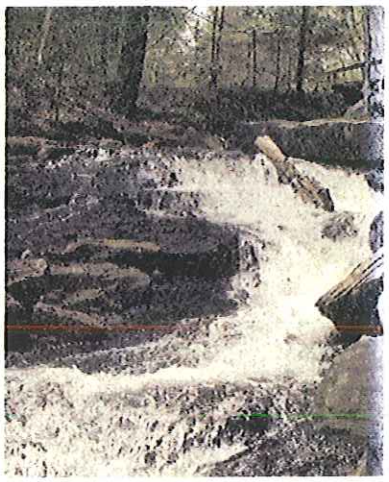
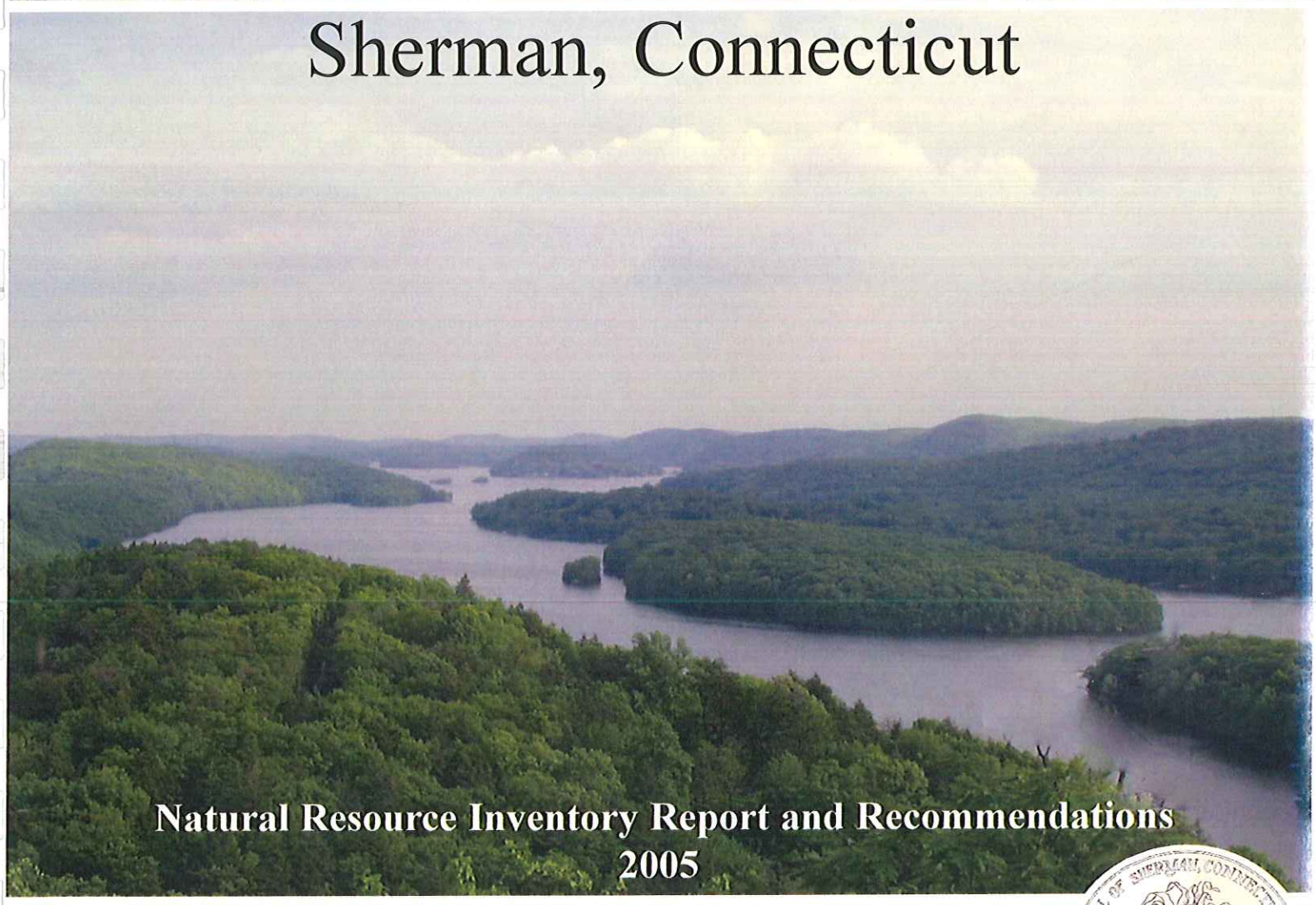
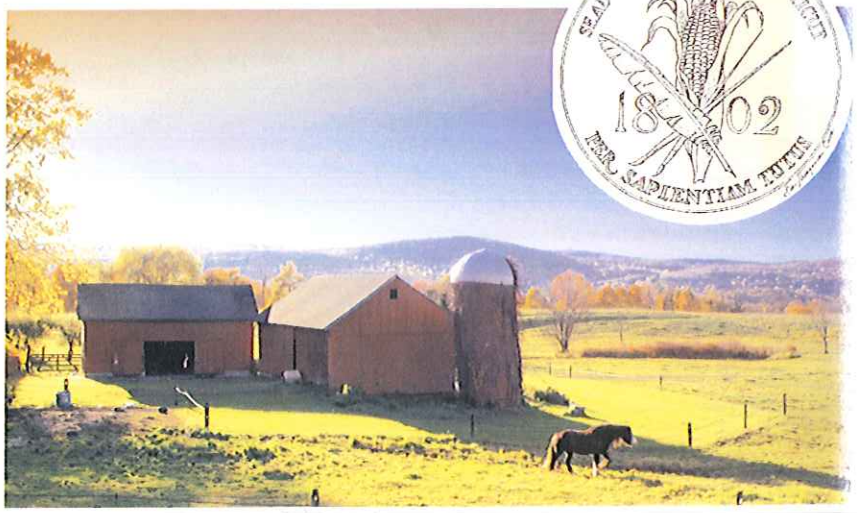


Sherman, Connecticut



Natural Resource Inventory Report and Recommendations
2005

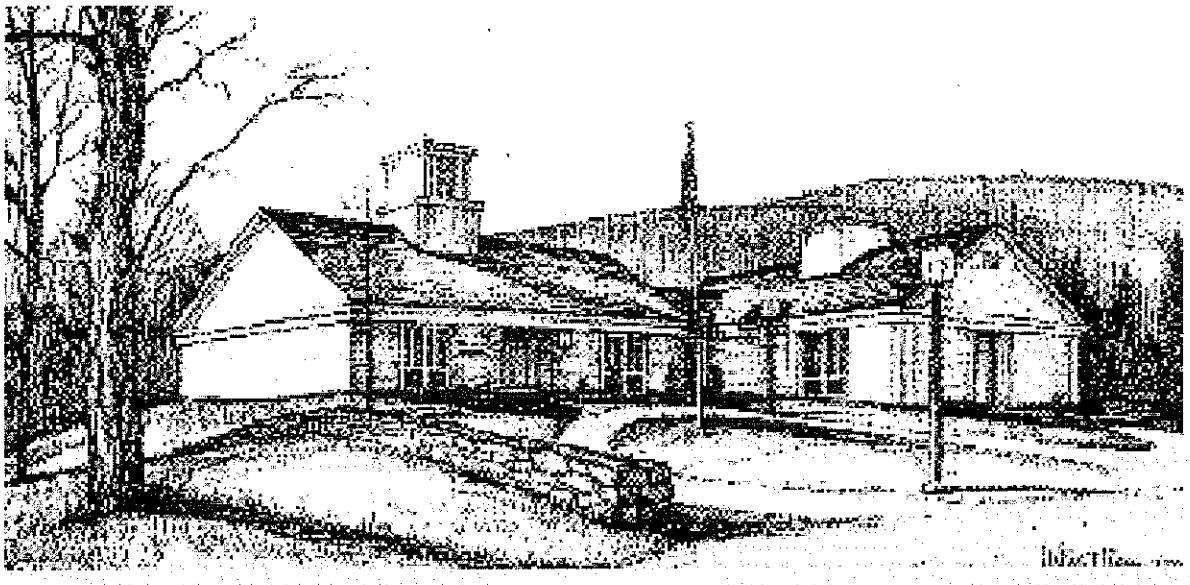


Printed by The New Fairfield Press

Chairman:	*Ronald Pizzarelli*
Vice Chairman:	*Joseph Keneally*
Secretary:	*Nancy Astor White*
Commissioners:	*Pat Bailey* *Ashleigh Blake* *Geoff Gwyther* *Sam Lamhut* *Marie Munch* *Gerald Sirkin*
Clerk:	*Helen Bray*

Town of Sherman, Connecticut
Conservation Commission

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY REPORT and RECOMMENDATIONS



Mallory Town Hall

Dedicated to the future of Sherman

With a keen awareness of the mandate to conserve and protect the land we cherish. The Conservation Commission has developed this resource book. It is our hope that the information it contains will be used by the people of Sherman and its municipal commissions when planning and reviewing future development projects,

We wish to thank those people whose selfless efforts have enchanced the beauty of the Town of Sherman for all. Our town is a better place because of their citizenship.

"Sherman As A Way of Life"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We want to express our great appreciation to the Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company for its generous grant which paid for the cost of map development and the printing of this report.

Very special thanks go to Elizabeth Corrigan and her colleagues Jean Cronauer, Sean Hayden at the Northwest Conservation District for providing GIS mapping services. Ms Corrigan's expertise and enthusiasms were critical to the success of this inventory.

Thanks also to Mary Rindfleisch for writing this successful grant application and securing the funding for this project. Gloria Thorne of the Sherman Historical Society was very generous in allowing the use of Wilson Ware's line Drawing of the many Sherman houses.

We would also like to thank the many individuals and organizations that contributed to this endeavor, their time, knowledge and talents greatly added to the completion of this book.

Candlewood Lake Authority:
Larry Marsicano
Angela Dimmitt
Charlie Dodge
Carol Faure
Tony Gwyther
David Hopkins
Janet Hopkins
HVCEO:
George Blake, Jonathan Chew
Marge Josephson
Malyn Rogers Kamenoff
Joanna Kelly
Kemp Mandeville
Elizabeth Munch Mard
Charles Munch
Marie Munch

Naromi Land Trust:
Hunter Brawley
Northwest Conservation District:
Elizabeth Corrigan, Jean Cronauer,
Sean Hayden
Andrea O'Connor
Art Von Plachecki
Mary Rindfleisch
Natalie Sirkin
Mary Tweedy
Joyce Ware
Nancy Astor White
Gene Zeitler
Robin Zitter

Editor: Joseph Keneally
Composition: Pat Bailey
Lay-out & Design: Samuel Lamhut

We have endeavored to make this report as complete and accurate as possible.

Any errors or omissions are entirely our own.

INTRODUCTION

I moved to Sherman nearly 29 years ago. I found a house set on 26 acres of fields and woodland and began to discover the pristine treasures of nature throughout Sherman. My elderly neighbors fetched fresh water daily from a nearby stream. My children grew up with deer a common sight, bullfrogs and birds regular visitors and an awareness of a rich natural heritage all around.

Sherman is the beneficiary of several special circumstances that have allowed our town to remain relatively small and unspoiled. During the 19th century, as Connecticut's population grew and other towns developed, Sherman remained somewhat isolated. The railroad never came closer than Gaylordsville to the north and Towners "over the hill" to the west. As the roadways developed, Sherman was also off the main line and had no major highways.

In the 20th century, some far-sighted town leaders, recognizing the special qualities of small-town, rural life, enacted some of the earliest zoning regulations in Connecticut. This protected Sherman from some of the unmanaged suburban sprawl that many other communities have encountered. Our heritage as an agricultural community from the earliest days set the pattern of large tracts of open farmland, low density of housing development and a special awareness of the natural environment. Clear air and clean water are critical for every farmer and protecting them has been a priority for many generations of Sherman residents.

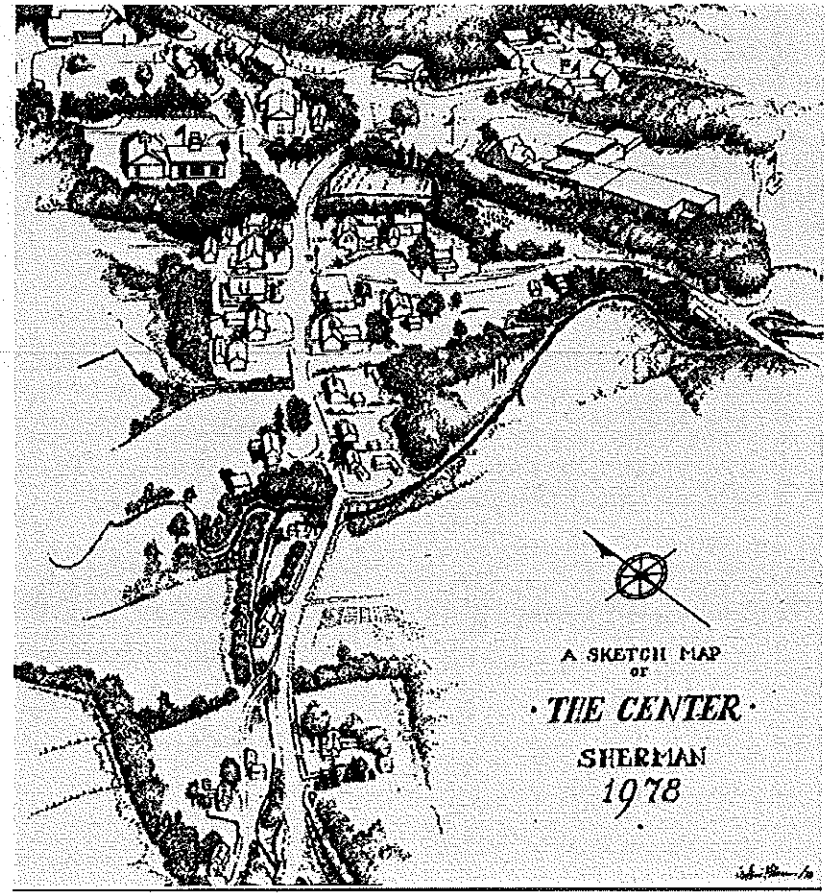
Our community remains dedicated to preserving the natural habitat crucial to the flora and fauna of our town. In recent years, through the efforts of the Naromi Land Trust, many acres of land have been protected permanently. The recent establishment of a municipal land acquisition fund will allow the town another avenue to protect open spaces. Many citizens have generously donated land, funds, and their time to the protection of our environment.

The pledge to protect the natural beauty of Sherman has been passed on from generation to generation. The charge we receive and embrace is to honor the intentions and goals of our forebears: preserve, protect and defend Sherman from untrammeled growth and despoliation.

Ronald R. Pizzarelli
Chairman
Sherman Conservation Commission

"A map … communicates in lines, hues, tones, coded symbols, and empty spaces much like music. A map … is man-tongued, a chorus reciting centuries of accumulated knowledge in echoed chants."

The Island of Lost Maps, Miles Harvey, Random House, 2000, p. 38.



Pre-History

A great array of forces both natural and man-made shaped the topography and geology of Sherman. Beginning nearly a billion years ago, vast terrestrial movements caused submerged marine deposits to begin folding back upon themselves creating tall mountains in the process. By the end of the Paleozoic era, several hundred million years ago, these mountains reached heights of 30,000 feet above sea level. The start of the Mesozoic era 200,000,000 years ago began an extended period of erosion which wore down these mountains until they had largely disappeared,leaving only sluggish streams meandering across the peneplain and bedrock which underlies Connecticut today.

Roughly 60,000,000 years ago, during the Cenozoic period, a phenomenon termed tertiary uplift caused Connecticut's surface to tilt upward. The region around Sherman, called the Northwest Highlands, became the highest. This elevation caused rivers and streams to accelerate, rapidly increasing erosion that helped to form the region's present contours of hills and valleys.

The Pleistocene glacial epoch began approximately one million years ago and featured successive advances and retreats of deep ice cover. At the height of the last great ice age, 18,000-19,000 years ago, ice sheets 1500 to 2000 feet thick covered the state. Advancing ice carried much Connecticut soil and rock southward, replacing it with the boulders of northern New England.

As the ice sheet retreated and floodwaters receded, vegetation began to reappear, circa 12,300 B.C.E., along with human habitation. The oldest documented state archeological site is a 10,000-year-old Native American encampment in nearby Washington.

Geology

The bedrock that underlies Sherman consists of igneous and metamorphic rock. The upland areas are underlain by crystalline rock such as granite, gneiss and schist and the lowland areas by less resistant marble as well as gneiss and schist. Materials above the stable base of bedrock such as sand, gravel, silt, clay, swamp deposits, stones and boulders are collectively known as unconsolidated materials.

The most abundant unconsolidated material in Sherman is till. This is a mixture of sand, gravel, clay, silt and boulders deposited by the retreating glacial ice. Till covers the upland areas in a thin layer and

becomes thicker in valleys and along flanks of such upland areas as Wanzer Mountain, Briggs Hill and Barnes Hill. A secondary type of unconsolidated materials is called stratified drift, deposited by melting glacial ice. This is a layering of gravel, sand, silt and clay. Stratified drift deposits in Sherman are found in the valleys and streams that flowed south into the Rocky River (Candlewood Lake) valley. The lake itself covers substantial deposits of stratified drift material. Deposits are also found near the town center and northerly along Route 39.

Forested Land

Prior to the arrival of Europeans in the 17th century, Native Americans opened clearings in the forest and each year burned fields and woods to eliminate weeds and underbrush. These were minor encroachments on otherwise vast, unbroken stretches of dense virgin forest. Hemlock, beech, sugar maple and yellow birch were probably the dominant trees over much of the state.

With European settlement the original forest quickly disappeared before the plow, the ax, and the increased incidence of fire. By 1820 agriculture had reached its peak in southern New England, and not more than 24 percent of the original forest remained. Lumbering and charcoal production in the 19th century further reduced forest cover so that by the early 20th century less than 5 percent of the old growth forests remained in all of New England. Second growth sprout forest, composed largely of oaks and other "sprout species", cover approximately 70 percent of Connecticut today.

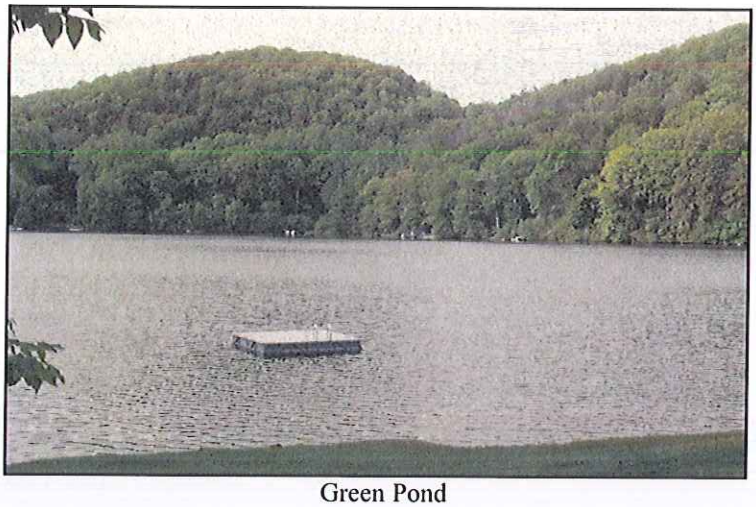
Rivers, Brooks, Lakes and Ponds

The waters of Sherman are a defining characteristic of our town. The largest river, the Housatonic (along with the Ten Mile River) creates the northern border of Sherman. Starting in Massachusetts and flowing all the way to Long Island Sound the Housatonic was a vital resource for the people of Sherman from the earliest Native Americans to today's residents. The Housatonic River provides a rich variety of benefits both ecologically and culturally. The river valley, of which Sherman is part, allows an abundant habitat for both flora and fauna. This offers many recreational opportunities from canoeing to fishing to quiet enjoyment of its natural beauty. The town also benefits from the Housatonic waters as the source for the hydroelectric power generated at the Rocky River power station.

Sherman is graced with many pristine lakes and ponds. The only naturally occurring lakes are Green Pond and Squantz Pond (shared with neighboring New Fairfield). Squantz Pond may at one time have been much larger than it is now. The pond got its name from Squantz, who was chief of the Schaghticoke Indians living in this area in the 18th century. Some years ago, the remains of a very large Indian canoe, 22 feet long and 5- 1/2 feet wide, were raised from the bottom of Squantz pond. The unusually large size of this canoe indicates the possibility that 200 or more years ago the pond may have been considerably larger than it is today.

Green Pond is a glacial lake of about 25 acres, fed by springs, losing only a little of its water level even in the driest seasons. In

1810 William Leach and Cornelius McMahon undertook the massive job of blasting and cutting a tunnel through the rim of bedrock on the northwest side of Green Pond Mountain. After three years of arduous work, William Leach had tunneled through thirty feet of granite, an amazing feat considering the tools available. Roughly 3/4 of a mile away and 180 feet lower, Leach created a 14- acre storage reservoir once called Haviland Mill Pond after the last owner of the mills, Henry Tudor Haviland, who died in 1902. Now known simply as Mill Pond, it is the focus of an exclusive gated community of substantial homes. The area around Green Pond was developed for seasonal residences beginning in the early twentieth century and for a time the developers tried to change the name to Emerald Lake, but it never quite took hold among the locals.



Green Pond

Proceeding south through Sherman the following rivers, brooks, and streams also support a rich variety of wildlife and plants: Wimisink Brook, Naromiyocknowhusunkatankshunk Brook (the long, long Native American name means "flowing water from the hills"), Great Brook, Tollgate Brook, Greenwoods Brook, Sawmill Brook, Glen Brook, Quaker Brook and Babbling Brook.

The other man-made lakes and ponds are Spring Lake, site of many Fourth of July town picnics and Timber Lake with a beautiful small set of falls, joined lower down Quaker Brook by Valley Pond and its smaller twin Deer Pond. Pepper Pond and its sister Lake Mauweehoo drain into Glen Brook and finally Squantz Pond. Perhaps the smallest named pond in Sherman is Schimpf Pond. Located in the 100 plus acre Town Meadows, the pond is named for Edward and Barbara Schimpf, who sold the tract to the Town in the 1960's. In 1989 Joe Rizza initiated an Eagle Scout project and with Boy Scout Troop 48 built it as a town skating pond.

Of course the largest and most defining water body is Candlewood Lake. Shared by Sherman, New Fairfield, Brookfield, New Milford and Danbury, Candlewood Lake was built as a storage reservoir used to power the turbines at the Rocky River power station.

On July 15, 1926 the Connecticut Light and Power Board of Directors approved a plan to fill the natural north/south valley to create Connecticut's largest body of water. It took only 26 months to turn this valley into today's beautiful lake. Some 1400 men labored to prepare the area for filling. About 500 men from Maine and Canada hand-felled 4,500 acres of

Mallory Farm before 1900. Site now under Lake Candlewood.

woodland, burning the wood in massive bonfires. Several dams were built. The largest was at the north end of the valley, which on completion measured 952 feet wide and 100 feet high.

On February 28, 1928, the first pumping operation began pouring water into the valley from the Housatonic River. The engineers had planned on the Rocky River and its tributaries (including Glen Brook, Greenwood Brook, Tollgate Brook and Sawmill Brook) filling the new lake by 25 percent with the remaining 75 percent pumped out of the Housatonic River. The valley filled quickly, and only seven months later, on September 29, 1928, the water reached an elevation of 429 feet above sea level and Candlewood Lake was complete. Although it was almost called Lake Danbury, Candlewood Lake ultimately got its name from New Milford's Candlewood Mountain, itself named for the local candlewood trees whose branches were used as candles by Native Americans and the early European settlers.

Drainage Basins & Watersheds

One of Sherman's most distinctive features is invisible. Most of the town is part of the Housatonic River watershed with a smaller, but significant area in the southwest belonging to the Hudson River watershed. These are two major drainage basins. Regional basins including the Ten Mile River, Housatonic Main Stem,Candlewood Lake and the New York City Croton system further divide the town. Sub-regional watersheds include Duell Hollow Brook, Ten Mile River, Morrissey Brook (officially changed by the state to Naromiyocknowhusunkatankshunk Brook) Housatonic River, Candlewood Lake, Sawmill Brook and Quaker Brook. Unlike some areas of the country, Sherman is blessed with abundant supplies of water. This creates a special responsibility to preserve and protect the quality and purity of water resources.

Feature	Units	Size
Watershed area	Acres	25,860
Lake area	Acres	5,420
Length	Miles	11
Width (Widest)	Miles	2
(Narrowest)	Feet	500
Shoreline	Miles	60+
Maximum Depth	Feet	85
Average Depth	Feet	29-30
Volume	Million cubic feet	7,500

Table 1. Physical characteristics of Candlewood Lake (including Squantz Pond).

Wildlife

In its meadows and woodlands, Sherman has a rich and varied wildlife population. Among the more abundant species are deer, skunks, opossums, raccoons, bats and some woodpeckers. Then there are those that have been in short supply, notable some birds that disappeared and now are slowly making a comeback, such as goldfinches, bobolinks and bluebirds, which are appearing in large numbers where seeds and open spaces are available. Bald eagles can be observed easily during the winter months around Candlewood Lake and along the Housatonic River where they fish. Where there are ponds and wetlands we can see egrets and blue herons and a variety of ducks during the migrating seasons, and our new resident population of Canada geese, who refuse to migrate at all. Wild turkeys are enjoying resurgence to the point of becoming a nuisance. This has also recently been true for beavers, which create an environment mess by damming up the natural flow of streams and wetlands. We must also include the mice, chipmunks and squirrels in several varieties, which often share our homes and barns.

Bald Eagle

Less frequently seen, but also present are pheasants, grouse, muskrats, woodchucks, snakes in several sizes, lizards, frogs, owls and some unusual birds that blow in temporarily with occasional storms, such as indigo buntings and some of the larger woodpeckers that tend to be shy of us.

Then there are the predators, those that hold the populations in check or simply make their presence known. Recent years have seen an increase in hawks, keeping the rodent population down, and a large increase in coyotes, especially in the north end of town.

All of these animals are being squeezed out of their natural habitats by the continued development of land in our region as well as in our town. We must keep in mind that they enrich our lives and learn to live with them if we want to preserve the natural resources that we treasure. We must sensibly give them room to thrive by providing food, cover and sufficient open space.

BLUE HERON

History of Sherman

The earliest inhabitants of the land that became Sherman were the predecessors of Connecticut's historic native tribes. They likely entered the region as early as 9,000 to 8,500 B.C.E. Following the final retreat of the glaciers and the reforestation of the landscape. As evergreen forest gave way to hardwood, increased food supplies became abundant and agriculture became widespread. These factors allowed for dense populations, and semi-permanent settlement became more common, especially near rivers and lakeshores.

The local Native American population belonged to the Paugasset Confederacy, one of the major tribal groups that occupied Connecticut in the pre-European contact era. Connecticut Native Americans, divided into several tribes, possessed a shared culture and language, their different dialects part of the larger Algonkian language group. Despite the number and variety of inhabitants, northern reaches of the region remained largely devoid of permanent settlement in this pre-contact period, and they were instead used as hunting territory by various tribes. In the Sherman area, interaction between Native Americans and migrating Europeans at first depended on mutual perceptions of utility. For the Europeans, the Native Americans owned fertile farmland, land which needed to be legally purchased to ensure a sound title. An early example is a deed from the Native Americans to settlers dated April 24, 1729. This was entered on the Records of the Colony of Connecticut, creating the Town of New Fairfield of which Sherman was then a part. This transaction was preceded by a petition from eleven men of Fairfield in October 1707 for a grant of land above Danbury. The colonial General Assembly meeting in New Haven approved the grant on October 9th creating the Township of New Fairfield.

Princess Mauwee, daughter of Chief Squantz

The period from 1707 to 1724 was filled with misunderstandings and disputes among the colonists, thereby delaying the final survey and allotment. In 1724 the eleven petitioners made a verbal agreement with Chief Squantz to buy the fourteen miles above Danbury, and finally in 1729 the deed of purchase was completed for the sum of 65 English Pounds. Each square mile cost the equivalent of $6.39. The cost per acre was about one cent.

This increase of white settlement, however, led to the general breakdown of Native American society.

Introduction of manufactured goods changed economic and artisanal practices. Diseases sharply increased mortality. Alienation of native hunting grounds and planting fields and inevitable friction between dissimilar cultures convinced Native Americans to retreat before the advancing European tide. From what is now Sherman, Chief Mauweehue (or Mauwehoo or Mauwehue) went to Kent. He sent invitations to the Pootatucks of New Milford to join him. After the death of Waramaug (a New Milford Sachem), one hundred Native Americans came under Mauweehue's sachemship. By the 1730s the Paugasset Confederacy had been largely dispersed, with some members moving north to Massachusetts and others joining the Iroquois in New York. The upper Housatonic River Valley was the Native Americans' last stronghold. In 1752 two tracts of land in Kent were set aside for a reservation including 200 arable acres and 2,000 acres for hunting.

In the decades following, much of that land was sold. By the mid 19th century only 30 to 40 Native Americans remained. The much reduced Schaghticoke Reservation still exists and is currently the focus of a hotly debated question of Native American rights and recognition.

Town Formation

In general, the Northwest area was settled during the 1737 – 1761 period. After the purchase of New Fairfield in 1729, the town counted 713 settlers by 1756. The fourteen-mile long town was divided, for all practical purposes, into two parts: the "Lower Seven" and the "Upper Seven". Each had, as its center, its own church. In 1778 George Washington's Army marched from Quaker Hill through the northern part of town on the way to Boston. At this time Sherman was called New Dilloway.

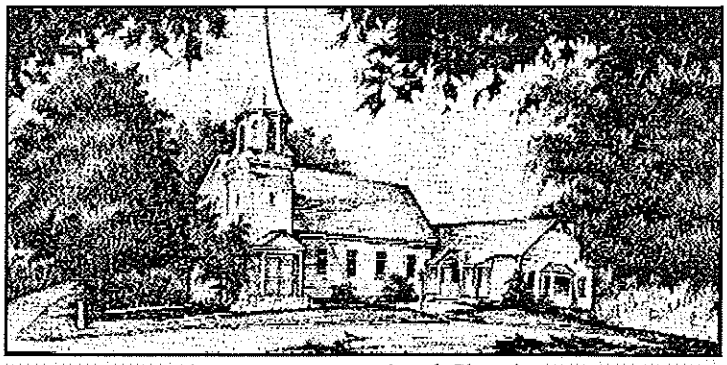
After sixty years as one township, in 1802 the people of the "Upper Seven" petitioned the State legislature to set off the north end as a separate town. The new town was named after Roger Sherman, signer of the Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. For a time, he had a cobbler's shop in town.

Sherman families participated actively in the Revolutionary War. The Giddings, Barnes and Stewart families produced officers, a commissary and the Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence.

As in most New England towns, the church was the center of community life. The first church is believed to have been located on the present site of The Sherman School. It was followed in 1789 by a large meetinghouse located some what north of the current Playhouse. When some people were not pleased with the location chosen for the third church, the Union Church was built in 1837. At various times Union, Methodist, Episcopal and Congregational services were held there. It is this building that is now the Sherman Playhouse. In 1847 the First Christian Church was established in the Coburn District. It attracted such a large congregation that it was at times necessary to bring benches from the nearby Coburn School.

In 1891, the third church burned. The present Sherman Congregational Church was built in 1893 at a new location.

In 1968, Margaret O'Neill donated 10 acres to St. Edward the Confessor Church in New Fairfield with the stipulation that a church be built on the land. In 1981 the Holy Trinity Catholic Church was built in the historic district.


Sherman Congregational Church

Among the earliest public buildings were the schools. The town was divided into six school districts, each with a one-room schoolhouse. The First District School was built in the late 18th century before Sherman's independence. This school was located near the current junction of Routes 39 and 55. The Second District School also dates from the late 1700s and was located on what is now Edmonds Road at Route 39. On its closing it was converted to a private residence. The Third District School was


Sherman Central School 1827

known as the Central School. It was located on the knoll and built in 1827. Today it is the Sherman Scout House next to the Playhouse.

Leach Hollow School in District Four was built in the mid-1800s. It was moved to make way for the creation of Candlewood Lake. District Five, the Greenwoods School, closed in 1924, and its students transferred to the Center School. This building was later moved onto private property. The Sixth District Coburn school was built in 1763 and closed in 1914. The building on Coburn Road is now part of a private home.

On April 18, 1926 the town voted to consolidate the District schools into a new grade school in the town center. Opened in 1937 and called simply The Sherman School, it was a solid brick structure, holding three full classrooms. Four more classrooms and a lunch/assembly room were added in 1953. In 1961 four additional classrooms and a gymnasium were built. As the town continued to grow, a substantial addition was built in 1971 adding nine more classrooms, a library, art room and science lab. In 1992, yet another addition gave the school three more classrooms, front office space and a large multi-purpose room. Finally on March 7, 2000, ground was broken for another expansion. Today The Sherman School has 32 classrooms, a new library/media center,

in a completely renovated facility.

Sherman's first century saw the development of farm and home industry. Farming provided self-sufficiency and livelihood, with animals fattened for the New York markets. Industry included a mill for making scythes and cradles and a shingle and lathe mill. Within the present town center were a hat factory, a carriage maker and a tannery. Fuller's Tavern on the site of the present day Library served as a stage stop, post office, hotel and social center. From the tavern's window, it was possible to see the whipping post and stocks on the green near the Center Church.

Samuel Allen's Farm

In the early 1800s the turnpike from Poughkeepsie to Pawling was extended through Sherman to New Milford creating a stage route and a tollgate. The charge was sixpence per horse. The coming of the railroad to New Milford ended the stage route.

In the 19th century Sherman was a small but vibrant agricultural town. Pastures, dairy farms, corn and tobacco fields predominated. Contact with the wider world was through the rail connection at Merwinsville in Gaylordsville, and the latest fashions were not unheard of in Sherman.

The early 20th century saw some significant change in the town's fortunes. The population, which never exceeded 1,000, began to shrink due to shifting agricultural needs and easier transportation and travel, drawing young people away.

Other Public Buildings

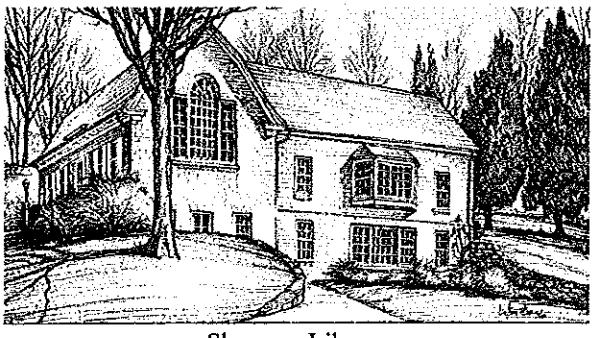
Before 1886, there were no public meeting places other than the schoolhouses, churches and stores. At election time voting was held wherever permission and space could be had which was usually at Fuller's Tavern or a general store. In January of 1886 a petition was presented to the Board of Selectmen stating "a grave and pressing need for a Town Hall." A special Town Meeting was held in February 1886 at which a vote approved the building of a town hall. A site was bought in the center (known as "The City") for $125, and a building 26 feet wide and 40 feet long was proposed at a cost of $885. Later in February 1887 the town borrowed $1,457 for the site, foundation, building and furnishing of the Town Hall. The first voting took place there in 1892. Later improvements included a kitchen addition in 1923-24, an office for the town clerk,

a vault for record storage and modern heating replacing the old wood stove. A well was drilled and plumbing was gradually added, some time after 1937. Further renovations and improvements were made in the mid to late 1960s. The exterior was rebuilt, new heating and wiring were installed and the interior was remodeled to accommodate various town offices.

In 2004, the Town received a grant of $500,000 from the State to renovate, remodel and restore this venerable building which is currently used as the Town's Senior Center and a public meeting space for other town groups.

In 1975, Mary Mallory Pattison (later Hadlow) donated two acres of land and funds to build a new Town Hall. Completed in 1976, Mallory Town Hall (named for Mrs. Pattison's parents and brother) stands on the knoll west of the Playhouse and is one of the anchors of a vital Town Center.

The idea for a Sherman Library began with Ruth Rogers, who helped found a literary group known as the Delvers. Later the name was changed to the Roger Sherman Club and in 1914, they began collecting funds to build a library. By 1913, the fund stood at $50. In 1914 Edna Allen donated the site for the library, and later Jane Mallory Marsh, mother of Mary Mallory Pattison Hadlow, donated $5,000. By 1925, $8,000 had been raised, and in April Edna Allen broke ground for the building. Finished the next year for a total of $8,527, the Sherman Library was dedicated on May 31, 1926.


Sherman Library

This building served the town well until the early 1960s, when an addition was built, along with improvements to the heating and plumbing systems. In the 1980s another expansion was undertaken and a substantial new wing, including a children's room, was added.

The church on the knoll was the site of the 1902 Centennial celebration but as time passed this church began to fail and by the 1920s was abandoned and fell into disrepair. In 1921 the Town took over the building and property simply to preserve it. In 1924, the Walter Evans family took an interest in its repair and restoration as a Playhouse. A stage was built, broken windows repaired and the building was rescued. The Sherman Players began informally in 1925 and was formally incorporated in 1949. Many improvements were made over the years. In 1960-61 a large addition gave the Playhouse a larger stage, dressing rooms, bathrooms, new pews and a furnace. In the 1970s a second addition provided storage space, a costume loft, fire exits, new stairs and a new electrical system. The 1990s brought the building up-to-date with central air-conditioning, new interior shutters, new stone entrance steps, a new theatrical lighting system and

finally the beautiful replacement for the long missing steeple. For nearly 80 years, except for a few dark years during World War II, the Sherman Players and their Playhouse have flourished, bringing plays, work-shops, films, travelogues and concerts to the community.

Other prominent public spaces are of more recent vintage. The town firehouse was originally housed in a barn behind the old Town Hall. A new structure was built and first used in the early 1950s, with a later expansion giving us the firehouse that exists today.

In 1985 Mary Mallory Pattison continued her generosity to the town by donating the 1829 David Northrop House in the center to the Sherman Historical Society. Today it is paired with the "Old Store" directly across the street as a vibrant two-part living museum of Sherman's past.

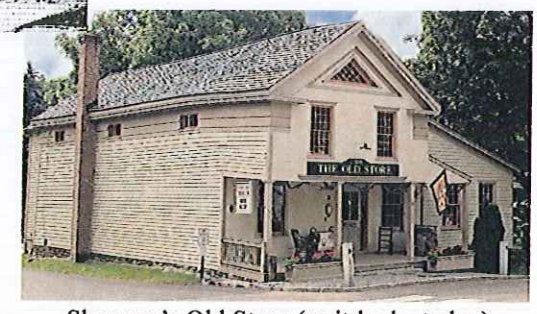
David Northrop House

The Jewish Community Center in Sherman (JCCS) was built in 1997, just south of the center as a non-sectarian cultural center. This graceful building provides a community home for cultural, social and educational events. Here one can enjoy lectures, discussion groups, musical concerts, bridge groups, cooking and dancing lessons, movies and art shows.

Neighborhood Development

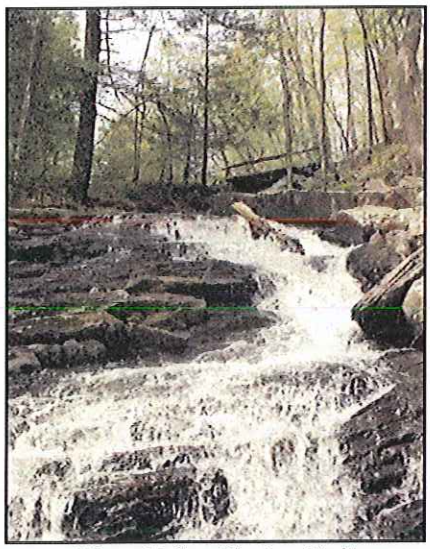
The first decade of the 20th century presaged Sherman's future as a summer resort community. In 1906 Stephan Briggs, a prosperous local farmer from an old local family, sold a large tract in southern Sherman to a would be developer, Reverend Hatfield , who in turn sold to William Harris, a famous theatrical man. Harris's idea was for a country retreat for New York City actors. This never came to fruition and the land lay idle until sold to a man named Mallet who assembled nearly 1200 acres and formed the Mattakeunk Cabin Colony. Mallet's plan for residential development never succeeded, and in 1925 the Cabin Colony was put in receivership.

The center of the Colony was the Inn, a substantial home dating from 1862. The Inn closed in 1921 and after much litigation the Timber Trails Company purchased the land and property in 1932. Robert Farley was an experienced real estate developer, and he left Timber Trails to his son Colvin, who realized his father's vision of a carefully created subdivision respecting the land, preserving the natural environment and protecting large areas of open space.



Sherman's Old Store (as it looks today)

Today Timber Trails is home to 134 full and part time residences set in a spectacular natural setting and crisscrossed with many miles of hiking tails.


Water Fall at Timber Trail

At the end of the 19th century, Reverend Warren H. Wilson was a part-time minister at the Coburn Meetinghouse. The Wilsons boarded with George and Minnie Durgy and in 1903 bought the Burch/Wanzer farmhouse and property next door. Rev. Wilson brought his parishioners up from Brooklyn, New York. Many boarded with the Durgys and others bought nearby properties. Hence another "Colony' was started and a new energy was introduced to quiet, little Sherman.

George Durgy, Warren Wilson, Orlando Pepper and Jens Bidstrup (one of the Brooklyn parishioners) envisioned a private recreation club to be centered around a newly created lake. They formed a stock company in 1906. Lake stock sold for $25 a share to residents in the Coburn area. A dam was built in 1907 and by 1908 Lake Mauweehoo was filled with water, children, adults and boats. Named for the Schaghticoke Indian chief, Lake Mauweehoo is a beautiful 40-acre oasis for the benefit of its members.

Other areas developed as the 20th century progressed. In 1926 the Kelley family purchased 94 acres of land overlooking the soon to be built Candlewood Lake. Today Orchard Rest Road is home to 40 families including the fourth and fifth generation of Kelleys. Candlewood Lake Estates dates to the year 1904, when Ray Leach and Harold Marsh built the first "Lake Resort" cottages. In the early 1950's the Neustadts purchased the land and sub-divided it into one and one-half acre parcels with six miles of winding, hilly roads and four private beaches. Today there are 140 homes and 112 undeveloped lots managed by the Candlewood Tax District Homeowners Association.

Atchison Cove was carved out of the Atchison brothers' farm on Hubble Mountain. In 1964 home sites were laid out and today 50 homes, two miles of roads, a beach, marina and open space are home to some second and third generation families.

Similarly, other lake side communities grew around the lake. Deer Run Shores, Holiday Point and Candlewood Echoes set the pattern that reached its zenith with the development of the neighborhoods of Sail Harbor and Mill Pond Farms.

The 1921 census showed Sherman home to


Lake Mauweehoo

350 people. Growth was slow until the

creation of Candlewood Lake, when, Sherman became a popular summer resort. Steady growth continued through the 1980s, when the population had reached about 2,000. The 1990s marked a turning point when the population grew nearly 40 percent, one of the fastest growth rates in Connecticut. This surge in residents was the result of conditions both regional and local. Many part-time residents became full time and growth pressures from lower Fairfield County and Westchester County drew many new people to the still small and beautiful town called Sherman.

Continued growth, to nearly 4,000 people, has challenged the town to consider different strategies to control its future. Upzoning has been seriously considered and partially implemented by an increase to slope restrictions. Wetlands and open space regulations have been tightened. A Land Acquisition Fund has been established to give the town the financial ability to purchase land and preserve it as undeveloped open space. The Conservation Commission contribution to this effort is this natural resource inventory. The hope is that it will be a valuable planning tool for town land use agencies, town leaders and residents concerned with preserving the rural character and special quality of Sherman life.

Wildlife Corridors

The concept of "wildlife corridors" has become an important tool used to help in deciding where the greatest efforts toward preservation of wildlife should be directed.

Broadly speaking, wildlife corridors are routes that animals use as they move through an area to reach breeding sites or food sources. They also provide connectivity between different habitat areas. Rivers, wetland systems and ridges are generally considered to be linear corridors because animals tend to travel parallel to them. Hawks, for example, follow ridgelines during their annual migration.

Hawk

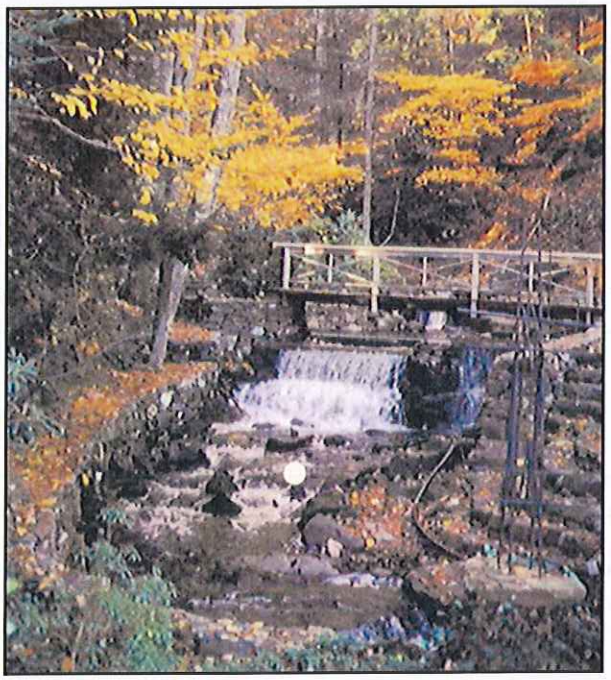
Linear corridors are traditionally considered in conservation efforts, while radial corridors are often overlooked. Surrounding upland forest is a good example.

Corridor widths tend to be species-specific. Beavers, for example, remain within approximately 330 feet of wetland, thus defining their home range. The buffer concept may work for species with linear habitat requirements along a wetland corridor, but not for vernal pool-breeding amphibians whose habitats are in the surrounding upland forest. Protection of their migration routes is problematic if traditional buffer concepts are applied.

Wet Lands

Plants are an important component of the corridor concept, primarily because they provide cover and protection for wildlife on the move. But they, too, have width limits. American Beech, for example, cannot reproduce successfully in narrow corridor strips.

In Sherman, a linear corridor has existed roughly from Route 55 south along Route 39 toward Rogers' farm, Mary Hadlow's fields, and then along Glen Brook toward Squantz Pond. From this there are radial corridors along fields, wetlands and stream beds which are important in contributing to the viability of the main corridor, leading to other large tracts such as the recently protected Wriston property along Chapel Hill and Wakeman Road, the Korsant property along Spring Lake and some tracts along Church Road. As building impacts the areas between and adjacent to the large protected sites they become compromised. The open space in Timber Trails, though substantial, is quite cut off from the areas previously mentioned. It benefits, however, from the large wilderness area along Route 37 in New Fairfield, which underscores the need for regional awareness of land conservation practices.



Glen Brook Falls

The Birds of Sherman

Birds Seen or Heard	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Common Loon	x	x		
Pied-billed Grebe	x			x
Double-crested Cormorant	x	x		x
Great Blue Heron	x	x	x	x
Common Egret #			x	
Mute Swan	x	x	x	x
Canada Goose	x	x	x	x
Snow Goose #				x
Wood Duck *	x	x		x
American Black Duck			x	x
Mallard *	x	x	x	x
Gadwall		x		
American Wigeon #				x
Ring-necked Duck	x		x	x
Lesser Scaup #				x
Common Goldeneye	x			x
Bufflehead			x	x
Hooded Merganser			x	x
Common Merganser *	x	x	x	x
Ruddy Duck			x	x
Black Vulture	x	x	x	x
Turkey Vulture *	x	x	x	x
Osprey	x	x	x	
Bald Eagle				x
Northern Harrier	x		x	x
Sharp-shinned Hawk	x	x	x	x
Cooper's Hawk *	x	x	x	x
Red-shouldered Hawk				x
Broad-winged Hawk *	x	x	x	
Red-tailed Hawk *	x	x	x	x
Rough-legged Hawk #				
American Kestrel *	x	x	x	
Merlin	x		x	x
Ring-necked Pheasant *	x	x	x	x
Ruffed Grouse *	x	x	x	x
Turkey *	x	x	x	x
Virginia Rail		x		
American Coot			x	x

Birds Seen or Heard	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Killdeer *	x	x	x	
American Woodcock *	x	x		
Ring-billed Gull	x	x	x	x
Herring Gull	x	x	x	x
Greater Black-backed Gull	x	x	x	x
Rock Pigeon *	x	x	x	x
Mourning Dove *	x	x	x	x
Black-billed Cuckoo	x	x		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	x	x		
Screech Owl *	x	x	x	x
Great Horned Owl *	x	x	x	x
Barred Owl *	x	x	x	x
Northern Saw-whet Owl				x
Common Nighthawk	x		x	
Chimney Swift *	x	x		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird *	x	x	x	
Belted Kingfisher *	x	x	x	x
Red-bellied Woodpecker *	x	x	x	x
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	x	x	x	x
Downy Woodpecker *	x	x	x	x
Hairy Woodpecker *	x	x	x	x
Northern Flicker *	x	x	x	x
Pileated Woodpecker *	x	x	x	x
Eastern Wood-Peewee *	x	x		
Alder Flycatcher *		x		
Willow flycatcher *		x		
Least Flycatcher *	x	x		
Eastern Phoebe *	x	x	x	
Great Crested Flycatcher *	x	x		
Eastern Kingbird *	x	x		
Tree Swallow *	x	x		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow *	x	x		
Barn Swallow *	x	x		
Blue Jay *	x	x	x	x
American Crow *	x	x	x	x
Fish Crow #		x		x
Common Raven	x	x	x	x
Black-capped Chickadee *	x	x	x	x

* Probable nesters; # uncommon/rare
Spring = March-May; Summer = June-August; Fall = Sept-Nov; Winter = Dec-Feb

Birds Seen or Heard	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Tufted Titmouse *	x	x	x	x
Red-breasted Nuthatch			x	
White-breasted Nuthatch *	x	x	x	x
Brown Creeper *	x	x	x	x
Carolina Wren *	x	x	x	x
House Wren *	x	x		
Winter Wren *	x	x	x	x
Marsh Wren	x	x		
Golden-crowned Kinglet			x	x
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	x		x	x
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *	x	x		
Eastern Bluebird *	x	x	x	x
Veery *	x	x		
Hermit Thrush	x	x	x	x
Wood Thrush *	x	x		
American Robin *	x	x	x	x
Gray Catbird *	x	x	x	x
Northern Mockingbird *	x	x	x	x
Brown Thrasher	x		x	
Cedar Waxwing *	x	x	x	x
Northern Shrike				x
European Starling *	x	x	x	x
White-eyed Vireo *	x	x		
Blue-headed Vireo	x		x	
Yellow-throated Vireo *	x	x		
Warbling Vireo *	x	x		
Red-eyed Vireo *	x	x		
Blue-winged Warbler *	x	x		
Tennessee Warbler	x		x	
Northern Parula	x	x		
Yellow Warbler*	x	x	x	
Chestnut-sided Warbler*	x	x	x	
Magnolia Warbler	x	x	x	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	x	x	x	
Yellow-rumped warbler	x	x	x	x
Black-throated Green Warbler	x		x	
Blackburnian Warbler	x		x	
Pine Warbler	x	x	x	
Prairie Warbler *	x	x	x	
Palm Warbler	x			
Bay-breasted Warbler	x			
Blackpoll Warbler	x		x	
Black-and-white Warbler *	x	x	x	

Birds Seen or Heard	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
American Redstart *	x	x	x	
Worm-eating Warbler *	x	x		
Ovenbird *	x	x		
Louisiana Waterthrush *	x	x		
Common Yellowthroat *	x	x	x	
Hooded Warbler	x	x		
Wilson's Warbler	x			
Canada Warbler	x		x	
Scarlet Tanager*	x	x	x	
Northern Cardinal *	x	x	x	x
Rose-breasted Grosbeak *	x	x	x	
Indigo Bunting *	x	x	x	
Eastern Towhee	x	x	x	x
Tree Sparrow			x	x
Chipping Sparrow *	x	x	x	x
Field Sparrow *	x	x	x	x
Savannah Sparrow	x		x	
Fox Sparrow	x		x	x
Song Sparrow *	x	x	x	x
Swamp Sparrow *	x	x	x	x
White-throated Sparrow	x		x	x
White-crowned Sparrow			x	x
Dark-eyed Junco	x			x
Bobolink *	x	x		
Red-winged Blackbird *	x	x	x	x
Eastern Meadowlark	x	x	x	
Rusty Blackbird	x		x	
Common Grackle *	x	x	x	x
Brown-headed Cowbird *	x	x	x	x
Orchard Oriole *	x	x	x	
Baltimore Oriole *	x	x	x	
Purple Finch	x	x	x	x
House Finch *	x	x	x	x
Common Redpoll				x
Pine Siskin				x
American Goldfinch *	x	x	x	x
Evening Grosbeak #			x	x
House Sparrow*	x	x	x	x

Note: Birds seen or heard over several years by Dave Rosgen, Angela Dimmitt and others. List submitted by Angela Dimmitt who alone is responsible for errors, omissions etc.
August 2003

* Probable nesters; # uncommon/rare
Spring = March-May; Summer = June-August; Fall = Sept-Nov; Winter = Dec-Feb

Fish

Gamefish

Largemouth bass
Smallmouth bass
Brook trout
Brown trout
Rainbow trout
Chain pickerel
Walleye
White catfish

Panfish

Black crappie
White perch
Yellow perch
Brown bullhead
Yellow bullhead
Black bullhead

Sunfish
Bluegill
Pumpkinseed
Redbreast
Rock bass

Other

Tessellated darter
Common carp
Golden shiner
Spottail shiner
Bluntnose minnow
Banded killifish
Alewife
White sucker
Black nose dace
Horn dace
Brook chubs

Amphibians & Reptiles

Salamanders
Spotted Salamander
Marbled Salamander
Northern Dusky Salamander
Two-lined Salamander
Redback Salamander
Northern Slimy Salamander
Red-spotted Newt

Frogs

Eastern American Toad
Fowler's Toad
Northern Spring Peepers
Green Frog
Pickerel Frog
Wood Frog

Turtles

Common Snapping Turtle
Painted Turtle
Spotted Turtle
Eastern Box Turtle
Common Musk Turtle
Snapper

Snakes

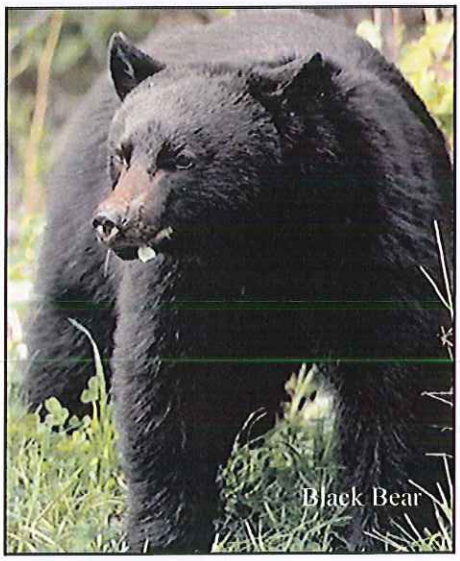
Northern Black Racer Snake
Northern Ringneck Snake
Black Rat Snake
Eastern Hognose Snake
Eastern Milk Snake
Northern Water Snake
Eastern Gartner Snake
Northern Copperhead Snake

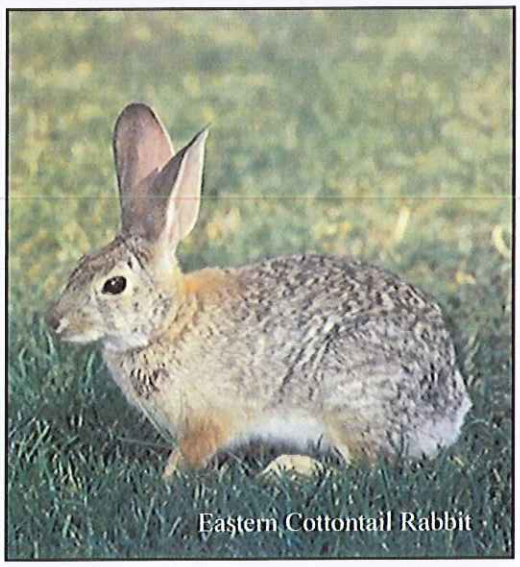
Mammals

Opossum
Shrew
Eastern Moles
Little Brown Bat
Big Brown Bat
Eastern Cottontail Rabbit
New England Cottontail Rabbit
Eastern Chipmunk
Woodchuck
Eastern Gray Squirrel
Southern Flying Squirrel
Red Squirrel
Black Squirrel
Beaver
Rats
White-footed Mouse
House Mouse
Voles
Muskrat
Coyote
Red Fox
Black Bear
Raccoon
Weasel
Mink
Striped Skunk
River Otter
Bobcat
White-tailed Deer


Red Fox


White-tailed Deer


Black Bear


Eastern Cottontail Rabbit


Bobcat


Beaver

Trees

White Ash
Red Maple
Sugar Maple
Birch – White, Black, Gray
Hop Hornbeam (Ironwood)
Alder
American Dogwood
Black Locust
Honey Locust
Oak – Red, White, Black, Chestnut
Butternut
Black Walnut
Elm
Hickory – Shagbark, Pig Nut
Cherry – Black, Choke, Red
Sycamore
Apple – Crab, Scrub
Willow – Weeping
White Pine
Spruce
Hemlock
Eastern Red Cedar

Spring

Flowers

Anemone *(Anemone quinquefolia)*
Wild Strawberry *(Fragaria virginiana)*
Star of Bethlehem
(Ornithogalum umbellatum)
Garlic-Mustard *(Alliaria petiolata)*
Northern Bedstraw *(Galium boreale)*
Mayapple *(Podaphylllum petatum)*
Cut-leaved Toothwort (Dentaria laciniata)
Smooth Solomon's Seal
(Polygonatum biflorum)
False Solomon's Seal (Smilacina racemosa)
Japanese Honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica)
Canada Mayflower
(Mainanthemum canadense)
Bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis)
Crinkleroot (Dentaria diphylla)
Rue Anemone (Anemonella thalictroides)

Brown Flowers

Skunk Cabbage (Symplocarpus foetidus)

Yellow Flowers
Yellow Hawkweed; King Devil
(Hieracium pratense)
Gold Alexanders (Zizia aurea)
Gold Ragwort (Senecio aureus)
Yellow Goatsbeard (Tragopogon dubius)
Common Dandelion (Taraxacum officinals)
Coltsfoot (Tussilago farfara)
Common Barberry (Berberis vulgaris)
Yellow Rocket; Winter Cress
(Barbarea vulgaris)
Meadow Parsnip (Thaspium trifoiliatum)
Wild Parsnip (Pastinaca sativa
Trout Lily (Erythronium americanum)
Marsh Marigold; Cowslip (Caltha palustris)

Green Flowers

Jack-in-the-pulpit (Arisaema triphllum)
Stinging Nettle (Urtica dioica)

Blue Flowers

Bluets (Houstonia caerulea)
Blue Flag (Iris versicolor)
Blue-eyed-Grass
(Sisyrinchium angustifolium)


Daylilies

Pink Flowers

Round-lobed Hepatica
(Hepatica americana)
Wild Geranium (Geranium maculatum)
Phlox (Phlox paniculata)
Pink Lady's Slipper (Cypripedium acaule)
Cheeses (Malva neglecta)

Red Flowers

Wood Betony (Pedicularis canadensis)
Red Trilium (Trillium erectum)
Wild Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis)

Purple Flowers

Violet (Viola papilionacea)
Gill-over-the-ground (Glechoma hederacea)

Summer

White Flowers

Mountain Laurel (Kolmia latifolia)
White Sweet Clover (Melilotus alba)
White Clover (Trifolium repens)
Wild Onion (Allium cernuum)
Indian Pipe (Monotropa uniflora)
Pokeweed (Phytolacca americana)
Shinleaf (Pyrola elliptica)
Spotted Wintergreen (Chimaphila maculata)
Timbleweed (Anemone virginiana)
New Jersey Tea (Ceanothus americanus)
Grass-of-Parnassus (Parnassia glauca)
Turtlehead (Chelone glabra)
Culver's Root (Veronicastrum virginicum)
Arrowhead (Sagittaria latifolia)
White Wood Aster (Aster divaricatus)
Jimsonweed (Datura stramonium)
Cow Parsnip (Heracleum lanatum)
Queen Anne's Lace (Daucus carota)
Dwarf Ginseng (Penes trifolium)
Yarrow (Achillea millefolim)
Common Ragweed
(Ambrosia artemisiifolia)
Oxeye Daisy
(Chrysanthemum leucanthemum)
Daisy Fleabane (Erigeron annus)
Boneset (Eupatorium perfoliatum)
Bladder Campion (Silene cucubalus)
Soapwort (Saponaria officinalis)
Starry Campion (Silene stellata)
Bindweed (Convolvulus sepium)

Brown Flowers

Groundnut (Apios americana)
Curly Dock (Rumex crispus)
Common Cattail (Typha latifolia)

Yellow Flowers

Yellow Flag (Iris pseudacorus)
Pond Lily (Nuphar variegatum)
Celandine Poppy (Chelidonium majus)
Wholed Loosestrife
(Lysimachia quadrifolia)
Common Buttercup (Ranunculus acris)
Dwarf Cinquefoil (Potentilla canaensis)
Rough-fruited-Cinquefoil (Potentilla recta)
Butter-and-eggs (Linaria vulgaris)
Common Mullein (Verbascum thapsus)
Evening Primrose (Oenothera biennis)
Birdsfoot Trefoil (Lotus corniculatus)
Velvetleaf (Abutilon theophrasti)
Sunflower (Helianthus annuus)
Mouse-ear Hawkweed (Hieracium pilosella)
Pale-touch-me-not (Impatiens palida)
Wild Lettuce (Lactuca canadensis)
Black-eyed-Susan (Rudbeckia hirta)

Lance-leaved Goldenrod
(Solidago graminifolia)
Showy Goldenrod (Solidago speciosa)
Hope Clover (Trifolium agrarium)
St. Johnswort (Hypericum perforatum)

Blue Flowers

Forget-me-not (Myosotis scorpioides)
Harebell (Campanula rotundifolia)
Chicry (Cichorium intybus)
Monkeyflower (Mimulus ringens)
Asiatic Dayflower (Commelina communis)
Great Lobellia (Lobelia siphilitica
Pickerelweed (Pontederia cordata)
Cow Vetch (Vicia cracca)

Pink Flowers

Deptford Pink (Dianthus armeria)
Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea maculosa)
Common Fleabane
(Erigeron philadelphicus)
Marsh St. Johswort (Hypericum virginicum)
Ragged Robbin (Lychnis flos-cuculi)
Wild Bergamot (Monarda fistulosa)
Rabbit-foot Clover (Trifolium arvense)
Red Clover (Trifolium pratense)
Swamp Smartweed
(Polygonum coccineum)
Lady's Thumb (Polygonum persicaria)
Common Milkweed (Asclepias syriaca)
Motherwort (Leonurus cardiaca)
Purple-flowering Rasberry
(Rubus odoratus)
Joe-Pye Weed (Eupatorium maculatum)
Crown Vetch (Coronilla varia)
Wild Mint (Mentha arvensis)
Wild Basil (Satureja vulgaris)

Red Flowers

Cardinal Flower (Lobelia cardinalis)

Purple Flowers

Heal-all; Selfheal (Prunella vulgaris)
Bittersweet Nightshade
(Solanum dulcamara)
Bull Thistle (Cirsium vulgare)
Common Burdock (Arctium minus)
Purple Loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria)
Skullcap (Scutellaria integrifolia)

Orange Flowers

Day Lily (Hemerocallis fulva)
Canada Lilly (Lilium canadense)
Turk's cap Lily (Lilium superbum)
Trumpet Honeysuckle
(Lonicera sempervirens)
Jewelweed (Impatiens capensis)
Butterflyweed (Asclepias tuberosa)

Fall

White Flowers

Small-flowered white Aster
(Aster vimineus)

Yellow Flowers
Witch Hazel (Hamamelis virginiana)

Blue Flowers
Fringed Gentian (Gentiana crinita)
Closed Gentian (Gentiana andrewsii)

Purple Flowers
New England Aster (Aster novae-angliae)

Recommendations

- Enforce existing regulations and goals as stated in Master Plan of Development;
- Maintain rural character of roadways.
- Preserve natural appearance of ridgelines.
- Preserve natural features of landscape, preserve open space
- Preserve wildlife corridors and identify contiguous "buffer" properties
- Plant and maintain road trees
- Preserve specimen trees
- Preserve stone walls
- Preserve forest lands and regulate cutting of such land
- Increase minimum lot size to four acres
- Implement and enforce an effective system of penalties and remedies to deter violations
- Support the Land Acquisition Fund in preserving open space and farmland

The following section further discusses these recommendations along with supporting rationales and documentation from the Sherman Master Plan of Development, the Sherman Land Acquisition Fund Advisory Board, Regulations of the town of Washington, CT. and the Candlewood Lake Authority's Action plan for Preserving Candlewood Lake.

Recommendations

The various land use commissions of the town are in agreement that their goals are "to preserve the rural character of the town" and "to promote the health and safety of its residents." References to these goals are presented in the Master Plan (adopted in 1995) and are quite specific regarding protection of open space and water quality. Some relevant sections of the Master Plan as they appear under "VII Environmental, Aesthetic and Preservation Considerations" are as follows:

Development, for a town like Sherman, consists largely of actions taken by property owners to enhance, according to their own preferences, the use or attractiveness of the land that they own. But the quality of life and the value of real property in the Town of Sherman are affected not just by the degree and nature of such development, but also by actions taken-and actions not taken-that affect surrounding properties, the town as a whole,or,indeed a wider region. Many of these actions with broader consequences deal with the environment, with aesthetic aspects of the town, and with the preservation of unique national or historical features of the town. The following considerations address some of these broader consequences.

Even in a rural town, open space is an essential component of the ongoing quality of life of the town. The plan of development recognizes that the creation of open space cannot be left to happenstance, but rather requires initiative action by the Town and its people.

[The] network of town and private roads is entirely under the control of the Town. These roadways are important to quality of life within the town not only as transportation routes, but also as primary vantage points for enjoying the scenic attractions of the Town.

1. *Town roadways shall be only as large as is necessary to handle normal traffic burdens and to ensure superior access at all times for emergency vehicles. Subject to these considerations, town roadways should retain as much as possible the character of scenic rural lanes, rather than modern interurban highways. This is consistent with the HVCEO Growth Guide and its specific reference to Sherman's roads.*
2. *Land use regulations should encourage (or require, where appropriate) setbacks for housing and other development from well-traveled roads, to enhance the rural appearance of such roads.*
3. *Power and communications utilities shall be buried underground for all new construction, except where such burial is physically impossible. The Town shall encourage retro-burial of already constructed aboveground utilities.*
4. *The Planning & Zoning Commission shall, within three years of the date of adoption of the plan of development, identify ridgelines that are highly visible from various vantage points within the town,and shall take appropriate measures to minimize the cutting of trees and the erection of structures that would materially detract from the appearance of such ridgelines.*

Certain lands within the Town of Sherman contain features that are rare and significant not simply within the context of the Town, but also within the broader regional or national context. These features range from endangered plant species to archeological sites created by Native Americans or other early inhabitants. This plan of development calls for preservation of such rare features. Development of such locations shall be permitted only after all appropriate steps have been taken to safeguard the rare and significant feature or to preserve its natural or social value.

In recognition of the value of preserving open space, the town voted to create a Land Acquisition Fund, funded by tax dollars, to acquire for the town such land as might become available. The Sherman Land Acquisition Fund Advisory Board met for the first time on March 23, 2004. Their first major task was to develop a definition of "open space," categories to aid in planning for open space, and criteria for selection of specific sites. The Board's definitions are as follows:

Open Space: Land or water permanently preserved, commercially undeveloped and left in its natural state; or with rights assigned by which commercial development is precluded in perpetuity. Its uses and purposes include, but are not limited to:

1. maintenance of community rural character;
2. passive public non-profit, non-commercial recreation;
3. wildlife habitat;
4. agriculture;
5. natural resource conservation;
6. preservation of valuable, unusual and interesting local characteristics, including areas of historical significance;
7. protection of wetlands;
8. protection of water sources;
9. enhancement of corridors of other protected land and Open Space.

Open Space preserved by the Sherman Land Acquisition Fund Advisory Board shall not be used to support any infrastructure services or for any activity involving active recreation (Example: town buildings, garages, firehouse, school buildings, playgrounds, sports fields, etc.).

From a planning perspective, experience has shown that it helps to consider open space as consisting of four different categories:

1. Dedicated Open Space	*Land preserved in perpetuity as open space with public use*
2. Protected Open Space	*Land preserved from development (such as a conservation easement) but public use is generally not allowed.*
3. Managed Open Space	*Land set aside from some other purpose (such as watershed protection) but that provides some open space value. Public use may not be allowed.*
4. Perceived Open Space	*Land that looks or feels open but is not preserved in perpetuity as open space (includes vacant, privately owned land).*

Land Selection Criteria (including, but not limited to)

Prime natural features
Scenic/aesthetic value
Linkage to other protected land
Potential for passive, non-profit, non-commercial recreation
Wildlife viewing value
Wildlife habitat potential
Protection of watershed, water resources, water front and wetlands
Outstanding or unusual features
Parcel size
Natural resource value
Historical significance
Agricultural value

An important component in the selection of particular sites for open space is the usefulness of a particular location in relation to other acreage surrounding it. The Conservation Commission has emphasized the concept of "wildlife corridors" or contiguous pieces of land, which enhance the well being of wildlife, for animal and plant species. The description as published by the Town of Washington is useful:

Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife corridors are routes that animals use as they move through an area to reach breeding sites or food sources. They also provide connectivity between different habitat areas. Rivers, wetland systems and ridges are generally considered to be linear corridors because animals tend to travel parallel to these features. Hawks for example, follow ridgelines during their annual migration. Linear corridors are traditionally considered in conservation efforts while radial corridors are often overlooked. Radial corridors are analogous to the spokes of a wheel. The routes that amphibians follow each spring to their breeding pools from the surrounding upland forest is a good example.

Corridor widths tend to be species-specific. Beavers, for example, remain within approximately 330 feet of a wetland, thus defining the home range. The buffer concept may work for a species with linear habitat requirements along a wetland corridor, but not for vernal pool-breeding amphibians whose habitats are in the surrounding upland forest. Protection of their migration routes is problematic if traditional buffer concepts are applied.

Plants are an important component of the corridor concept primarily because they provide cover and protection for wildlife on the move. But they, too, have width limits. American Beech (Fagus grandifolia) for example, cannot reproduce successfully in narrow corridor strips.

From the general guidelines of the Master Plan and the Land Acquisition Fund, we can proceed to more specific recommendations. As our source for these we have found useful

the *Action Plan for Preserving Candlewood Lake – 2002*. These regulations address preservation of vegetation on building sites, clear-cutting, and specimen trees as they affect conservation, "rural character," soil erosion and water quality.

Clear-cutting, Excavation and Grading Standards

The construction practices of lot clearing, excavation and grading clearly create exposures to the water quality. These practices, which in the past have occurred down on the water's edge, damage the natural systems ability to filter out pollutants from stormwater. The replacement of the natural riparian or buffer zone with turf lawn or even more impervious kinds of surfaces is a serious issue in need of addressing. The same holds true in floodplains where the change in surface type not only potentially increases nonpoint source pollution, it also reduces the storage capacity during storm events.

Forest practices regulations, such as those implemented in Newtown, CT, address another type of mass vegetation clearing. These kinds of regulations aim to preserve forested areas and regulate their cutting for a wide variety of reasons, including the improvement of water quality. The publication *Timber Harvesting and Water Quality in Connecticut: A Practical Guide for Protecting Water Quality While Harvesting Forest Products* (CT RC&D Forestry Committee, 1990) discusses the importance of forests to ground and surface waters, the impacts from forest harvesting on water quality, and best management procedures for logging and timber harvesting. Forest practices regulations in the communities surrounding Candlewood Lake should be reviewed in the future for the risks they create to water quality.

Clearing, excavation and grading are common components of construction, subdivision and lot development and are closely associated with soil erosion, sedimentation and other risks linked with storm water runoff. It is in this construction context that they are addressed here as loca regulatory risks. The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (1990) described clearing and grading for building sites, roads and utilities as removing vegetation, exposing soils, smoothing land surface and compacting soils. The hydrological changes in an area resulting from those landscape alterations are increased runoff, which in turn increases erosion and soil loss, as well as sediment and other pollutants transported to lakes.

The native New England flora has as much or more to do with the development and preservation of our soils as does the geology of the inorganic parent materials of that soil. The vegetation provides the majority of the organic components of the soil and protects the organic – inorganic mixture from the forces of erosion. The removal of vegetation from a site exposes soils to extreme temperatures, wind and direct precipitation, the agents of erosion.

*Soil type, slope or percent grade, and length of slope or grade are important factors determining the erodibility of soils. Slope length and percent grade influences the amount and rate of runoff, with increases in the former resulting in increases in the later. These geological features also contribute to the natural selection process that determines the vegetation community type thriving in an area. Once established, the vegetation provides protection from temperature, wind and precipitation. In absence of a vegetated cover, the agents of erosion work in conjunction with the soil type, slope and length of slope resulting in erosion, soil loss and sedimentation of waterbod*ies.

Another area of implementation of soil erosion and runoff control is the use of "buffer" areas along roadsides. The importance of buffers as set forth by the Candlewood Lake Authority applies to trees and buffers along roadways to control soil erosion and runoff, which contribute to ponding on roadways in warm weather and dangerous ice conditions in winter. In addition to these safety considerations, habitat preservation and conservation practices are seriously compromised by closely clipped, treeless lawns running to the road's edge.
These issues are addressed in the Town of Washington Subdivision Regulations in legislative form:

Road trees

It is the Commission's intent to retain the maximum number of existing trees and other vegetation within road rights of way. Where existing trees cannot be preserved within the road right of way or where, in the Commission's opinion, insufficient suitable trees exist or will remain, the applicant shall plant trees along the road frontage of all lots in the subdivision. These trees are to be planted or retained according to the following requirements.

A. Trees shall be planted an average of 40 feet apart. The Commission may require variations in location, species, and quantity due to topography, driveways, need for screening, intersections, utility lines, and planting conditions.

B. If new trees are planted, the Commission shall have the right to approve the species of tree to be planted. The Commission prefers deciduous minimum caliper of 3 inches and a minimum branching height of five feet. They shall have a mature height of less than 35 feet in areas where overhead utility lines or solar energy is of concern.

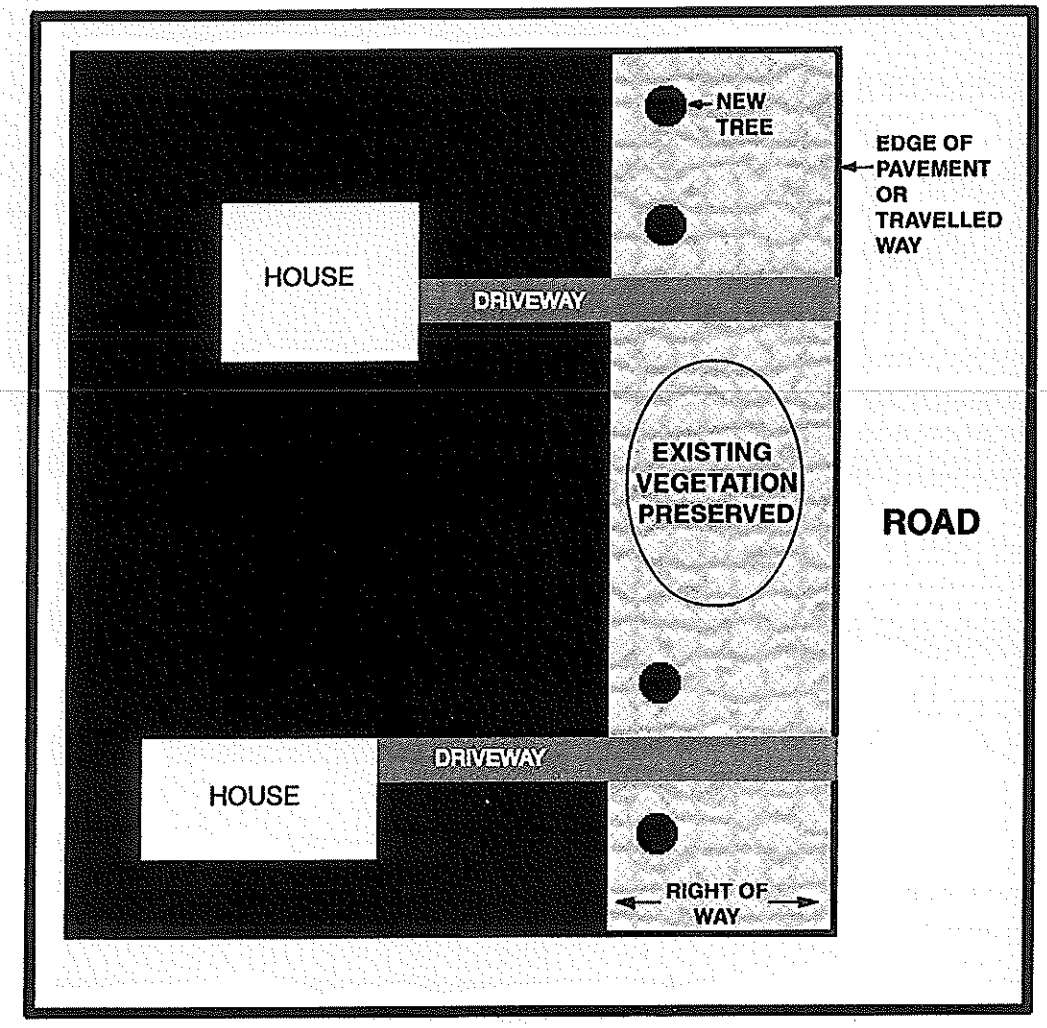
C. Trees that are planted or retained shall be at least five feet from the edge of the road's pavement or traveled way.

D. During construction, existing trees to be preserved shall be protected in accordance with Section 5.9.2.

E. In the case of an individual lot along an existing road, the road trees shall be planted prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for a building on that lot. In the case where a new road is constructed, the road trees shall be planted prior to the release of the performance bond.

Natural Features

The parcel's natural features shall be preserved to the fullest extent possible. Grading of the land and the felling of trees shall be held to a minimum. The applicant shall demonstrate to the Commission's satisfaction that the removal of specimen trees is necessary for the reasonable development of the parcel. Specimen trees that are to be preserved and are within, or on the edge of, the construction area shall be protected during construction by barriers. At a minimum, the barriers shall be placed at the drip line of the tree. The barriers shall be at least three feet high and suitably marked to warn construction workers of the presence of a specimen tree. Reinforced snow fencing is an example of an acceptable barrier. Barriers shall be placed prior to the start of construction activities and shall remain in place until all construction activities are completed. The areas within the drip line of the specimen trees to be preserved shall remain free of all building materials, fill, vehicles, and debris. No land shall be graded except as shown on the approved site development map. No topsoil shall be removed from any portion of the parcel except where required for the construction of structures, roads, driveways, or the installation of utilities and drainage. Where topsoil has been removed, the Commission may require the replacement of said topsoil to a depth of four inches.



Drawing By Ashleigh Blake

To "natural features" we would add stone walls as features of the land that should be preserved as much as possible. To road regulations, we would add the designation of certain implementation of regulations such as these would contribute to the goals of the town Master Plan to preserve rural character and promote the health and safety of Sherman's citizens. A meaningful system of remedies and penalties for violation of these regulations should be in place.

A final consideration has been proposed by the Conservation Commission for an increase in minimum lot size to four acres from the current two acres. The reasons for this recommendation can be summarized by listing the following benefits of upzoning: the preservation of rural character, reduced pressure on town infrastructure (roads and road maintenance, municipal buildings) and services (fire, ambulance, police, town employees, school), reduced pressure on water quality, all of which follow from lower population density. The geology of Sherman is extremely fragile, with rock outcrops and ledge under very thin soil being the rule rather than the exception. Most importantly the town is part of the Housatonic River watershed. Overbuilding can be very damaging and changes come very rapidly, and irreversibly, if our land is not protected.

We would hope that the adoption of the Conservation Commission's recommendations would be effective in promoting what has been called "sustainable smart growth" and would preserve what we treasure as the SHERMAN WAY OF LIFE.

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000
Geographic area: Sherman town, Fairfield County, Connecticut
[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	3,827	100.0
SEX AND AGE		
Male	1,870	48.9
Female	1,957	51.1
Under 5 years	247	6.5
5 to 9 years	305	8.0
10 to 14 years	309	8.1
15 to 19 years	207	5.4
20 to 24 years	74	1.9
25 to 34 years	288	7.5
35 to 44 years	708	18.5
45 to 54 years	678	17.7
55 to 59 years	295	7.7
60 to 64 years	210	5.5
65 to 74 years	283	7.4
75 to 84 years	174	4.5
85 years and over	49	1.3
Median age (years)	42.1	(X)
18 years and over	2,806	73.3
Male	1,347	35.2
Female	1,459	38.1
21 years and over	2,744	71.7
62 years and over	639	16.7
65 years and over	506	13.2
Male	242	6.3
Female	264	6.9
RACE		
One race	3,801	99.3
White	3,726	97.4
Black or African American	21	0.5
American Indian and Alaska Native	1	-
Asian	26	0.7
Asian Indian	2	0.1
Chinese	8	0.2
Filipino	9	0.2
Japanese	1	-
Korean	6	0.2
Vietnamese	-	-
Other Asian [1]	-	-
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3	0.1
Native Hawaiian	-	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	3	0.1
Samoan	-	-
Other Pacific Islander [2]	-	-
Some other race	24	0.6
Two or more races	26	0.7
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races: [3]		
White	3,761	98.0
Black or African American	23	0.6
American Indian and Alaska Native	11	0.3
Asian	29	0.8
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3	0.1
Some other race	36	0.9

Subject	Number	Percent
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Total population	3,827	100.0
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	66	1.7
Mexican	10	0.3
Puerto Rican	28	0.7
Cuban	4	0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino	24	0.6
Not Hispanic or Latino	3,761	98.3
White alone	3,689	96.4
RELATIONSHIP		
Total population	3,827	100.0
In households	3,827	100.0
Householder	1,434	37.5
Spouse	980	25.6
Child	1,158	30.3
Own child under 18 years	974	25.5
Other relatives	144	3.8
Under 18 years	43	1.1
Nonrelatives	111	2.9
Unmarried partner	56	1.5
In group quarters	-	-
Institutionalized population	-	-
Noninstitutionalized population	-	-
HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Total households	1,434	100.0
Family households (families)	1,093	76.2
With own children under 18 years	496	34.6
Married-couple family	980	68.3
With own children under 18 years	436	30.4
Female householder, no husband present	74	5.2
With own children under 18 years	41	2.9
Nonfamily households	341	23.8
Householder living alone	269	18.8
Householder 65 years and over	113	7.9
Households with individuals under 18 years	521	36.3
Households with individuals 65 years and over	363	25.3
Average household size	2.67	(X)
Average family size	3.09	(X)
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	1,606	100.0
Occupied housing units	1,434	89.3
Vacant housing units	172	10.7
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	148	9.2
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	0.6	(X)
Rental vacancy rate (percent)	1.6	(X)
HOUSING TENURE		
Occupied housing units	1,434	100.0
Owner-occupied housing units	1,311	91.4
Renter-occupied housing units	123	8.6
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.70	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied units	2.37	(X)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.
[1] Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.
[2] Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.
[3] In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table DP-2. Profile of Selected Social Characteristics: 2000
Geographic area: Sherman town, Fairfield County, Connecticut

[Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT		
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	**1,057**	**100.0**
Nursery school, preschool	108	10.2
Kindergarten	54	5.1
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	523	49.5
High school (grades 9-12)	227	21.5
College or graduate school	145	13.7
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Population 25 years and over	**2,688**	**100.0**
Less than 9th grade	29	1.1
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	123	4.6
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	643	23.9
Some college, no degree	573	21.3
Associate degree	184	6.8
Bachelor's degree	678	25.2
Graduate or professional degree	458	17.0
Percent high school graduate or higher	94.3	(X)
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	42.3	(X)
MARITAL STATUS		
Population 15 years and over	**2,970**	**100.0**
Never married	586	19.7
Now married, except separated	2,007	67.6
Separated	18	0.6
Widowed	175	5.9
Female	149	5.0
Divorced	184	6.2
Female	110	3.7
GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS		
Grandparent living in household with one or more own grandchildren under 18 years	**51**	**100.0**
Grandparent responsible for grandchildren	-	-
VETERAN STATUS		
Civilian population 18 years and over	**2,812**	**100.0**
Civilian veterans	407	14.5
DISABILITY STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION		
Population 5 to 20 years	**851**	**100.0**
With a disability	48	5.6
Population 21 to 64 years	**2,228**	**100.0**
With a disability	173	7.8
Percent employed	77.5	(X)
No disability	2,055	92.2
Percent employed	79.0	(X)
Population 65 years and over	**511**	**100.0**
With a disability	117	22.9
RESIDENCE IN 1995		
Population 5 years and over	**3,590**	**100.0**
Same house in 1995	2,314	64.5
Different house in the U.S. in 1995	1,266	35.3
Same county	612	17.0
Different county	654	18.2
Same state	119	3.3
Different state	535	14.9
Elsewhere in 1995	10	0.3

Subject	Number	Percent
NATIVITY AND PLACE OF BIRTH		
Total population	**3,827**	**100.0**
Native	3,533	92.3
Born in United States	3,492	91.2
State of residence	1,496	39.1
Different state	1,996	52.2
Born outside United States	41	1.1
Foreign born	294	7.7
Entered 1990 to March 2000	24	0.6
Naturalized citizen	212	5.5
Not a citizen	82	2.1
REGION OF BIRTH OF FOREIGN BORN		
Total (excluding born at sea)	**294**	**100.0**
Europe	233	79.3
Asia	-	-
Africa	20	6.8
Oceania	-	-
Latin America	33	11.2
Northern America	8	2.7
LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME		
Population 5 years and over	**3,590**	**100.0**
English only	3,351	93.3
Language other than English	239	6.7
Speak English less than "very well"	63	1.8
Spanish	70	1.9
Speak English less than "very well"	25	0.7
Other Indo-European languages	155	4.3
Speak English less than "very well"	30	0.8
Asian and Pacific Island languages	-	-
Speak English less than "very well"	-	-
ANCESTRY (single or multiple)		
Total population	**3,827**	**100.0**
Total ancestries reported	*4,763*	*124.5*
Arab	-	-
Czech[1]	95	2.5
Danish	47	1.2
Dutch	69	1.8
English	428	11.2
French (except Basque)[1]	134	3.5
French Canadian[1]	49	1.3
German	802	21.0
Greek	50	1.3
Hungarian	42	1.1
Irish[1]	904	23.6
Italian	695	18.2
Lithuanian	22	0.6
Norwegian	31	0.8
Polish	184	4.8
Portuguese	18	0.5
Russian	74	1.9
Scotch-Irish	59	1.5
Scottish	169	4.4
Slovak	14	0.4
Subsaharan African	3	0.1
Swedish	164	4.3
Swiss	24	0.6
Ukrainian	36	0.9
United States or American	204	5.3
Welsh	38	1.0
West Indian (excluding Hispanic groups)	14	0.4
Other ancestries	394	10.3

-Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.
[1]The data represent a combination of two ancestries shown separately in Summary File 3. Czech includes Czechoslovakian. French includes Alsatian. French Canadian includes Acadian/Cajun. Irish includes Celtic.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.

2

Table DP-3. Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic area: Sherman town, Fairfield County, Connecticut

[Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
EMPLOYMENT STATUS		
Population 16 years and over	2,921	100.0
In labor force	1,966	67.3
Civilian labor force	1,966	67.3
Employed	1,921	65.8
Unemployed	45	1.5
Percent of civilian labor force	2.3	(X)
Armed Forces	-	-
Not in labor force	955	32.7
Females 16 years and over	1,511	100.0
In labor force	896	59.3
Civilian labor force	896	59.3
Employed	886	58.6
Own children under 6 years	292	100.0
All parents in family in labor force	172	58.9
COMMUTING TO WORK		
Workers 16 years and over	1,896	100.0
Car, truck, or van - - drove alone	1,508	79.5
Car, truck, or van - - carpooled	138	7.3
Public transportation (including taxicab)	97	5.1
Walked	39	2.1
Other means	10	0.5
Worked at home	104	5.5
Mean travel time to work (minutes)[1]	38.8	(X)
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	1,921	100.0
OCCUPATION		
Management, professional, and related occupations	867	45.1
Service occupations	217	11.3
Sales and office occupations	508	26.4
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	5	0.3
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	165	8.6
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	159	8.3
INDUSTRY		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	14	0.7
Construction	151	7.9
Manufacturing	196	10.2
Wholesale trade	107	5.6
Retail trade	139	7.2
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	92	4.8
Information	99	5.2
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	183	9.5
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	284	14.8
Educational, health and social services	349	18.2
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	109	5.7
Other services (except public administration)	111	5.8
Public administration	87	4.5
CLASS OF WORKER		
Private wage and salary workers	1,411	73.5
Government workers	276	14.4
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	230	12.0
Unpaid family workers	4	0.2

Subject	Number	Percent
INCOME IN 1999		
Households	1,437	100.0
Less than $10,000	28	1.9
$10,000 to $14,999	27	1.9
$15,000 to $24,999	71	4.9
$25,000 to $34,999	74	5.1
$35,000 to $49,999	188	13.1
$50,000 to $74,999	311	21.6
$75,000 to $99,999	249	17.3
$100,000 to $149,999	266	18.5
$150,000 to $199,999	97	6.8
$200,000 or more	126	8.8
Median household income (dollars)	76,202	(X)
With earnings	1,240	86.3
Mean earnings (dollars)[1]	99,724	(X)
With Social Security income	411	28.6
Mean Social Security income (dollars)[1]	13,007	(X)
With Supplemental Security Income	7	0.5
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)[1]	2,614	(X)
With public assistance income	5	0.3
Mean public assistance income (dollars)[1]	4,240	(X)
With retirement income	287	20.0
Mean retirement income (dollars)[1]	24,452	(X)
Families	1,095	100.0
Less than $10,000	19	1.7
$10,000 to $14,999	12	1.1
$15,000 to $24,999	37	3.4
$25,000 to $34,999	58	5.3
$35,000 to $49,999	132	12.1
$50,000 to $74,999	203	18.5
$75,000 to $99,999	214	19.5
$100,000 to $149,999	235	21.5
$150,000 to $199,999	77	7.0
$200,000 or more	108	9.9
Median family income (dollars)	81,998	(X)
Per capita income (dollars)[1]	39,070	(X)
Median earnings (dollars):		
Male full-time, year-round workers	61,513	(X)
Female full-time, year-round workers	42,134	(X)

Subject	Number below poverty level	Percent below poverty level
POVERTY STATUS IN 1999		
Families	28	2.6
With related children under 18 years	14	2.7
With related children under 5 years	4	2.2
Families with female householder, no husband present	5	5.3
With related children under 18 years	5	9.1
With related children under 5 years	-	-
Individuals	118	3.1
18 years and over	97	3.4
65 years and over	30	5.9
Related children under 18 years	21	2.1
Related children 5 to 17 years	17	2.2
Unrelated individuals 16 years and over	44	9.7

-Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

[1]If the denominator of a mean value or per capita value is less than 30, then that value is calculated using a rounded aggregate in the numerator. See text.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.

Table DP-4. Profile of Selected Housing Characteristics: 2000
Geographic area: Sherman town, Fairfield County, Connecticut

[Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total housing units	1,606	100.0	**OCCUPANTS PER ROOM**		
UNITS IN STRUCTURE			**Occupied housing units**	1,434	100.0
1-unit, detached	1,591	99.1	1.00 or less	1,426	99.4
1-unit, attached	8	0.5	1.01 to 1.50	4	0.3
2 units	4	0.2	1.51 or more	4	0.3
3 or 4 units	-	-			
5 to 9 units	-	-	**Specified owner-occupied units**	1,160	100.0
10 to 19 units	3	0.2	**VALUE**		
20 or more units	-	-	Less than $50,000	-	-
Mobile home	-	-	$50,000 to $99,999	4	0.3
Boat, RV, van, etc	-	-	$100,000 to $149,999	72	6.2
			$150,000 to $199,999	230	19.8
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT			$200,000 to $299,999	435	37.5
1999 to March 2000	21	1.3	$300,000 to $499,999	272	23.4
1995 to 1998	63	3.9	$500,000 to $999,999	139	12.0
1990 to 1994	88	5.5	$1,000,000 or more	8	0.7
1980 to 1989	277	17.2	Median (dollars)	259,500	(X)
1970 to 1979	336	20.9			
1960 to 1969	310	19.3	**MORTGAGE STATUS AND SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS**		
1940 to 1959	284	17.7			
1939 or earlier	227	14.1	With a mortgage	806	69.5
			Less than $300	-	-
ROOMS			$300 to $499	10	0.9
1 room	-	-	$500 to $699	22	1.9
2 rooms	21	1.3	$700 to $999	105	9.1
3 rooms	22	1.4	$1,000 to $1,499	190	16.4
4 rooms	75	4.7	$1,500 to $1,999	237	20.4
5 rooms	280	17.4	$2,000 or more	242	20.9
6 rooms	328	20.4	Median (dollars)	1,580	(X)
7 rooms	285	17.7	Not mortgaged	354	30.5
8 rooms	313	19.5	Median (dollars)	457	(X)
9 or more rooms	282	17.6			
Median (rooms)	6.8	(X)	**SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 1999**		
Occupied housing units	1,434	100.0			
YEAR HOUSEHOLDER MOVED INTO UNIT			Less than 15.0 percent	486	41.9
1999 to March 2000	145	10.1	15.0 to 19.9 percent	173	14.9
1995 to 1998	319	22.2	20.0 to 24.9 percent	163	14.1
1990 to 1994	193	13.5	25.0 to 29.9 percent	108	9.3
1980 to 1989	370	25.8	30.0 to 34.9 percent	33	2.8
1970 to 1979	259	18.1	35.0 percent or more	197	17.0
1969 or earlier	148	10.3	Not computed	-	-
VEHICLES AVAILABLE			**Specified renter-occupied units**	115	100.0
None	43	3.0	**GROSS RENT**		
1	327	22.8	Less than $200	-	-
2	669	46.7	$200 to $299	4	3.5
3 or more	395	27.5	$300 to $499	-	-
			$500 to $749	16	13.9
HOUSE HEATING FUEL			$750 to $999	23	20.0
Utility gas	-	-	$1,000 to $1,499	45	39.1
Bottled, tank, or LP gas	56	3.9	$1,500 or more	8	7.0
Electricity	236	16.5	No cash rent	19	16.5
Fuel oil, kerosene, etc	1,071	74.7	Median (dollars)	1,038	(X)
Coal or coke	5	0.3			
Wood	61	4.3	**GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 1999**		
Solar energy	-	-			
Other fuel	5	0.3	Less than 15.0 percent	8	7.0
No fuel used	-	-	15.0 to 19.9 percent	25	21.7
			20.0 to 24.9 percent	24	20.9
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS			25.0 to 29.9 percent	4	3.5
Lacking complete plumbing facilities	-	-	30.0 to 34.9 percent	16	13.9
Lacking complete kitchen facilities	5	0.3	35.0 percent or more	19	16.5
No telephone service	-	-	Not computed	19	16.5

-Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.

Sources

"Action Plan for Preserving Candlewood Lake" – 2002, Candlewood Lake Authority

Amphibians and Reptiles of Connecticut and Adjacent Regions, Michael W. Klemens, State Geological and Natural History Survey of Connecticut, Bulletin No., 112, 1993

A History of Sherman, Allie Hungerford Giddings, 1976

A Fisheries Guide to Lakes and Ponds of Connecticut, Robert P. Jacobs and Eileen B. O'Donnell Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 2002

"Candlewood Lake, A View of Its Future based on its History & Development", Jo-Ann Ford, Yale University Paper, 1976

Connecticut Wildlife, Bureau of Natural Resources/Wildlife Division, Connecticut Department of Environment Protection, November December 2002

Harvey Miles, *"The Island of Lost Maps"*, New York, Random House, 2000

Rare and Endangered Species of Connecticut and their Habitats, Joseph J. Dowhan & Robert J. Craig, State Geological & Natural History Survey, Connecticut DEP, 1976

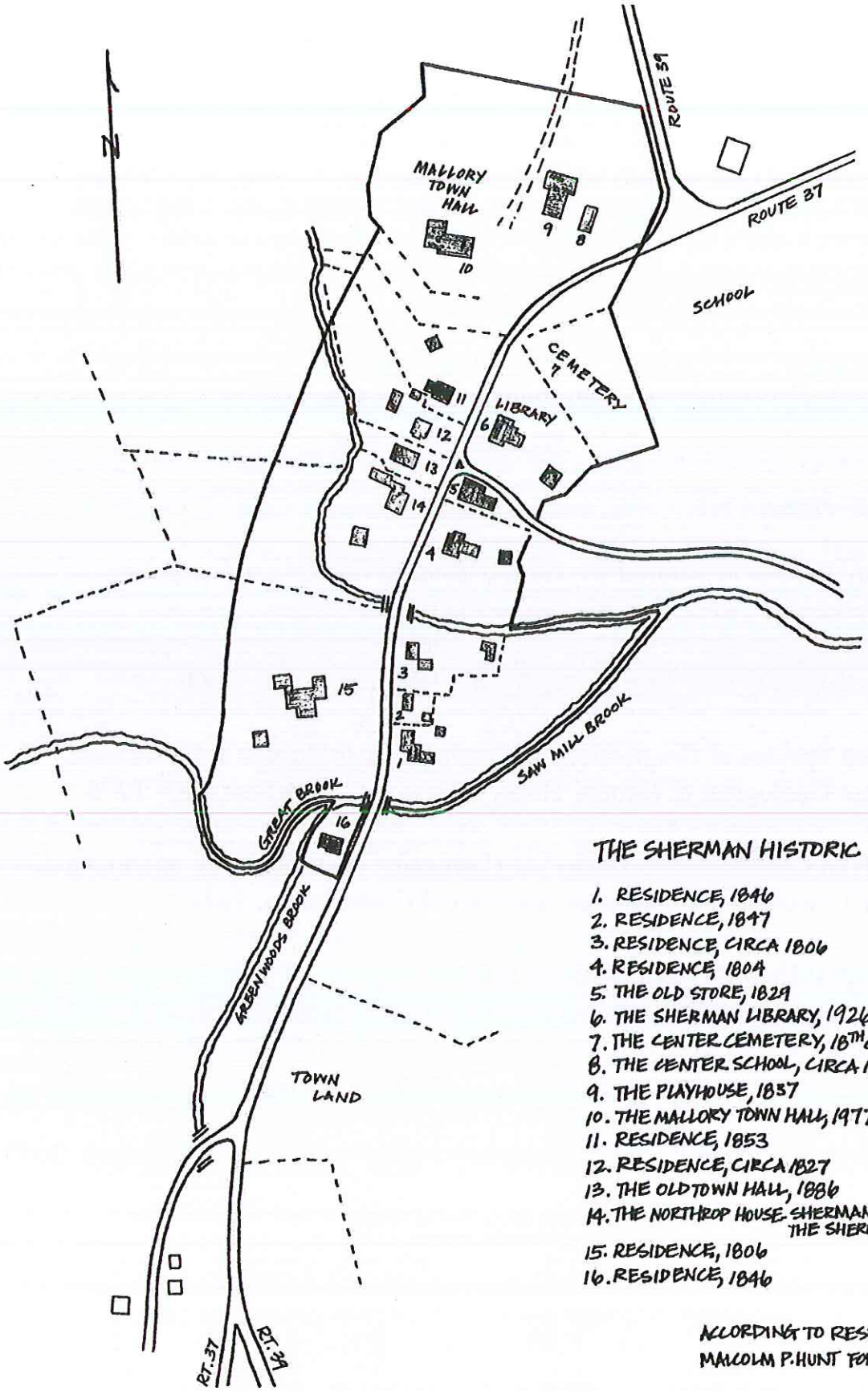
Historic Presevation In Connnecticut, Northwest Highlands: Historical and Architectural Overview, Geoffrey L. Rossano, Connecticut Hostorical Commission, 1997

Sherman Master Plan of Development, January,1978.

Timber Harvesting and Water Quality in Connecticut: A Practical Guide for Protecting Water Quality While Harvesting Forest Products, CT RC&D Forestry Committee, 1990

Washington, Connecticut Natural Resource Inventory Report and Recommendations, 2000

The Wildflowers of Sherman CT, Sherman Garden Club, 1986

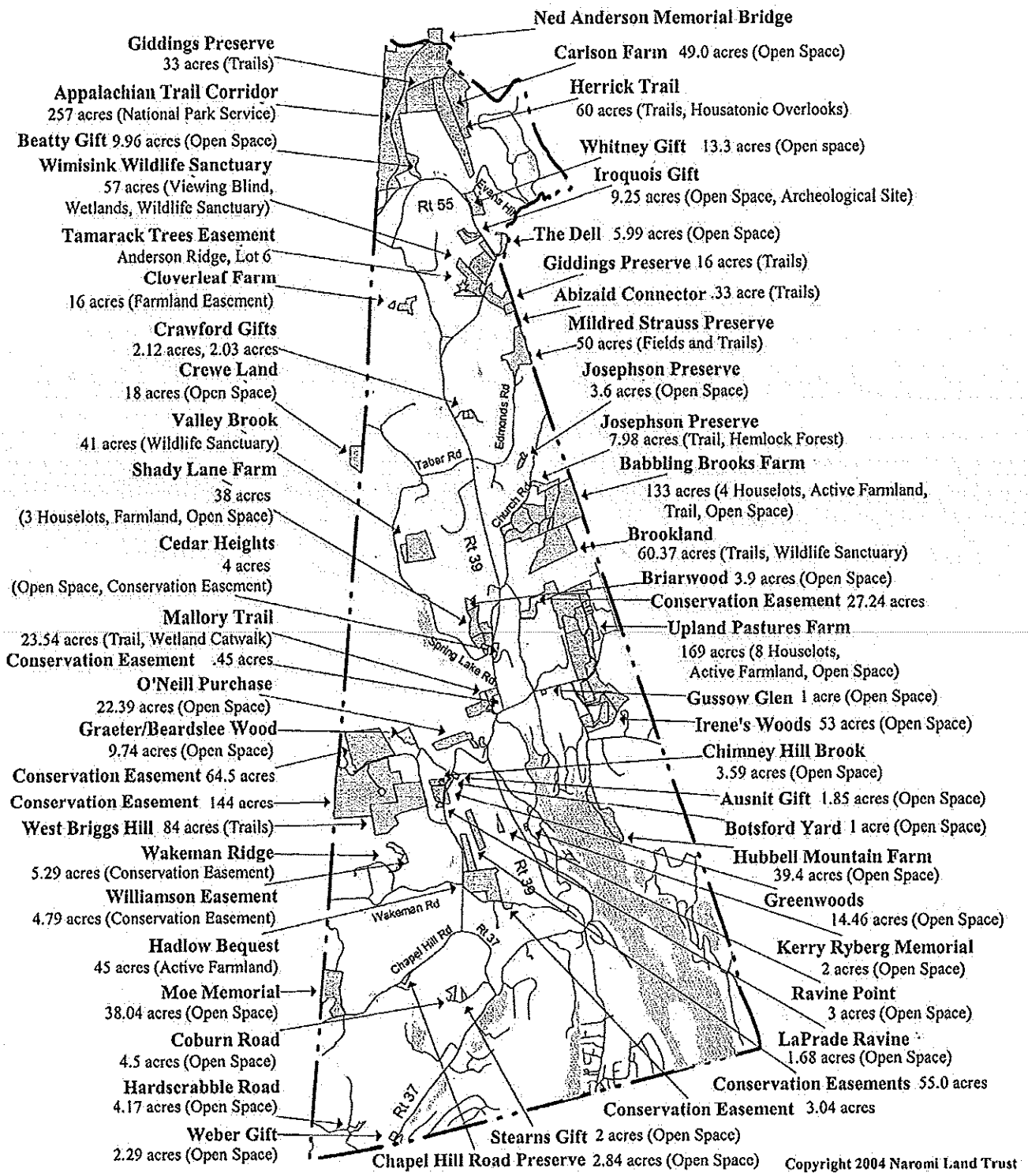


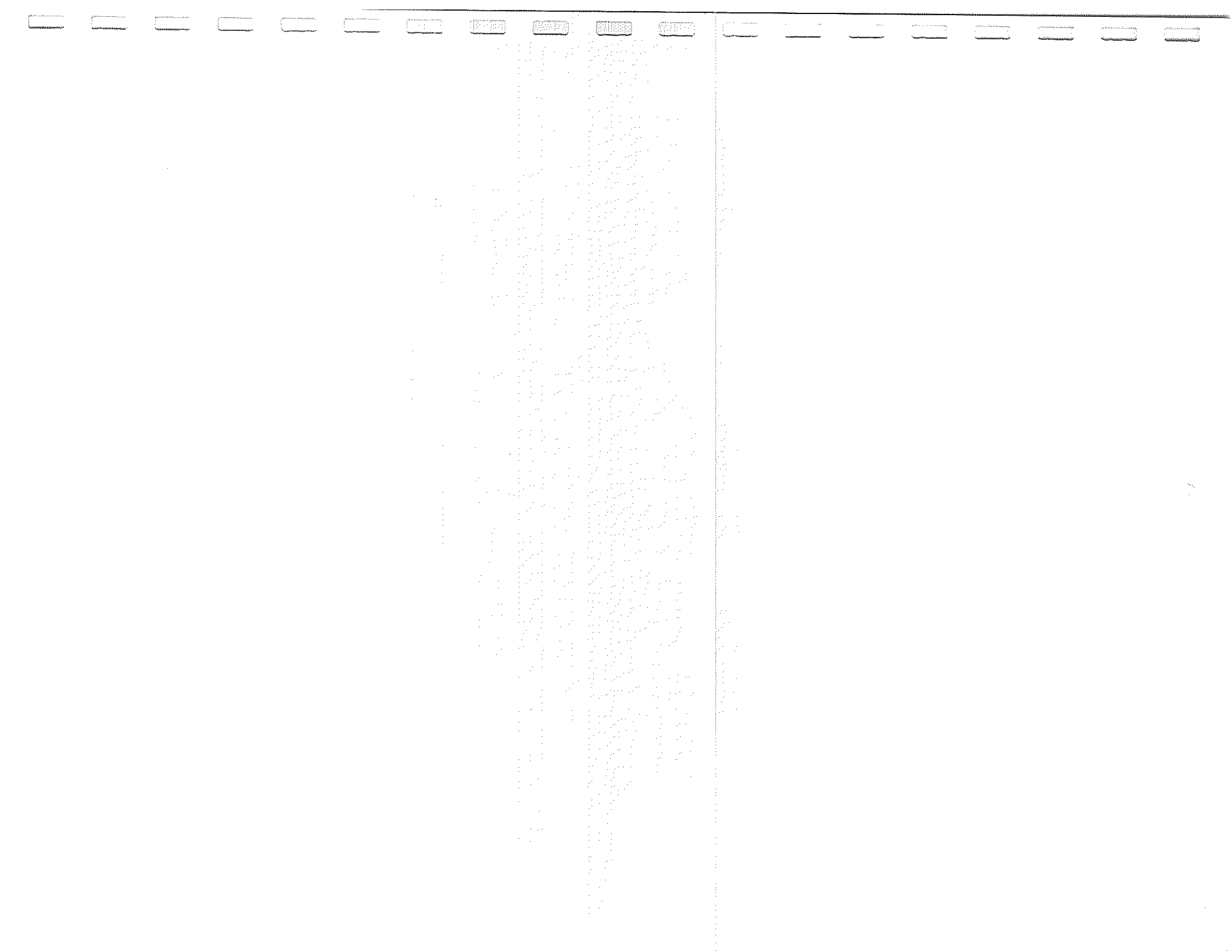
THE SHERMAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

1. RESIDENCE, 1846
2. RESIDENCE, 1847
3. RESIDENCE, CIRCA 1806
4. RESIDENCE, 1804
5. THE OLD STORE, 1829
6. THE SHERMAN LIBRARY, 1926
7. THE CENTER CEMETERY, 18TH CENTURY
8. THE CENTER SCHOOL, CIRCA 1827
9. THE PLAYHOUSE, 1857
10. THE MALLORY TOWN HALL, 1977
11. RESIDENCE, 1853
12. RESIDENCE, CIRCA 1827
13. THE OLD TOWN HALL, 1886
14. THE NORTHROP HOUSE. SHERMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY THE SHERMAN SENTINEL, 1829
15. RESIDENCE, 1806
16. RESIDENCE, 1846

ACCORDING TO RESEARCH DONE BY MALCOLM P. HUNT FOR TOWN IN 1977

Lands Protected by Naromi Land Trust in Sherman, Connecticut 1968-2004





NOTES