



Kashmer Farm in Eliot Conserved

Once known to locals as Moulton Farm, Kashmer Farm in Eliot has now been conserved, protecting the land from future development. On March 12, 2025, Larry and Nancy Kashmer sold an agricultural conservation easement on their 126-acre farm to Great Works Regional Land Trust. It is a beautiful and extensive piece of land on the York River, with cultural and historical significance. Continuously operated as a dairy farm for 180 years, at one time supporting 180 Holstein cattle, the current dairy herd is ten Holsteins, with 18 acres maintained as hayfields and 104 acres of forested land. A farmhouse on the property has much of the original woodwork and metalwork intact, and there are signs of long and frequent use of the property by indigenous peoples. Many artifacts have been found, some 4,500 years old. The property contains undeveloped land which supports multiple ecosystem types, supporting varying species of plants and animals.

Many farms in Maine have ceased to exist due to increased development pressures and a variety of other social, economic, and global forces. The Kashmers took notice of the development pressure around them and did not want their property to fall to the same fate as nearby parcels. ***"Our farm has been in the Hammond and Moulton families since before the Revolutionary War, when the backfield was cleared, and the original house was built. The current farmhouse, constructed in 1841, stands as a testament to our long heritage,"*** said Nancy and Larry. ***"Given this deep-rooted history, it was crucial for us to preserve the farm as it is, resisting development and maintaining it as a farm and a haven for wildlife."***

The project was initiated by the late Keith Fletcher of Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) in 2016. Keith recognized the significance of the Kashmers' land and why it was important to protect. The property, which lies within the York River Headwaters Focus Area of Statewide Ecological Significance, has approximately 6,260 feet of frontage along the York River, and 1,800 feet of frontage along its tributaries. The tidal marsh estuary ecosystem is crucial habitat for wading birds and waterfowl. Computer models predict that as sea levels rise the York River

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Great Works Regional Land Trust

Your local land trust in the communities of the Berwicks, Eliot, Ogunquit and Wells

www.gwrlt.org





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GREAT WORKS REGIONAL LAND TRUST is dedicated to the protection of the natural, historic, agricultural, scenic, and recreational resources within the Maine communities of Eliot, No. Berwick, So. Berwick, Berwick, Wells and Ogunquit. Great Works Regional Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible.

From the Executive Director



Welcome back to sunny weather and warmer temperatures – we made it, everyone! There are some exciting programs lined up, so be sure to check the calendar for updates. We look forward to connecting with you at several special events and along GWRLT's many established trails and conservation areas. The team has been hard at work making significant improvements in preparation for the summer season, with the goal of enhancing your experience on the trails as well as on our website. There will be no shortage of volunteer opportunities this year, both for events and physical trail work.

It is exciting to progress on our Strategic Plan as we prepare for GWRLT's 40th Anniversary and work toward 2030 goals. A big thank you to everyone who has shared valuable feedback through the member survey, workshops, and annual meeting. Growing membership and creating stronger connections within our community is a priority.

Are you interested in taking on a more prominent role? We're particularly interested in identifying existing GWRLT members who would like to take on ambassador and leadership roles in each of our six towns to help connect with volunteers, new members and local organizations. Additionally, we aim to expand GWRLT's volunteer network to support other organizations and promote a holistic approach to community-based volunteering.

The growing Great Works Regional Land Trust team is doing incredible work. The staff are dedicated, talented, and resourceful individuals who continually demonstrate their commitment to conservation and to the mission. In these pages, you will be introduced to Katherine Derby, our newest staff member. I also want to express gratitude to our outstanding Board of Directors. New board members Paul Schumacher and Jeanette Greenlaw were elected at the annual meeting in April. This year we are on track to more than quadruple the amount of land conserved by GWRLT in 2024. We're ready to face the challenges that lie ahead as well as celebrate the progress we've made along the way.

Jordan Kelley

BonAire!
at Beach Plum Farm

Artisan & Craft Fair / Raptor Program

Join us **Saturday, June 14, 10AM-4PM** for a day of creativity, community, and coastal charm at the **Artisan & Craft Fair and Raptor Program** at beautiful Beach Plum Farm in Ogunquit!

- One-of-a-kind artisan goods
- View our gardeners' flower and vegetable gardens
- 1PM- 2PM and 2PM-3PM: **Educational information & Raptor Program by the Center for Wildlife**
- Refreshments from **Tin-Can Mobile Bar**

Family-friendly vibes and a touch of Ogunquit magic – part of the Ogunquit Chamber of Commerce BonAire! event celebrating Ogunquit.

Bring your friends, bring your family, and spend the day soaking in the natural beauty and creative spirit of southern Maine.

Admission is free. Rain or shine—we'll be there, and we hope you will too!

Kashmer Farm in Eliot Conserved ...continued from page 1

Marsh will migrate onto the Kashmers' property. Due to this expectation, MCHT partnered with GWRLT to protect the upland habitat and tidal marsh along the York River to ensure this climate resilient ecosystem is protected in perpetuity as it naturally migrates. MCHT prioritizes the protection of tidal marshes through *"The Marshes for Tomorrow Initiative"*, an effort to preserve tidal marshes along Maine's coast. Protecting such ecosystems, which are habitat to a wide range of plants and animals, resilient to coastal storms, and effective at storing carbon, is of great importance.

Protection of the forest along the York River protects water quality via an ecological buffer between the river and agricultural lands and also perpetuates the protected property as a sustainable working forest. Chris Schorn, Southern Maine Project Manager for MCHT, shares that ***"Maine Coast Heritage Trust is honored to have been able to support this meaningful project. In addition to supporting our coast's working landscapes and livelihoods, the conservation of Kashmer Farm will allow for the continued existence and health of the York River's vital and dynamic salt marshes. My dearly departed predecessor, Keith Fletcher, was deeply passionate about this project, and would be delighted and proud to see this success if he could be here today."*** MCHT provided funding to support the acquisition of the Conservation Easement with a grant from the 1772 Foundation which supports sustainable regional food systems through the protection of critical farmland within 100 miles of Boston.

Maine Farmland Trust (MFT), recognized the property's significant and prime soils and provided funding toward the conservation of this productive agricultural land in Maine. ***"Maine Farmland Trust is thrilled about the protection of the Kashmer Farm. It is a great story of collaboration between the Kashmer family and multiple conservation partners to achieve protection of this historic farm with important agricultural values in close proximity to dense population centers,"*** says Chris Cabot, Co-Director of Farmland Protection at Maine Farmland Trust. The York River Stewardship Committee provided additional funding for acquisition and associated costs through the National Parks Service under CFDA:15.962 National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

After eight years, this project has survived a lot: a pandemic, rising land prices, and increasing development pressure. Thanks to the determination of Larry and Nancy Kashmer to protect their farm, and to the strong partnerships among GWRLT, MFT, and MCHT, Kashmer Farm is now protected for generations to come. Great Works Regional Land Trust project manager Tin Smith recognizes Keith Fletcher's commitment to this project, ***"Keith found the funding and worked steadfastly over the years to keep it on track no matter what came up. It was important to him to finish and though he couldn't, it is thanks to his dedication that we have."*** Thank you to Keith Fletcher for his years of effort on making this meaningful outcome a possibility, and for his role conserving land throughout Southern Maine, a legacy that will not go unnoticed. – Dylan Hertzberg

Closing: Larry and Nancy Kashmer (center) with (left to right): GWRLT Board member Tin Smith, Land Protection Coordinator Dylan Hertzberg, Executive Director Jordan Kelley, and Stewardship Director Jill Crosbie.

Kashmer Farm is within the Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea (MtA2C) Conservation Initiative Focus Area. MtA2C is an eight-member coalition whose goal, set in 2002, is to conserve 19,000 acres within the focus area by 2035. The protection of Kashmer Farm adds 126-acres to the already conserved 15,632 acres.



YORK RIVER
WILD & SCENIC



Maine Coast
Heritage Trust

The Regional Geologic Framework of the GWRLT



I suspect that if you are reading this you have enjoyed the scenic trails on the GWRLT properties. Perhaps you relish the quiet forest, the hilly terrain, the small ponds and creeks, and you have probably caught glimpses of the birds and animals that inhabit these areas. As a geologist, I am particularly drawn to the dramatic rock formations that make these preserves unique. From Balancing Rock and the gorge at Orris Falls to the tall ledges at Kenyon Hills, these rock formations are not only scenic but have a story to tell. This story covers hundreds of millions of years of earth history and includes Ice Age glaciers, colliding continents, and even volcanoes.

– Don Wason, Geologist and Educator

Left: Geologic map of a portion of southwestern Maine. Different colors represent the different rock units that make up the bedrock of the region. These different rock units are described in the text (from Hussey, Bothner, and Thompson, 2016).

The igneous rocks that have intruded these metasediments include the granitic rocks of the Webhannet Pluton (shown in various shades pink Dwg, etc. running from the southwest to the north), the granitic rocks of the Agamenticus Complex (several shades orange Tag, etc.), the dark colored gabbros of the Tatnic Complex (various shade of purple Ktbg, etc. and reddish-orange in the northern part). The youngest intrusive rocks are the gabbros of the Cape Neddick Complex Kcg, etc. shown in the southeast corner.

The rocks of southwestern Maine are a series of ancient metamorphosed sedimentary rocks that have been intruded by younger igneous rocks. These metasedimentary rocks have been radiometrically age-dated to between 409 and 432 million years old (MYO). The igneous rocks which intrude these older metamorphosed sediments range in age from 383 to 120 MYO.

The metasedimentary rocks include the metamorphosed sandstones and shales of the Eliot Formation (shown in lighter green and labeled SOe), the metamorphosed sandstones and shales of the Kittery Formation (darker green SOk) and the metamorphosed limestones and sandstones of the Berwick Formation (yellowish-green SOb). These rocks are thought to have been marine sediments that were deposited approximately 450 million years ago on the continental slope-rise of what is now the North American Continent prior to the assembly of the supercontinent known as Pangaea.

The events which occurred in the distant geologic past producing these rocks describe a world that is much different than today and span approximately 500 million years. The story starts with the ancient continents of Laurentia (a landmass including modern North America) and Gondwana (a landmass which included modern-day Africa) separated by an ocean, a predecessor of the Atlantic called the Iapetus Ocean. As the Iapetus Ocean gradually closed prior to the final continental collision that formed the supercontinent Pangaea, the eastern margin of Laurentia experienced several minor collisions (and resulting accretions) of small blocks of continental material. These blocks of continental material that became attached to Laurentia are seen in the rocks of the Taconic Mountains in eastern New York State and the rocks in eastern Vermont and western New Hampshire. Marine sediments (including sand, mud, and small amounts lime-rich material), originally derived from the erosion of the young mountains of the eastern margin of Laurentia were being transported onto the

continental shelf and over the edge of the slope rise into the deeper waters of the western Iapetus. These are the sediments that have turned into the Eliot, Kittery, and Berwick Formations that are seen in southwestern Maine today. The rocks of the Kittery Formation, in particular, are seen as the ledges at Tatnuck Woods.

Eventually, around 390 million years ago, the Iapetus Ocean closed as Gondwana collided with Laurentia forming the supercontinent Pangaea. This major collision created the Appalachian Mountains and exposed these marine sediments to extreme heat and pressure changing them into the metamorphic rocks that characterize New England's Atlantic Margin. At the same time, magma, which formed deep within the Earth's crust and upper mantle, rose through the crust and intruded into these metamorphic rocks. One of these crystallized magma bodies is called the Webhannet Pluton whose granites are seen in the rocks

of the southern part of Orris Falls and the ledges of Kenyon Hills.

Around 200 million years ago, Pangaea began to break apart. North America began to move slowly westward while Africa and Eurasia began to move eastward away from the Mid Atlantic Ridge at the center of the ever-widening Atlantic Ocean. The volcanic activity on the North American Continent related to this rifting continued for close to 100 million years and is seen in the igneous rocks of the Agamenticus Complex (239 MYO) the Tatnuck Complex (122 MYO) which include the gabbros seen in the northern parts of Orris Falls, and the Cape Neddick Complex (120 MYO). Although the rocks we see today are the cooled and crystallized magma chambers, there is evidence that these intrusions produced volcanoes, the remains of which have been mostly eroded away.

Southwestern Maine has been geologically quiet for the past 100 plus million years due to its position on the tectonically passive Atlantic Margin. The most recent landscape-shaping event in New England is the Ice Age. The ancient metamorphic and igneous rocks which form the foundations of the GWRLT properties that we enjoy today have been dramatically eroded by the cutting action of these vast sheets of ice that covered southwestern Maine as recently as 11,000 years ago. The erosion-resistant granites and quartz-rich metamorphic rocks are seen as hills and ridges, while the less resistant gabbro is only rarely seen as outcrops. The large beaver swamp which drains at Orris Falls is underlain by the heavily eroded gabbro of the Tatnuck Complex. The gabbro can be seen along the Big Bump Trail at Orris Falls Conservation Area.

The massive boulders, including Balancing Rock, seen at Orris Falls Conservation Area on the trail from the Emery's Bridge Road parking lot are called glacial erratics. These are rocks of various sizes that have been plucked from bedrock by a glacier and transported and eventually deposited as boulders perhaps many miles from where the rock originally formed. Many of these erratics have been partially buried by finer-grained glacial sediments and forest soils formed since the last glaciers retreated.

As you enjoy the trails of your favorite GWRLT properties, think about the amazing events that occurred here in the ancient geologic past. – Don Wason

References: Hussey, A.M., Bothner, W.A., and Thompson, P.J. 2016, Bedrock Geology of the Kittery 1:100,000 Quadrangle, Southwestern Maine and Southeastern New Hampshire. Maine Geological Survey Bulletin 45. Maine Geological Survey. 99p.



The ledges at Kenyon Hill Preserve are formed from the granites of the 383 MYO Webhannet Pluton. Balancing Rock at Orris Falls Conservation Area is a classic glacial erratic deposited by melting glaciers at the end of the last ice age.

Katherine Derby Joins Staff as Development and Outreach Coordinator

Katherine Derby, who likes to be known as just "Derby," comes to GWRLT in a part-time job as Development and Outreach Coordinator. As federal funding remains uncertain and an economic downturn is pending, securing critical funding for land conservation is more important than ever. "I'm happy to welcome Derby to the team!" says Executive Director Jordan Kelley. "We look forward to working with her to identify new partners and sponsors, grow our membership and fulfill the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan." Derby has already begun working on GWRLT's 40th Anniversary celebration in 2026.

Derby comes to GWRLT with extensive experience in outreach and marketing. She recently retired after five years at Lamprey Health Care as Marketing and Development Director. Prior to that she was at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) for twenty years in Communications and Client Services for the departments within Information Technology.

Growing up in Enosburg Falls, Vermont, where her family has lived for several generations, is an important part of her commitment to people and to the land. It was a typical agricultural community, self-sufficient, with dairy farms, big gardens, spring sugaring for maple syrup, and hay fields. Derby recently passed



on her share of the family land to her nephew so that her grandnieces and nephews "can have the same opportunities I did." She owns a cabin on nearby Lake Carmi in Franklin, Vermont, next to her brother, retaining her deep connection to the area.

Derby lives in Portsmouth with her black Lab, thirteen-year-old Kate the Great. She studied music education at the University of Vermont, transferred to New England College in Henniker, NH to complete a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. Later, she finished a Master of Science in Project Management at UNH (formerly Granite State College.)

Music continues to be a passion. She plays guitar and sings in The Woo Girls, an acoustic duo, performing covers at area events. And she loves to attend concerts, often far flung, and tries to work in a national park visit as part of the trip.

Asked how she came to this job at GWRLT, Derby shared that "I wanted to find a way to take all of what I know - and I've done lots of different things - and harness my experience for the biggest impact I can for a worthy nonprofit. And not long after I retired from Lamprey Health Care, this job popped up." We are fortunate to have her working with Great Works Regional Land Trust.

Kids' Corner: What's to Like About Lichens

Fun Facts About Lichens

Lichens are a team. Lichens are part fungus and part algae (and sometimes other things like bacteria). The fungus provides the housing and protection. The algae provides the food through photosynthesis...just like a plant!. Together they make a lichen.

Lichens are very sensitive to air pollution because they absorb most of the things they need from the air. On your next hike, count how many different lichens you can find. The more you find the healthier your air.

Lichens can be colorful. Have you ever seen an orange or yellow lichen? This color helps protect them from too much sun - sort of like lichen sunscreen. How many different-colored lichens can you find?

Lichens can live a long time. A map lichen in the Arctic is believed to be about 8,600 years old, one of the oldest organisms on Earth!

Lichens have been in space! Lichens were taken up in a spaceship and exposed to the vacuum of space for 14 days and survived!

- Susan H. Pike,

Biology teacher and Expedition Naturalist

Nature Challenge:

How many different lichens can you find?
Look in the woods-on trees, on the ground, on rocks.

The three main ways lichens grow are:



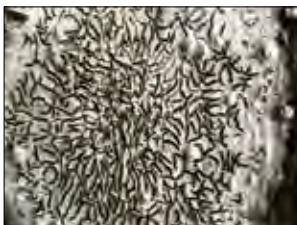
Like tiny trees...
these are called
fruticose

*Pixie cups - Grants Meadow
at Beaver Dam Heath*



Like leaves...these
are called **foliose**

*Rock Tripe - Bauneg Beg
Preserve*



**Like a thin coat of
paint...**these are
called **crustose**

*Button or script lichens -
Kenyon Hill Preserve*



FRUTICOSE ☐



FOLIOSE ☐



CRUSTOSE ☐

Graphics
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Léla A. Lee

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Want to volunteer?

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☐ Mailings

☐ Research

Committee Work:

☐ Development

☐ Membership

☐ Stewardship

Stewardship:

☐ Property maintenance

☐ Invasives removal

☐ Trail work

☐ Building maintenance

Special Events:

☐ Spring Auction (held in March)

☐ Cooking/baking for an event

☐ Annual Meeting

☐ Special Events

Outreach:

☐ Distribute newsletters, posters

☐ Give a talk to an organization

☐ Booth help at local festivals

☐ Write an article

☐ Photography

☐ Lead a hike

☐ I'd like to receive emails about volunteer opportunities.

☐ Please call me to discuss volunteering with GWRLT.

Great Works Regional Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

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Seasoned Mixed Hardwood

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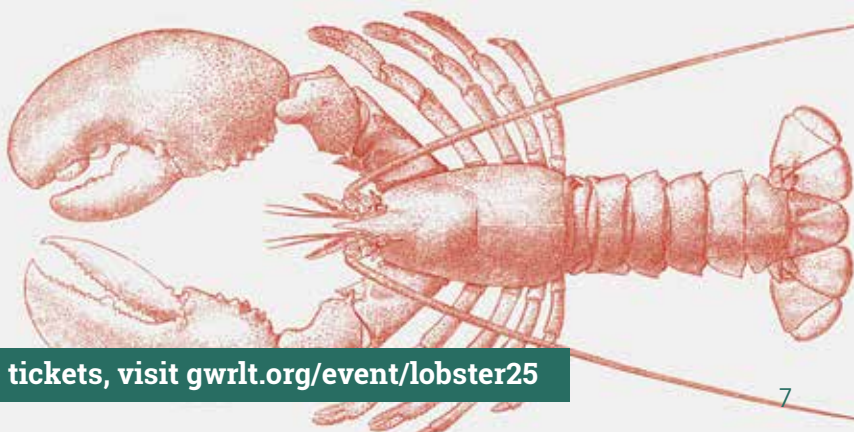
Reach out to a member of our Development team at (207) 646-3604 or info@gwrlt.org to discuss your legacy.

Lobster Dinner Raffle: Enter to Win a Lobster Dinner for 10!

The dinner will be served at Beach Plum Farm, late afternoon on Sunday, September 28th, 2025

Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25. Proceeds from ticket sales benefit our conservation efforts in the region.

The winning ticket will be drawn on August 29th!



For more info and to purchase tickets, visit gwrlt.org/event/lobster25



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Calendar

gwrlt.org



JULY 18TH, 2025
4 TO 8PM

BBQ

(for members and friends)

Beer & Wine provided

Lawn Games & Crafts

RSVP online at:
gwrlt.org/summerparty2025

- May 20** **Maine Calling w/ Cindy Han** | 11am to 12pm | Maine Public Radio
- May 24** **Walk into Punkintown History Hike w/ Brad Fletcher**
10am to 12pm | South Berwick
- June 7** **Stewardship Workday: National Trails Day at Douglas Memorial Woods**
9am to 12pm | Eliot
- June 7** **Walk into History at Desrochers Memorial Forest w/ Brad Fletcher**
10am to 12pm | South Berwick
- June 14** **BonAire! at Beach Plum Farm** | 10am to 4pm | Beach Plum Farm, Ogunquit (see pg 2)
- June 21** **Mushroom ID Hike w/ North Spore**
10am to 12pm | Old Boston Preserve, Ogunquit (\$30 fee)
- June 28** **Strawberry Festival** | South Berwick
- July 18** **Summer Garden Party** | 4 to 8pm | Beach Plum Farm, Ogunquit
- Aug 2** **Bring Your Lawn Chairs to Sullivan Square** | 4 to 8pm | Berwick
- Aug 16** **Nature Journaling w/ Allison Donohue**
10am to 12pm | Beach Plum Farm, Ogunquit
- Sept 6** **Mill Field Festival** | North Berwick
- Sept 18** **2nd Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival** | 4 to 8pm | Wells High School
- Sept 27** **Eliot Festival Days**
- Sept 28** **Lobster Dinner for 10** | Purchase raffle tickets online at gwrlt.org/event/lobster25

All outdoor hikes and adventures are open and free to all.
However, we suggest a \$5 donation per person or \$10 donation
per family for non-members. Registration required.
Register at gwrlt.org/event today!

Scan the QR
code to sign
up for hikes.

