

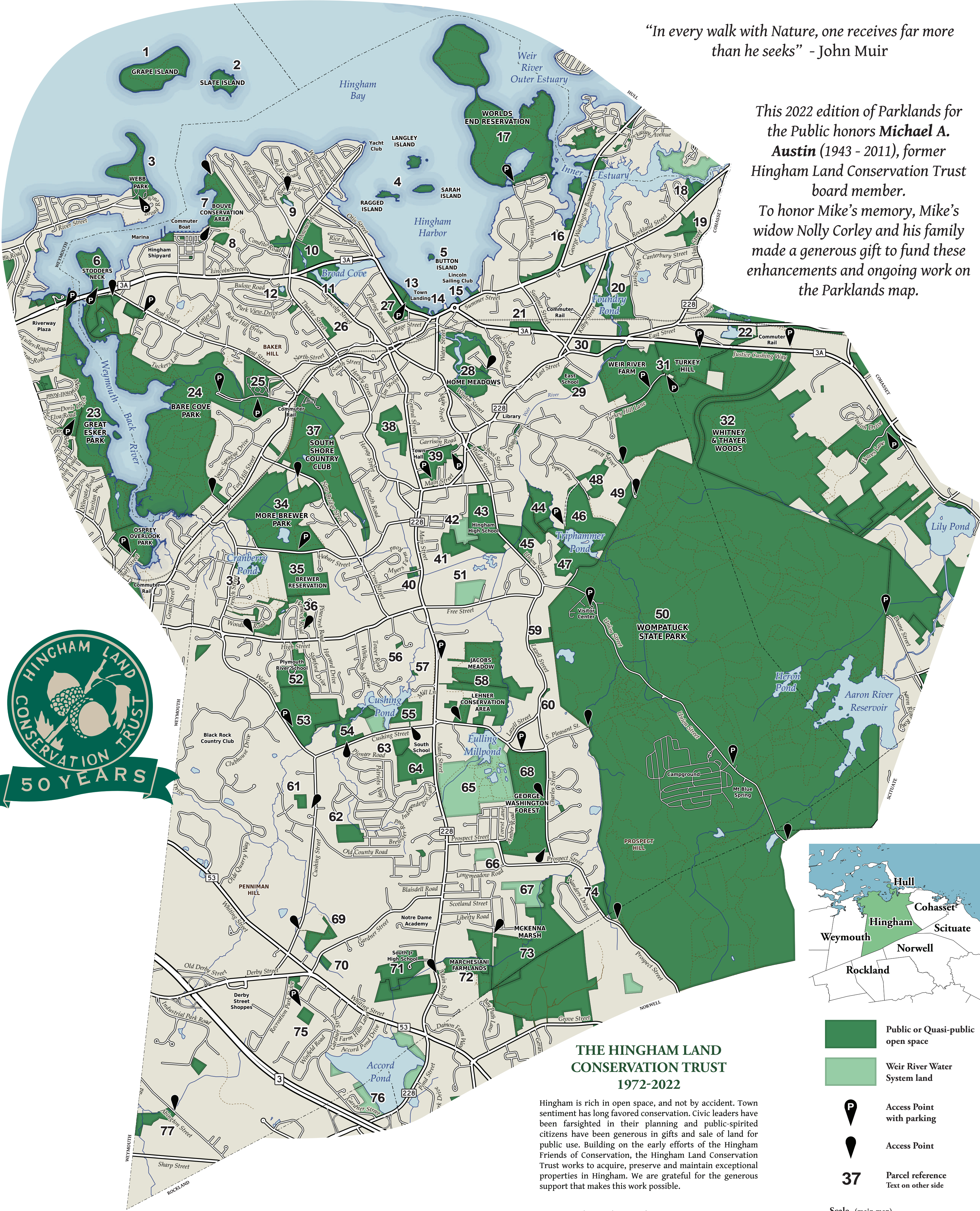
PARKLANDS FOR THE PUBLIC

Published by the Hingham Land Conservation Trust to encourage the use of Hingham’s Conservation and Recreation Areas

“In every walk with Nature, one receives far more than he seeks” - John Muir

This 2022 edition of Parklands for the Public honors **Michael A. Austin** (1943 - 2011), former Hingham Land Conservation Trust board member.

To honor Mike’s memory, Mike’s widow Nolly Corley and his family made a generous gift to fund these enhancements and ongoing work on the Parklands map.



THE HINGHAM LAND CONSERVATION TRUST 1972-2022

Hingham is rich in open space, and not by accident. Town sentiment has long favored conservation. Civic leaders have been farsighted in their planning and public-spirited citizens have been generous in gifts and sale of land for public use. Building on the early efforts of the Hingham Friends of Conservation, the Hingham Land Conservation Trust works to acquire, preserve and maintain exceptional properties in Hingham. We are grateful for the generous support that makes this work possible.

The Hingham Land Conservation Trust
Box 10, Hingham, MA 02043
hinghamlandtrust.org

Scale (main map)
0 1000 ft 1 mile

This 2022 update was created by Lars Ahlzen (lars@ahlzen.com) using surveys and data from Hingham Conservation, Town of Hingham, MassGIS and OpenStreetMap. Licensed as Attribution-ShareAlike CC-BY-SA 2.0 (see [creativecommons.org](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/)).

PARKLANDS FOR THE PUBLIC

The seventh edition of Parklands for the Public updates the map first published by the Hingham Land Conservation Trust (HLCT) 35 years ago now. This edition builds on the updates from the sixth edition in 2017, bringing the map into the modern era by digitizing the map so that it is more accurate and will allow for future enhancements such as allowing users to zoom in on specific areas to see details such as trails and being interactive when accessed on a mobile device. This digital version of the map will still allow it to be printed and the HLCT intends to continue making it available to people in a hard copy in addition to accessing it electronically.

The areas in green on the Parklands map show the principal open space. Some are too small to be delineated, such as Jackass Park (on Main Street), Fountain Square (at North & Lincoln Streets), and the shipyard parcel which is home to the DCR intermodal building—the South Shore gateway to seasonal ferry access to the Boston Harbor Islands. While not shown, conservation easements held by the HCC or HLCT also protect views and natural resources. And private institutions such as Derby Academy and Notre Dame Academy hold lands that protect the environment and beautify the streetscapes.

The map includes some accessible open space areas in contiguous towns. In Wompatuck State Park and Whitney and Thayer Woods, land in Hingham, Cohasset and Scituate combines to create large areas for hiking and wildlife habitat. Great Esker Park and Osprey Overlook Park in Weymouth protect the ecology of the Back River, as well as the view. The Weir River Estuary Park in Hull, Cohasset and Hingham protects the Weir River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) through conservation of parcels such as the Amonte Meadow.

Hingham now has more extensive forests than it did 150 years ago when much of the land was under cultivation. New development continues to alter the landscape. However, Hingham has been successful in preserving additional open spaces. From 2003 to 2017, 13 parcels were purchased, after Town Meeting approval, with CPA funds. Additional open space has been acquired through land donated to the Town.

The best way to get to know Hingham's parklands is to wander through them. Many of the trails are now shown on the map and by going to the indicated access points, you will often find additional paths that invite exploration. The Hingham Land Conservation Trust conducts guided walks twice a year in some of these properties. The HLCT also participated in the Hingham Comprehensive Trails Plan published in 2015 and posted at Hingham-ma.com. Learn more about HLCT at Hinghamlandtrust.org.

Rules governing use of Hingham conservation lands are posted at Hingham-ma.org on the HCC pages.

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA

The Boston Harbor Islands are a unit of the National Park System. Park management is coordinated by the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership. The area includes the islands of Massachusetts Bay, Boston Harbor, and Hingham Harbor along with selected coastal conservation lands. For up-to-date information on facilities and seasonal ferry ac-

1 GRAPE ISLAND (MDCR). Paths through the thickets of raspberries, bayberries and sumac that cover most of Grape Island's 50 acres make for pleasant walking and lead to beautiful views. In 2017, Hingham designated May 21st as an annual local holiday to commemorate the Battle of Grape Island: In 1775, a month after the battle of Lexington, soldiers from the British fleet landed on the island to harvest hay and were driven off by patriots from Hingham and Weymouth. Seasonal ferry service.

2 SLATE ISLAND (MDCR). This 12-acre island has rugged cliffs of slate which once was quarried for grave-stones, the foundations of houses and ballast for ships. Tangled undergrowth and a profusion of wildflowers make it a sanctuary for birds. Relatively inaccessible; no trails and abundant poison ivy.

3 WEBB MEMORIAL STATE PARK (MDCR). Providing fine views of waters south of Boston, this 36-acre tract is at the end of Weymouth Neck. Nike missiles were once based there. Named for Capt. William K. Webb, a Weymouth police officer. Access at 371 River Street, Weymouth.

4,5 RAGGED, SARAH, LANGLEY & BUTTON ISLANDS (TOH). In area 3.5, 3.9, 4.7, & 6 acres respectively, these small islands contribute to the beauty of Hingham Harbor and are popular for private boat day trips and picnics. Ledges of puddingstone and sandstone are of geological interest and fun for climbing.

6 STODDERS NECK (MDCR). This 20-acre promontory on the Back River, once only a source for gravel, was converted into a park by the MDC. Well-maintained paths, picnic tables near the northern shore and a landing for boats. Popular as an off-leash dog park. Access at 457 Lincoln Street (3A).

7 BOUVE CONSERVATION AREA AT HEWITT'S COVE (HCC). These 32 acres of natural shore land were acquired from the Bouve family in 1980. The coastal cliffs of slate were formed from sediment in a lake that occupied the Boston Basin 200 million years ago. The land is heavily wooded and has many wildflowers such as the wood-
ed lily, wild geranium, anemone and Jack-in-the-pulpit. Limited access at the northeasterly end of the Hingham Shipyard development. 2015 Trails Plan recommends an improved link.

8 BRADLEY WOODS PLAYGROUND (HRC). Adjacent to the Hewitt's Cove area, this 4.2-acre field provides space for baseball, basketball and playground equipment.

9 FEE POND (HCC). Back when Crow Point was a summer resort, the pond was a source of ice for vacationers. As houses began to fill the farmland and old golf links, the 2.5-acre pond was acquired for open space protection and skating.

10 FOSTER SCHOOL (HSD). The 40.0-acre tract includes a playing field, tennis courts, nature trail, a wooded hillside and broad expanse of reed-covered marshland for herons, ducks and red-winged blackbirds. A mixed vegetated swamp across Downer Avenue further protects this resource area.

11 BROAD COVE (HCC). Once the scene of shipbuilding and salt-making the 15-acre, partially-tidal cove along Route 3A is surrounded by marsh and woodlands providing a beautiful haven for egrets, ducks, swans, pheasants and quail.

12 BRADLEY POND (HCC). Almost hidden behind the Rite Aid Pharmacy sits a pond and wooded hillside, 2.4 acres surviving from the huge Bradley estate. The tiny park was given by the family of William J. McCluskey.

13 BATHING BEACH. (Bathing Beach Trustees and HDC) This 6.1-acre park has a harbor beach, a bandstand and a large parking lot which seasonally accommodates an open-air farmers' market. The boardwalk was extended from the bathing beach to the boat ramp parking log in 2019 and a new bath house was built in 2020.

14 HARBORFRONT PARKS (HDC, HCC, TOH). Adjoining the bathing beach area, War Memorial Park (5.8-acres) has a launch ramp for boats and a dredged basin for mooring pleasure craft. Permits for the moorings must be obtained from the Harbormaster. The bronze equestrian sculpture known as the "Victory Statue" was created by artist Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson and her daughter Theo and installed in 1929 to honor townsman who had served in the Armed Forces. Nearby Whitney Wharf was long used for commercial shipping. The site of a car dealership before being acquired in a land swap in 1989, it was then structurally restored and landscaped. The POW-MIA Veteran's Park adjoins Whitney Wharf. The CPA-funded purchase of the former Mobil Station site on the harbor in 2009 further enhanced harbor views and access. Repair and resiliency work is currently under way to on the 4 Town-owned wharves: at Town Pier; the POW-MIA Park, the former Mobil Station Parcel, and Barnes Wharf.

15 BARNES AND STEAMBOAT LANE WHARVES (HDC). These stone wharves, dating back to steamboat days, protect 2.8 acres of shoreline. Barnes Wharf is the site of the Lincoln Maritime Center, which sponsors sailing and rowing programs open to the public.

16 BOULEVARD BORDER PARK (HCC). Four wooded parcels totaling ~15 acres along Rockland Street and George Washington Boulevard are a scenic buffer for commuting & beach traffic. The 2005 addition of Porter's Cove Point (4 acres) offers estuary views and increased protection to the Weir River ACEC.

17 WORLD'S END (TTOR). These 251 acres consist of two islands that were connected to each other and to the mainland by causeway and dam construction in the 17th Century. The largest property in Boston Harbor Islands, World's End and its 4.5 miles of carriage paths and footpaths draw many on weekends. More info on access and the park's features at thetrustees.org.

18 LYFORD'S LYKING (HCC). These 6.63 acres of salt marsh along the inner estuary near Rockland Street are named for John Lyford, the Pilgrims' first minister, banished from Plymouth in 1625. He was one of the first settlers of Nantasket. In the 1600s this was the site of a herring fish weir (trap)—origin of the Weir River's name. Derby Academy gave 3 acres. Birding site.

19 HULL STREET PLAYGROUND & LOVETT LAND (HRC|HCC). This 5.8-acre neighborhood playground includes a baseball field and playground equipment. In winter, the field occasionally floods and freezes for informal skating. The adjoining 10.5-acre Rockland Street/Tugmanug Lane parcel, donated to HCC by Sarah Lovett in 2012, is a mix of wetland and upland. Limited trail sys-

tem but no formal trailhead or parking.

20 FOUNDRY POND AREA (HCC). Created by damming the Weir River, most likely in the late 18th Century, the pond was used sequentially by two ironworks and a wool scouring plant, all of which burned. The Sportsman's Club acquired the pond for fishing and later sold it to the town. The 32-acre parcel includes the salt marsh below the dam and an abandoned quarry. Access from Kilby Street (between #97 and #103). Across Rockland Street, Amonte Meadow (CPA funded acquisition of 3.3 acres) has grassy areas, wetlands and a stand of tupelo trees adjoining the Weir River. On Rockland Street west of Kilby, Sidney's Pond (CPA funded acquisitions totaling 5.1 acres) is within Weir River ACEC. Mostly upland, with some wetlands and pond frontage. Access west of 127 Rockland Street. (Do not use private driveway.) No formal parking. Informal trail to Sidney's Pond.

21 CHIEF JUSTICE CUSHING HIGHWAY BORDER (HCC). A 3.5-acre green buffer on Route 3A.

22 SKATING CLUB (HRC). The pond and wooded shore comprise 8.8 acres. The town used to maintain a warm-up shelter for skaters which had fallen into disrepair and was removed in 2020. Seasonal updates at hinghamrec.com.

23 GREAT ESKEr PARK/OSPREY OVERLOOK PARK (Weymouth Park Department). Osprey Overlook Park, opened in 2017, extends the trail system of the Great Esker Park (established in 1967) and is the newest segment of the developing Back River Trail, intended eventually to run the full length of the Weymouth Back River. More on access to/features of these parks at weymouth.ma.

24 BARE COVE PARK (BCPC). Acquired by the town in 1972, 484 acres were the site of the United States Naval Ammunition Depot from 1906 to 1968. Together with Great Esker Park land, this parkland forms one of the foremost scenic, urban-centered open spaces in New England and protect precious tidewaters and salt marshes. Bare Cove Park has approximately three miles of paved bicycle paths, numerous picnic sites and woodland trails. On the park's northern shore are 32 more acres, about half held by the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. Park entrances next to the playing fields on Beal Street, and on Fort Hill Street. Park rules at Hingham-ma.gov.

25 SCHOOL DEPOT LAND (TOH). After an additional 55 acres of federal land reverted to the Town in 2003, an athletic complex including ball fields, basketball courts and a skateboard park, with a parking area, was created.

26 HERSEY FIELD (HRC). This 4.7-acre park on Thaxter Street includes baseball fields, bleachers and a small playground. Unpaved parking area.

27 GOVERNOR LONG BIRD SANCTUARY (HCC). Site of the home of John D. Long, Governor of Massachusetts (1880-83) and Secretary of the Navy, this 11.1-acre site was given to the town by his family. Offering a fine view of Hingham Harbor, it includes marshland sanctuary for waterfowl. Park on Cottage Street.

28 HOME MEADOWS (HCC). Salt hay was once the valued product of this marsh. The 70 acres of open land, mostly given to the town by abutters, provides a beautiful landscape and wildlife refuge in central Hingham. Two acres on Rockwood Road were also given to the Hingham Land Conservation Trust by Mr. and Mrs. William Canterbury.

29 EAST SCHOOL (HSD). This 11.8-acre tract bordering the Weir River is the site of the East School and has playing fields rimmed with woods and swamp.

30 CUSHING MEADOW (HCC). This historic meadow, bordered by its ancient stone wall, has been a Hingham landmark since the 17th Century. The CPA-funded purchase of 4.1 acres in 2009 was accompanied by Michael Cushing's donation of additional land along the Weir River and an historic easement on much of the adjoining Cushing Homestead (listed on the National Register of Historic Places). Today the meadow is mown for hay by Hornstra Farm. Access from Rt. 3A.

31 WEIR RIVER FARM (TTOR) & TURKEY HILL (TTOR, TOH, Cohasset). Originally part of a picturesque early-20th-century country estate, Weir River Farm was given to the Trustees in 1999 by Polly Thayer Starr. The Weir River passes through the northwest edge of the 10 acres of fields and pastures surrounded by oak and red cedar woodlands. The 187-foot summit of 62-acre Turkey Hill affords spectacular views of Cohasset Harbor and the Boston skyline. The property links Weir River Farm to Whitney and Thayer Woods. More at thetrustees.org.

32 WHITNEY AND THAYER WOODS (TTOR). Established by the Whitney Woods Association gift of 643 acres in 1933, this reservation has since been enlarged by other gifts, including 23 acres from the late Mrs. Ezra Thayer. 114.5 of the 824 acres in this forested area are in Hingham. The area borders Wompatuck State Park, providing a stretch of unbroken woodland more than four miles long with twelve miles of trails. The Bigelow Boulder, a large glacial erratic, is best reached on Boulder Lane from the Rt. 3A entrance.

Maud Milliken Memorial Path, planted with rhododendrons and azaleas near Brass Kettle Brook, is closest to James Hill Lane. Access from Rt. 3A in Cohasset near Sohler Street, at Turkey Hill or through James Hill Lane from Leavitt Street.

33 CRANBERRY POND (HCC). Also known as Bouve Pond, and once a cranberry bog, the pond is in a 13.8-acre preserve that seasonally attracts birders and skaters. Access near 41 French Street.

34,35 MORE-BREWER PARK/ BREWER RESERVATION (HCC). Francis Brewer, son of John R. Brewer, spent boyhood days on his father's World End Farm; and, possibly inspired by that experience, began in 1884 to purchase sheep grazing land at Great Hill. Nearly a century after Francis Brewer began buying the land, in 1980, Dr. and Mrs. Wilmon Brewer gave the Conservation Commission 107 acres of the Great Hill estate. Combined with previously acquired 31.4 acres to the north and the 48.1-acre Brewer Reservation earlier given by the Brewer family, the park totals 186.5 acres of varied land, much of it interlaced with winding carriage paths. Features include a spacious meadow, surrounded by pine, larch and dogwood. Brewer Pond, gorgeous when water lilies are in bloom, and the more secluded Ice House Pond provide habitat for many creatures. There is a trail through Bear Swamp and the foundation of the tiny cottage of Bootleg Charlie, immortalized in the poetry of Brookes More, who bought the estate in 1921. (His daughter later married Wilmon Brewer.) In 2006, protection of Bear Swamp was enhanced by a 5-acre gift of the Estate of Gertrude Higgins. Parking is on Hobart Street.

36 CASSIDY FIELD & RIDGEWOOD RESERVATION (HCC). Adjoining Brewer Reservation, Cassidy Field (HRC), 8.4 acres surrounded by white pines, includes a baseball field. Ridgewood Reservation (HCC), land donated in conjunction with the development of Ridgewood Crossing in 2010, has a trail along a forested ridge and a small pond (Snake Pond). Best access is through Brewer Reservation.

37 SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB, JORRITSMA & SHEA LANDS (CCMC|HCC). The town purchased South Shore Country Club in 1988. Centrally located, it includes 154 acres of beautiful rolling land, an 18-hole golf course, outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts, bowling alleys and a clubhouse with a restaurant and function rooms. In winter the hills are popular for sledding and cross-country skiing. A 2-acre parcel nearby, on Fort Hill Street next to the cemetery, was donated by John Jorritsma. Drainage from the extensive marsh onsite flows through the SSCC and then into the Fresh River and an anadromous fish run. Another ¼-acre parcel, at #257 South Street, donated by Barbara Shea, is a robust wooded/shrub swamp wetland within the floodplain of the Town Brook. No formal trails or parking.

38 BURNS MEMORIAL PARK (HCC). Centrally located, these somewhat overgrown 24.1 acres encompass pine-covered ledges, meadow and red maple swampland which belonged to the Burns family. Once known as Tranquility Grove, historically this was the site of large outdoor gatherings including an 1844 abolition rally. Access via path between #92 and #96 Hersey Street.

39 HINGHAM TOWN HALL RECREATION AREA (HCC). Formerly the site of Central Junior High School, 18.7 acres include Cronin Field, tennis courts, and a community playground built in 2000. In 2008, Scott and Jennifer Reed donated 3.5 acres between Burr and Playground Roads to extend this area. To the east, 2 small triangular parcels shown are the Town Common and a small playground nearby, adjacent to Hingham Centre Cemetery.

40 TOWER BROOK WETLANDS (HCC). Conserved in 2003, three acres protect the Tower Brook.

41 MERRYMOUNT ROAD CONSERVATION LAND (HCC). 13.4 acres of red maple swamp adjoin High School and Aquarion Water Company land.

42 DOWNING STREET LAND (AWC). 13.8 acres of wooded wetlands include red maple, tupelo and ash.

43 HIGH SCHOOL (HSD & HRC). 71.1 acres of level land are used primarily for sport activities.

44,45 SCHULTZ'S FIELD RANGE (TOH) Originally part of a larger farm, the 17.5-acre field behind the golf driving range was acquired in 2003 using CPA funds. This rare 14 acres of open fields, currently used for agriculture (license agreement with Hornstra Farm for hay and corn fields), are bordered by wetlands, the Weir River and Triphammer Brook. Best accessed through the driving range on Union Street.

46,47 TRIPHAMMER POND/ TRIPHAMMER WOODS (HCC). With its rugged, forested shore, this pond is one of the gems of Hingham parklands. It was created by damming Accord Brook in the 17th Century for a sawmill. The pond is popular for hiking, skating, paddling and fishing. Prior to 2010, the dam and the fish ladders were completely reconstructed. The 97.8 acres include land on the north side of Triphammer Pond and along the Weir River. Completing the preservation of the shores of Triphammer Pond, the 23 acres of Triphammer Woods were once the residence of Francis J. and Elizabeth H. Thompson. Acquired by the state in 1995, this land includes 14 acres of white pines, red maples, American

beech and other hardwoods, 8 acres of oak/hickory forest, and a small wooded swamp. Driveway between #75 and #128 Pope's Lane leads to small gravel parking area.

48 LEAVITT STREET CONSERVATION LAND (HCC). This wooded strip of 16.3 acres was given to the town by the late Wallace Marden. A trail connecting Pope's Lane to Leavitt Street was named for Edgar T.P. Walker.

49 MCCORMACK PROPERTY (HCC). Acquired with CPA funds in 2003, 5.85 acres of rocky woods buffer the Leavitt Street entrance to the former Hingham Ammunition Depot Annex, now part of Wompatuck State Park.

50 WOMPATUCK STATE PARK (MDCR). Encompassing 3002 acres (1540 in Hingham), this heavily wooded park is one of the town's greatest conservation assets. Water features include the Cohasset reservoir and several ponds. Burbank Boulder, a huge glacial remnant, sits on three points. Prospect Hill, a glacial drumlin, has the highest elevation in Hingham. Other features include Mount Blue Spring, 400 campsites and numerous wooded walking trails. The Visitor Center is accessible from the Union Street entrance. More about park features and permitted uses at mass.gov/locations/wompatuck-state-park.

51 BRADFORD ROAD (AWC). Wells here are protected by 24.8 acres of meadow and swamp.

52,53 PLYMOUTH RIVER SCHOOL COMPLEX & 2 WETLANDS PARCELS. The 93-acre Plymouth River tract, formerly the Schirmer Farm, falls under four jurisdictions. The northern section, with an athletic field, six tennis courts, a small pond and some wooded upland around Plymouth River School, is controlled by the School Department (HSD). Adjacent open land is held by the Board of Selectmen (TOH). The Recreation Commission (HRC) oversees a playing field in the center of the complex. The Conservation Commission (HCC) holds the southern section including open woods and marsh bordering the upper reaches of Cushing Pond. Not far away are two HCC wetlands parcels at Oakcrest Road and Ward Street: the 4 acres acquired in 1986 and adjoining 5 acres acquired in 2002 connect through Black Rock and buffer tributaries to Cushing Pond. No formal trails or parking.

54 EEL RIVER WOODS (HLCT). This 12-acre refuge provides 1,100 feet of forested frontage on busy Cushing Street and includes short wooded trails and some access to the Eel River Wetlands. The land was a gift from Mary Niles to the Hingham Land Conservation Trust. (Previously, Mrs. Niles and Stephen Baker had given the town approximately 4 additional acres on the edge of Cushing Pond.) Informal parking near sign on Cushing Street.

55 MILDRED CUSHING WOODS (HCC). Much of the southeastern shore of Cushing Pond is protected by 19 acres given by Mildred Cushing, who was a longtime member of the Hingham Conservation Commission. The rolling, open woods have good-sized native trees and there is an open field that abuts several Main Street lots. Informal parking on Cushing Street, access via footpath.

56 BUCKET MILL LANE POND (HCC). This one-acre pond was created and given to the town by Dattman Brothers to enhance the attractiveness of a new development and aid in the retention of wildlife.

57 CROOKED MEADOW RIVER AREA (HCC). The gift of Helen P. Burns, a former director of the Hingham Land Conservation Trust, this six-tenths of an acre protects the Crooked Meadow River near a waterfall and restored mill. Huge boulders and ledges make the area worth exploring. Access is from the parking lot behind the Second Parish church and through the Serenity Path.

58 LEHNER CONSERVATION AREA, JACOBS MEADOW & GLAD TIDINGS PLAIN (HCC & HLCT). With the 2017 acquisition of the 50-acre Lehner property, Hingham created 100 acres of contiguous open space in the heart of the Weir River Watershed. The acreage includes open fields, streams, hills and varied woodlands, extending from Main Street to the Filling Mill Brook, and over to South Pleasant Street. Conservation of this property provides both public open space and important watershed protection. This CPA-funded acquisition reflects a wonderful collaboration in conservation between the town and the Lehner family, which had owned the property since the 1920s. Conservation of the adjoining Jacobs Meadow reflects earlier gifts and purchases. Helen Burns, a major donor to the Town, gave 30 acres to the HLCT and 8 acres to the HCC. The northern 10 acres were purchased by the HCC from abutters. Access to Main Street was donated by the Goodlatte family along with an easement given by Wilder Memorial. Two lots extending the park's southeast corner were given by Richard and Virginia Kurtzman (3.6 acres) and Robert and Carolyn Garvie (6.75 acres). Further protection of historic Glad Tidings Plain was provided by the 2006 CP-fundec purchase of 2.4 acres of developable land behind 730 Main Street and conservation restrictions donated by owners of 10 acres of adjoining back land. Trail access from South Pleasant Street near #32. Also, when nursery school is closed, park behind Wilder Memorial Building on Main Street and access there via Jacobs Meadow gate.

59,60 LAZELL STREET STRIP AND WADLEIGH'S RILL (HCC). This 3.7-acre strip between Lazell Street and Wompatuck State Park protects the Filling Mill Pond aquifer.

WADLEIGH'S RILL on Lazell Street, a ¾-acre gift to the town from Edward Wadleigh, preserves a spring, a small stream and a rocky hill. An area for nature study.

61 SWANSON HOLLOW (HCC). This level-floored, 5-acre hardwood pocket is contained by unusually high steep banks of unconsolidated glacial till—evidence that it is the site of a great block of ice that finally melted in place thousands of years ago. It was acquired partly for its value as a natural water retention area. During dry seasons, the naturalist can walk through most of it and find a handsome expanse of large ferns among sizable hardwoods and hemlocks. Access via a path from Cushing Street.

62 EEL RIVER RESERVATION (Boy Scouts, HCC). Two adjoining plots: the northern 6.3 acres are owned by the Boy Scouts and the southern 7.2 acres are controlled by the Conservation Commission. Access is at Brewster Drive.

63,64 SOUTH SCHOOL (HSD, HRC). These 29 acres are part of the crest of a recessional moraine (transverse ridges of glacier debris) and are interesting for the radical relief and contrasting floras. West of the school is Indian Spring, one of the few natural springs in the town. Eight acres of maple swamp on the Cushing Street side were the site of an open millpond shown on 19th century maps and are an example of the natural succession of shallow ponds.

65 FULLING MILL POND (AWC). This tract of 163 acres, adjoining the Town Forest, is one of the most interesting natural areas in Hingham. Filling Mill Pond was created when Theophilus Cushing Sr. built a dam near Page's Bridge in ~1705 to create a mill. The mill, pond and surrounding dam was bequeathed by Theophilus to his son, Capt. Abel Cushing in 1718. Several kettle ponds in the recessional moraine above Filling Mill Pond were cleverly used by designers of the water system to receive and hold water piped underground from the higher elevations of Accord Brook. A natural spring can be found at the base of the southern bank of the steep-walled valley that bisects the western section. Unusually large hardwood trees add to the pleasure of following the path from Main Street eastward toward the ponds. Water Company land protects Hingham's water supply and permission should be sought to walk the property.

66,67 WEIR RIVER WATER SYSTEM LAND (WRWS). Two WRWS parcels add to the natural beauty of their south Hingham neighborhoods. One, 8.6 acres, which can be reached from Craig Lane, has a small pumping station. The other, 20.9 acres on Accord Brook near Prospect Street, has wells. The town of Hingham took ownership of the water system and land from Aquarian Water Company in 2020.

68 GEORGE WASHINGTON FOREST (DPW) & SAW MILL POND RD LAND (HCC). The Town Forest, with 197.6 acres of rolling land, features open conifer groves, winding eskers and fern-carpeted swales (moist land depressions) not found elsewhere in Hingham. Vehicles not allowed. Pine-needle-covered maintenance roads and trails for walking. Foot access near: 115 South Pleasant, 94 Prospect, 209 Charles Streets. East of the forest, a ~1-acre parcel of wetland and upland in Saw Mill Pond Road neighborhood, donated by Southgate Realty Trust in 2015, is a mix of wetland and upland. No formal trails or parking.

69,70 WHORTLEBERRY HOLLOW (HLCT, HCC). This 13-acre tract of varied terrain was given to the Trust by Suvia P. Whittemore in memory of the late Arthur E. Whittemore. Hingham's Town Moderator for many years. Mrs. Whittemore also donated 3 acres across Gardner Street to the Conservation Commission, for wildlife and watershed protection. Public footpath access from granite steps at sign on Cushing Street.

71 MIDDLE SCHOOL PROPERTY (HSD); ADJACENT WETLANDS (HCC). Approximately 31 acres at the Middle School (former location of "South Jr. High") provide playing fields and tennis courts. Property includes woods that can be explored along Accord Brook and a trail leading to Whiting Street. The site of a once well-known picnic grove of pines now abuts the Hingham Nursery School. To the south, 31 acres of conserved wetlands (former Verrochi parcels), added by HCC in 2012, protect land and water within the 100-year floodplain.

72 MARCHESIANI FARMLANDS (HCC). These 25 acres of historic farmland were once a part of Pushcart Farm, originally purchased by the Marchesiani family in 1934. As with many currently wooded properties, these lands were mostly held open for pasture and agriculture. More than 10,000 tomato plants were grown here, along with cucumbers, strawberries and other vegetables. Through the good will of the Marchesiani family and the developer of Black Rock Golf Course, this property was obtained in 2001 in exchange for an inaccessible conservation tract on Old Ward Street. This land connects Main Street to more than 100 acres of conservation land in Hingham and to the Norwell water well fields. It borders Accord Brook and McKenna Marsh and includes a spectacular pine grove. The mown field (entrance marked by granite posts) on Main Street recalls the agricultural history of the town. Cart paths through the property make for easy walking. Outside of school hours, park at the Middle School across Main Street, but easier to park on Scotland Street and access trail system there.

73 MCKENNA MARSH, GLADYS CUSHING PARCEL & SCOT-

LAND STREET MEADOW; WANDERS DRIVE LAND (HCC). More than 100 acres here include a freshwater marsh once used as a waterfowl preserve, with a beaver dam of unusual length and linearity. Accord Brook threads through the area, making it important to water supplies of Hingham and Norwell, which has town wells and many acres of publicly owned land abutting the southern border. Considerable high ground and open woods provide easy walking and vantage points to observe waterfowl. Large white cedars can be seen from the trail that skirts eskers toward the northern margin. In 2007, the CPA purchase of the Gladys Cushing property off Scotland Street conserved an additional 2+ acres behind an affordable housing site. Also within the McKenna Marsh land is a 9.75-acre parcel, acquired in 2012, known as the Scotland Street Meadow, now reverting to forest. Good for observing nature, with an informal trail system. Park on Scotland Street (not at Housington Authority property). Due east of the McKenna Marsh acreage is a 1.4-acre property, in the Wanders Drive neighborhood, donated by Irene Ann Bucken in 1994. A mix of wetland and upland; no formal trails or parking.

74 VALLEY SWAMP (HCC). These 9.67 acres bordering the east branch of the Accord Brook were transferred to the Conservation Commission in 2003.

75 KRESS FIELD (HRC). Five acres include playground equipment and facilities for baseball and basketball.

76 ACCORD POND (AWC) & NEARBY WETLANDS (HCC). The 140.91 acres, including the pond, assure a reliable source of water (about 15% of Hingham's supply) and protect this beautiful area, shared by Norwell and Rockland whose town lines run through the pond. It is a traditional stopping place for wild geese in their migration. In 1639-40 commissioners, including Pilgrim Gov. William Bradford and Puritan Gov. John Endicott, settled a land dispute by agreeing that the line between Plymouth County and Massachusetts Bay Colony should run to "ye middle of a great pond" — resulting in the name Accord Pond. Three parcels near the pond on Devon Terrace (2.2 acres), Winfield Road (4.8 acres) and Gardner Street (.65 acres), all donated by Paul Hughes in 2007, are predominantly wetlands. No formal trails or parking.

77 OLD SWAMP RIVER; WETLANDS (HCC). Two parcels totaling 13.6 acres between Abington Street and Weymouth border were transferred to the town in 2009. Two tributaries of the Old Swamp River pick up drainage from the upper watershed, connect to the Old Swamp River and contribute to the Weymouth water supply. Upland areas are characterized by ancient oaks and stone walls. Access is from old Pine Street, a discontinued way off Abington Street. Nearby on Industrial Park Road is a predominantly wetland parcel, about 3.5 acres donated by Joseph Noe Realty Trust in 1996. Bordering a tributary of the Old Swamp River; no formal trails or parking.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Board of Selectmen (TOH)
Conservation Commission (HCC)
Recreation Commission (HRC)
School Department (HSD)
Country Club Management Committee (CCMC)
Bare Cove Park Committee (BCPC)
Harbor Development Committee (HDC)
Department of Public Works (DPW)

STATE & REGIONAL
The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR)
Weir River Water System (WRWS)
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MDCR)

WRITERS/EDITORS
(over a 35-year period, listed in sequential order of contribution):
John P. Richardson, Philip O. Swanson, Francis E. Wylie, Katharine W. Reardon, Loni Fournier, Eileen McIntyre, Don Kidston, Art Collins, and Lars Ahlzen