendron). On the higher and drier ground we were pleased to find several patches of *Polygala paucifolia* (flowering wintergreen) in bloom, like small magenta butterflies upon the leaves. *Pedicularis canadensis* (wood-betony) was also in flower close by.

*Lycopodium complanatum* (running pine) wandered beneath the tall trees.

In the brook two specimens of *Orontium aquaticum* (golden club) blossomed, all that remained of a much larger patch purported to have been eaten by muskrats. There was a nice patch of *Nasturtium officinale* (watercress) as well. Beside the brook we found *Asarum canadense* (wild ginger) in flower, and foliage of *Habenaria* (sp.) (orchid), *Lilium superbum* (Turk's-cap lily), and *Iris versicolor* (large blue flag).

The west tract contains 78-acres, mostly upland woodland, with several marked trails. Many bird species were identified by their songs. A pair of black and white warblers darted through the tree-tops. We watched a male rose-breasted grosbeak as he vocalized high overhead. Trees predominating here include *Quercus alba* (white oak), *Q. velutina* (black oak), and *Q. rubra* (red oak), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (whitewood), *Fagus grandifolia* (beech), *Betula lenta* (black birch), *Carya ovata* (shagbark hickory), with occasional *Betula lutea* (yellow birch), and young *Castanea dentata* (chestnut). Shrubs in the understory include *Clethra alnifolia* (sweet pepperbush), *Lindera benzoin* (spice-bush), *Rhododendron nudiflorum* (pink azalea), *Viburnum acerifolium* (mapleleaf viburnum), and *Hamamelis virginiana* (common witch-hazel). Clubmosses noted were *Lycopodium obscurum* (tree clubmoss), *L. lucidulum* (shining clubmoss), and *L. complanatum* (running pine). *Mitchella repens* (partridgeberry), *Uvularia sessilifolia* (wild-oats), *Arisaema* (sp.) (Jack-in-the-pulpit), *Viola blanda* (sweet white violet), were among many other common species noted.

The lunch break was taken at the Tefft farm, six miles east of the Avery Preserve. The early afternoon walk took us through a low

meadow past great drifts of *Houstonia caerulea* (blueets), on through a reverting pasture where we saw *Lycopodium clavatum* (staghorn clubmoss), to a wooded swamp to see *Cypripedium calceolus* variety *parviflorum* (small yellow lady's-slipper). 34 plants were counted, 6 of them in bloom, scattered among *Adiantum pedatum* L. (northern maidenhair fern), *Veratrum viride* (false hellebore), and skunk cabbage. *Viola pubescens* (downy yellow violet) and *Trillium cernuum* (nodding trillium) were blooming in the same area. This proved to be a delightful spot where much more time could have been spent along the rushing brook and among the tall hemlocks. Time being the cruel master, the group returned to their cars for part three of the day's agenda, a side trip to Mr. Norman Lamb's home grounds with Bill Linke whose report follows.

Leaders: Lois Tefft and Dr. William A Niering

## Preliminary Species List

CBS Field Trip

Avery Preserve

5/14/77

### Trees

Acer rubrum (red maple)  
Betula lenta (black birch)  
Betula lutea (yellow birch)  
Carya ovata (shagbark hickory)  
Fagus grandifolia (beech)  
Cornus florida (flowering dogwood)  
Chamaecyparis thyoides (southern white cedar)  
Liriodendron tulipifera (whitewood)  
Nyssa sylvatica (sour-gum)  
Quercus alba (white oak)  
Q. velutina (black oak)  
Q. rubra (red oak)  
Carpinus caroliniana (ironwood) [American hornbeam]  
Fraxinus Americana (white ash)  
Ostrya virginiana (hornbeam) [ironwood, American Hop-hornbeam]  
Castanea dentata (chestnut)  
Juniperus virginiana (red cedar)

### Shrubs

Alnus serrulata (smooth alder)  
Clethra alnifolia (sweet pepperbush)  
Spiraea latifolia (meadowsweet)  
Rhododendron maximum (great rhododendron)  
R. nudiflorum (pink azalea)  
Viburnum acerifolium (mapleleaf viburnum)  
Ilex verticillata (common winterberry holly)  
Salix (sp.) (willow)  
Lindera benzoin (spicebush)  
Hamamelis virginiana (common witch-hazel)  
Vaccinium (spp.) (blueberry)  
Gaylussacia (sp.) (huckleberry)

### Herbs

Carex stricta (sedge sp.)  
Habenaria (sp.) (orchid)  
Orontium aquaticum (golden club)  
Cypripedium acaule (pink lady's-slipper)

(2) Prelim. Species List -- Avery Preserve

Herbs (cont.)

Osmunda cinnamomea (cinnamon fern)  
O. regalis (royal fern)  
Viola cucullata (marsh blue violet)  
Lilium superbum (Turk's-cap lily)  
Symplocarpus foetidus (skunk cabbage)  
Veratrum viride (false hellebore) (Indian poke)  
Thalictrum (sp.) (meadow-rue)  
Iris versicolor (large blue flag)  
Maianthemum canadense (wild lily-or-the-valley) (Canada  
mayflower)  
Anemone quinquefolia (wood anemone)  
Aralia nudicaulis (wild sarsaparilla)  
Chelone glabra (turtlehead)  
Viola conspersa (dog violet)  
Solidago rugosa (rough-stemmed goldenrod)  
Dennstaedtia punctilobula (hay-scented fern)  
Polygala paucifolia (flowering wintergreen) (gay-wings)  
Geranium maculatum (wild geranium)  
Uvularia sessilifolia (sessile bellwort) (wild-oats)  
Ranunculus recurvatus (hooked buttercup)  
Athyrium filix-femina (lady fern)  
Aster divaricatus (white wood aster)  
Dryopteris noveboracensis (New York fern)  
Medeola virginiana (Indian cucumber-root)  
Chimaphila maculata (spotted wintergreen)  
Lysimachia quadrifolia (whorled loosestrife)  
Lycopodium complanatum (running pine)  
L. obscurum (tree clubmoss)  
L. lucidulum (shining clubmoss)  
Pedicularis canadensis (wood-betony)  
Potentilla canadensis (dwarf cinquefoil)  
Asarum canadense (wild ginger)  
Polystichum acrostichoides (Christmas fern)  
Podophyllum peltatum (May-apple) (mandrake)  
Nasturtium officinale (watercress)  
Pyrola elliptica (shinleaf)  
Trillium cernuum (nodding trillium)  
Mitchella repens (partridgeberry)



V. Plan progress (attach annual updates of work accomplished)