



July 11, 2014
Adopted 9/4/14 by resolution 2014-1110



Former Duke Estate Property (Three Mile Harbor County Park) **Management Plan**



Suffolk County Tax Map 300-74-5-30.3 & 32
Springy Banks Road
Area 57 Acres
Town of East Hampton, New York

Purchased in partnership by the County of Suffolk
and the Town of East Hampton

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Forward

This management plan covers two parcels (Suffolk County Tax Map # 300-74-5-30.3 and -32) owned in partnership by the County of Suffolk (County) and the Town of East Hampton (Town). *Note: This plan does not cover the adjacent Boys Harbor property which has its own management plan.*

History

The County and Town in partnership acquired the 57 acres on Springy Banks Road in 2003 by Town resolution #479. The County's portion of the funds came from the New Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program and the Town's portion came from the Community Preservation Fund.

The shore side trail on this property may be part of the Old Indian Trail. Unfortunately, it now dead ends into private property to the southeast (Bicentennial Map 1976). The current woods road that ends at the water's edge of Three Mile Harbor has been historically known as "Scowwood Hollow". This was once a loading place for scows carrying cordwood. (Bicentennial Map 1976, N. Daniels 1991)

Additional parcels bordering Hands Creek are owned and protected by the Nature Conservancy and the Town of East Hampton and the adjacent 28 acres known as Boys Harbor is also owned by the County and Town. Combined, these spaces comprise the most pristine watershed area on Three Mile Harbor. Furthermore, the property's woodlands contribute to the protected area. Such woodland blocks are recognized as being extremely valuable for the continued existence of "forest interior" birds within East Hampton Town.

Prior to the County and Town's acquisition, the property had been used by the Boys Harbor Camp for hiking trails and included part of a "ropes course".

Location & Description of Property

The former Duke Estate property is located along Springy Banks Road in East Hampton. It is bounded by Hands Creek on the northwest side and by Three Mile Harbor on the northeast side. It is also adjacent to other protected County/Town land and residential property to the southeast.

With the exception of some old woods roads that now act as trails, the property is largely undisturbed woodland. Preserving the adjacent Boys Harbor property enhanced the access and utility for both parcels.

The topography is hilly, sloping downward to the northwest and the northeast toward the tidal wetlands of Hands Creek and Three Mile Harbor.

Prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the property are numerous, and therefore, the Native American sensitivity in the area mandates archeology review before any disturbance of land takes place. Trails are the only proposed improvement at this time and will not require an archeological survey. However, archaeological review may need to be considered in the future should certain other projects be proposed.

Access & Parking

The former Duke Estate property shall be open to all Suffolk County residents and their guests. Parking will be restricted to designated areas only.

Access to the property is from Springy Banks Road. There is a small pull-off area for parking on the side of Springy Banks Road that is demarcated by low split rail fencing. Parking is also available on the former basketball court at the adjacent Boys Harbor property to the southeast. A trail proposal, referenced in this plan, encourages conjunctive use of both properties with the main parking existing at the former basketball court on the Boys Harbor property (Town Parking Permit or County Green Key Card required to park here).

The Town and County may install a bicycle rack on the property.

In accordance with East Hampton Town Code Chapter 91 (Beaches and Parks), the former Duke Estate property shall be open for recreational use 365 days a year, from sunrise to sunset, except that individuals legally engaged in fishing may be permitted to do so at such hours as may be permitted under applicable state and/or county laws, rules or regulations.

Management Goals and Objectives

General maintenance, upkeep and any improvements to the property will primarily be the responsibility of the Town's Land Acquisition & Management Department and the County's Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and will comply with both Town and County codes and permitting processes as necessary.

The Town Department of Land Acquisition and Management has posted the property on its road boundaries with "Land Preservation Partnership" signs, which represent both the County and the Town.

This property in conjunction with the adjacent Boys Harbor property, offers wide trails isolated from other trail systems, providing a special opportunity where bicycling can be taught and practiced without interfering with other trail

users. Bicycle skills instruction and bicycle training are compatible uses consistent with the Town code and the existing management plan for the Boys Harbor property. Changes to the existing trail system may be approved by the Town Board and Suffolk County. However, certain sections of trail may be designated for hiking only or bicycling only. Any proposed trail plan should consider retaining the existing “road trails”, since they are useful for maintenance and emergency access.

The maintenance of trails may be coordinated with the East Hampton Trails Preservation Society or other volunteers approved by the Town and/or County.

Species identification trail:

A species identification trail is one that places small signs or plaques at the base of trees or shrubs in an effort to educate those that use a particular trail what plant species surround them. The sign or plaque will be on posts in front of various species describing their name, both scientific and common with a description of leaf, bark and interesting characteristics. We may include a photo of the species in bloom or without foliage so the information can be useful year round.

Water Access: There is an existing vehicular access to Three Mile Harbor on the adjacent private property (SCTM# 300-74-5-30.4). According to local baymen, the property owner has allowed the public to take access there for years for launching boats and the like. This location is beneficial and important for water access because the only other vehicular access in the vicinity is from the end of Hands Creek Road (just north of the Former Duke Estate Property) and seasonal shellfish closures prohibit the taking of, or transportation of shellfish over that location. It also provides an emergency access to the beach.

The Town and County hereby reserve the right to add a vehicular access to Three Mile Harbor on the northeastern corner of the Former Duke Estate Property or allow vehicular access at Scowwood Hollow, should the one on private property become unavailable to the public in the future. However, neither the Town nor the County is obligated to provide vehicular water access through the Former Duke Estate Property. Design and layout of such a proposed access must be mutually agreed upon by both the Town and the County before implementation.

Restrictions

- Digging and artifact recovery

- Woodcutting or removal of vegetation (except at the direction of the Land Acquisition & Management Department or the Natural Resources Department)
- Abandonment of pets or other domesticated animals
- Dumping/littering and abandonment of personal property
- Fires
- Vehicles (except in roadside parking areas)
- Unauthorized hunting (Town Code Chapter 91, Beaches and Parks)
- Camping
- Storage of personal property, including boats
- Possession or discharge of any fireworks, except with the express permission of the Town Board and any other agency having jurisdiction.

Permitted Uses

- (Non-motorized) Bicycling
- Hiking
- Bird watching and nature photography
- Carry-in/carry-out of kayaks and small craft
- Hunting in accordance with Town Code (Chapter 91, Beaches and Parks), Suffolk County Parks, and NYSDEC rules and regulations

Flora List (Observed or likely to be found in this habitat, prepared by A. Gaites/A. Drake June 2013):

American Beachgrass	<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>
Beach Plum	<i>Prunus maritima</i>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus sp.</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Black Huckleberry	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Black Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Catbriar	<i>Smilax sp.</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
Chicken of the Woods	<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>
Clover	<i>Trifolium sp.</i>
Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
Common Sheep Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>
Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum sp.</i>

Deer Tongue	<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i>
Eastern Redcedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Eastern White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Glasswort	<i>Salicornia sp.</i>
Groundsel	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>
Highbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
Indian Mock-strawberry	<i>Potentilla indica</i>
Lichen	multiple genera
Lowbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>
Maryland Golden Aster	<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i>
Mockernut Hickory	<i>Carya alba</i>
Moss	multiple genera
Mushroom	multiple genera
Northern Bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
Paper Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>
Pitch Pine	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
Poison Ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>
Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
Rose	<i>Rosa sp.</i>
Salt Meadow Cordgrass	<i>Spartina patens</i>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Seaside Goldenrod	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>
Striped Wintergreen	<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>
Swamp Azalea	<i>Rhododendron viscosum</i>
Sweet Fern	<i>Componia peregrina</i>
Sweet Pepperbush	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Trailing Arbutus	<i>Epigaea repens</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>
Wild Grape	<i>Vitis sp.</i>
Wineberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>
Woodland Strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>

Fauna List (Observed or likely to be found in this habitat, prepared by A. Gaites/A. Drake June 2013):

American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
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American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>
American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megasceryle alcyon</i>
Big Brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Parus atricapillus</i>
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>
Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>
Eastern Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>
Eastern Chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus</i>
Eastern Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
Eastern Milk Snake	<i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>
Eastern Mole	<i>Scalopus aquaticus</i>
Eastern Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>
Eastern Screech Owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>
Eastern Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>
Great-horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>
Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Hoary Bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>

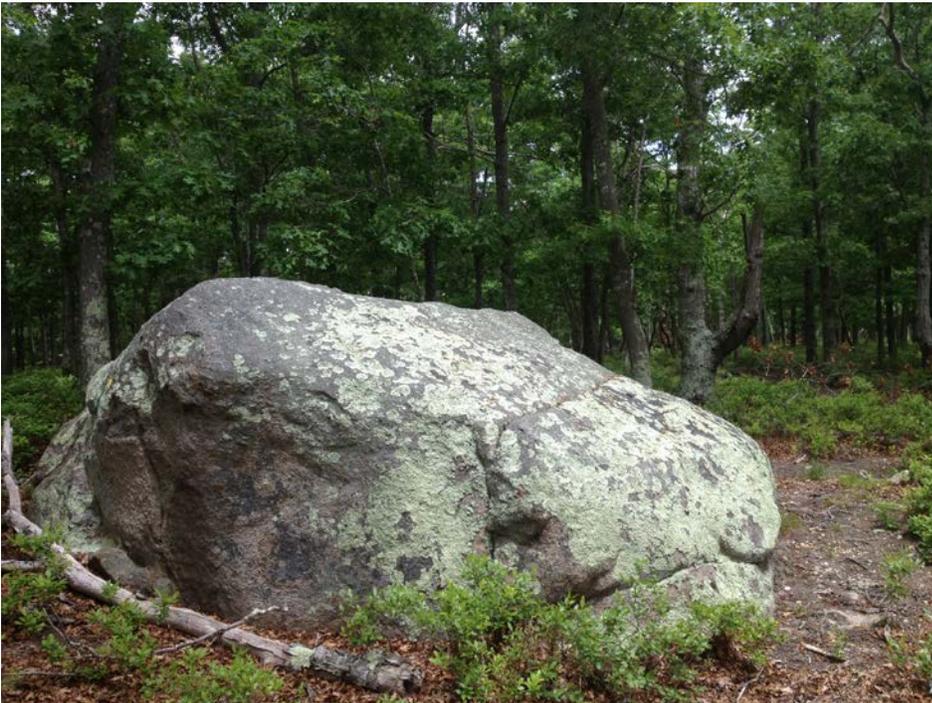
Northern Ring-necked Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus edwardsii</i>
Norway Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>
Opossum	<i>Diadelphis virginiana</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Parus bicolor</i>
Vole	<i>Microtus spp.</i>
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
White-footed Mouse	<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>
White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>





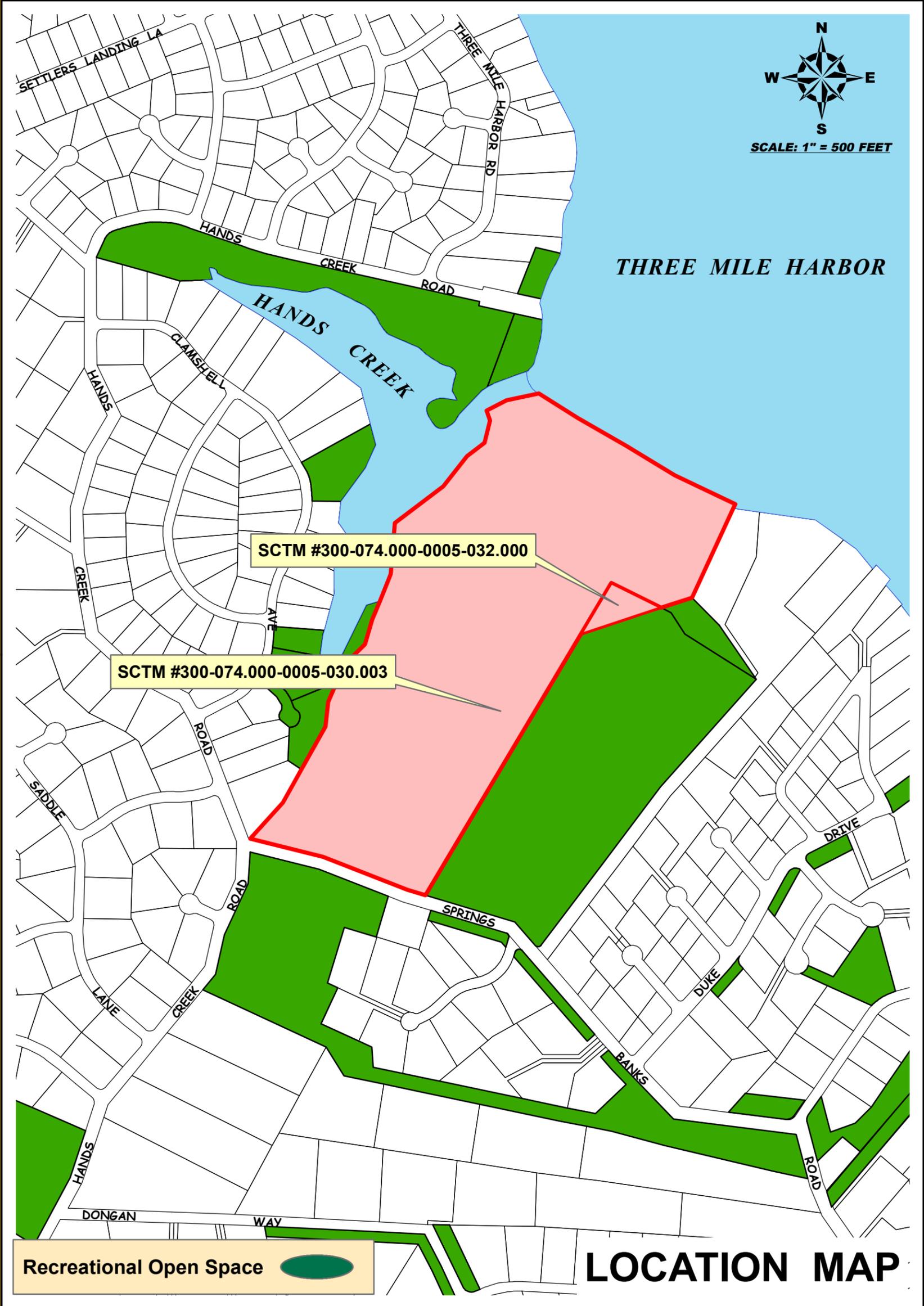


Fox dens.



Glacial erratic.

For additional information regarding this property please refer to the parcels' Baseline Documentation found at the Town of East Hampton's Department of Land Acquisition and Management.



Town Of East Hampton CPF and County Of Suffolk Property

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THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
Suffolk County, New York

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
Duke Property
Springs Banks Road
East Hampton School District



Town Of East Hampton CPF and County Of Suffolk Property

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TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
Duke Property
Springs Banks Road
East Hampton School District



1" = 538.85 feet

Feet

0 250 500

**THE TOWN
OF
EAST HAMPTON**

**USGS QUAD SHEET
041072A2
GARDINERS ISLAND WEST
FOR
SCTM# 300-74-5-30.3 & 32**

DUKE

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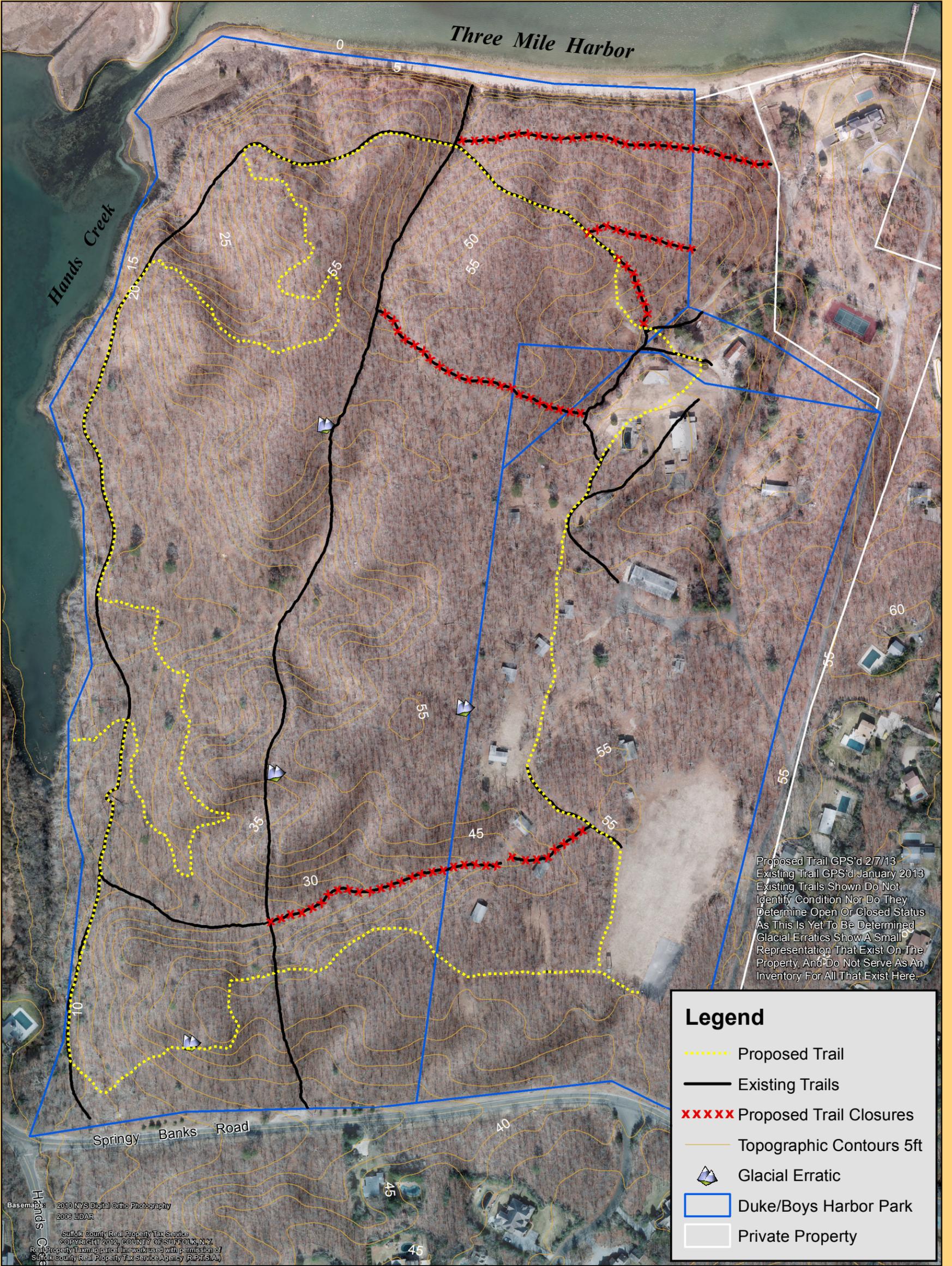
THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
Suffolk County, New York

Dept. of Information Technology

Date Prepared: October 24, 2011

Basemaps: USGS/NYS DOT 7.5 min 1:24,000 Quad Sheets

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TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

Duke Estate/Boys Harbor Proposed Trail Plan - DRAFT -



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1" = 230 feet

Feet

