

**BASELINE DOCUMENTATION REPORT
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island**



**Prepared February 2011
by Carol Lynn Trocki
for Prudence Conservancy**

Author's Signature:

Date:

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Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

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**Acknowledgement of Condition Statement
Baseline Documentation Report
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island**

The Grantor and the Grantee hereby certify that this Baseline Documentation Report is an accurate representation of the property, described in Exhibit "A" of the Conservation Easement (hereinafter referred to as the "Premises"), at the time of the conveyance of the Conservation Easement. This Baseline Documentation Report contains the following: Cover Page; Table of Contents; Acknowledgement of Condition Statement; Background Information; Portsmouth Tax Assessor's Plat 76; Survey Plan; Location Map; Aerial Photo / Property Map; Landscape Context Map; USGS Topo Map; Soil Survey Map; Photo Point Map; Photo Point Description Sheet; and Photographs.

The Grantor further certifies that to the best of the Grantor's knowledge, there are no structures or improvements on the Premises other than as described in this Baseline Documentation Report, and no activities are conducted on the Premises which are inconsistent with the terms contained in the Conservation Easement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Baseline Documentation Report this _____ day of _____ 2011.

WITNESS:

GRANTOR:
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS,
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT

By: _____

Its: _____

Address: 235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

WITNESS:

GRANTEE:
PRUDENCE CONSERVANCY

By: _____

Its: _____

Address: P.O. Box 115
Prudence Island, RI 02872

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY OF NEWPORT

In _____, on this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2011,
then personally appeared _____, _____ of the
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, to me known and known by me to be the
party executing the foregoing instrument, and s/he acknowledged said instrument, by
him/her so executed, to be his/her free act and deed in his/her said capacity and the free
act and deed of said STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE
PLANTATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, before
me,

Notary Public
Printed Name: _____
My Commission Expires: _____

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
COUNTY OF NEWPORT

In _____, on this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2011,
then personally appeared _____, _____ of the
PRUDENCE CONSERVANCY, to me known and known by me to be the party
executing the foregoing instrument, and s/he acknowledged said instrument, by him/her
so executed, to be his/her free act and deed in his/her said capacity and the free act and
deed of said PRUDENCE CONSERVANCY, before me,

Notary Public
Printed Name: _____
My Commission Expires: _____

BASELINE DOCUMENTATION REPORT
Background Information
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

CURRENT LANDOWNER: State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,
Department of Environmental Management

LOCATION OF PROPERTY:

Street Address: Bay Avenue, Prudence Island

Municipality: Portsmouth

County: Newport

State: Rhode Island

Plat/Lot Information: Lot 6B of Portsmouth Tax Assessor's Plat 76 (Figure 1).

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

Acreage: 124.5 acres ± in area (Figure 2).

Conservation Restrictions: The Ballard property is owned in fee by the State of Rhode Island, Department of Environmental Management. The property was acquired in part with funds from a federal financial assistance award through NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) and contains a deed restriction specifying that the property will be managed for conservation purposes (see Executrix's Deed in the Portsmouth Land Evidence Records, Book 1390, Page 285).

The Premises are further protected by a Conservation Easement with the Prudence Conservancy (see Conservation Easement in the Portsmouth Land Evidence Records, Book 1390, Page 292), a charitable land trust dedicated to preserving the unique character and protecting the natural diversity and beauty of Prudence Island.

It is the purpose of the Conservation Easement 'to assure that the Premises will be retained forever in its open, natural, scenic, ecological, or educational condition and to prevent any use of the Premises that will significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the Premises. The Grantor intends that the Conservation Easement will confine the use of the Premises to a Conservation Area and such uses as are consistent with the purpose of this Conservation Easement and the Management Plan.'

The Conservation Easement grants the Prudence Conservancy the right to allow passive public recreation on the Premises and to clear, develop, and maintain walking trails as specified in the Management Plan.

Note: To the best of the author's knowledge, a Management Plan for the Premises does not yet exist (1/2011).

Land Use History: The Premises have a long history of cultivation going back to colonial settlement. A summary of the known history of the Premises, and descriptions of some of the remaining historical landmarks, is provided in Appendix 1.

Historic aerial photography provides spatially explicit records of more recent land use history. Early aerial photos from 1939 show more recent use as pastureland and more sand visible in the western portion of the Premises. The eastern portion of the Premises was still being actively farmed and many of the stone walls present on the Premises are visible. By 1951-2, vegetation has begun to re-grow where it is present as forest today; the eastern portion of the Premises contains mainly brushland indicating a recent release from agriculture. The forest composition visible today appears to have been quite stable since about 1972.

On March 5, 2009 Anne Ballard, as executrix of the estate of Eleanor Ballard, conveyed the Premises to the State of Rhode Island, Department of Environmental Management for conservation purposes. The Prudence Conservancy was granted a Conservation Easement over the Premises on July 28, 2009.

Current & Proposed Future Land Uses: Currently, the Premises exist in an undeveloped state, consisting of upland deciduous, mixed, and coniferous forest. Walking trails are present throughout the Premises and several unpaved roads exist. The conservation values inherent to the Premises will be protected in perpetuity by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and the Prudence Conservancy. The Conservation Easement specifically allows public access for passive recreational use and educational purposes.

Conservation Values:

The Premises are located on Bay Avenue on Prudence Island in Portsmouth, Rhode Island (Figure 3). The Premises consist of primarily forested habitat and stretch from the shoreline of the West Passage of Narragansett Bay to just west of Narragansett Ave. along the island's eastern shore (Figures 3 and 4). To the north and south, the area surrounding the Premises is also mainly forest, with the exception of a single homestead and associated agricultural land to the north, and areas of medium-density residential development along the eastern and northeastern boundaries.

Approximately 3,033 acres of conservation land exist on Prudence Island, including: 1,984 additional acres owned in fee by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), 269 acres owned in fee by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, 215 acres owned in fee by the Prudence Conservancy, 544 additional acres protected under a Conservation Easement by the Prudence Conservancy, 19 acres owned

in fee by The Nature Conservancy, and 2 acres owned in fee by the Town of Portsmouth (Figure 5).³

Topography

The Premises reach an elevation of approximately 150' above sea level at the highest point in the eastern portion of the property. The ground slopes to a perennial stream which bisects the property down the center of the island, and slopes from high points on either side of the stream to the island's shores. The steepest slopes occur along the western shore of the island (Figure 6).

Soils

According to the Rhode Island Soil Survey, the Premises are mapped as containing seven distinct soil types: Beaches (BA; 0.9 acres), Deerfield loamy fine sand (Dc; 6.8 acres), Mansfield mucky silt loam (Ma, 3.2 acres), Newport silt loam 3-8% slopes (NeB, 39.2 acres), Newport silt loam 8-15% slopes (NeC, 11.0 acres), Poquonock loamy fine sand 0-3% slopes (PsA, 27.7 acres) and Poquonock loamy fine sand 8-15% slopes (PsB, 36.6 acres)(Figure 7).⁴

Beaches are nearly level to gently sloping areas immediately along the shore which consist of sand, gravel, or cobble substrate. The western shore of the Premises contains a small amount of beach. These areas are suitable for many kinds of recreation.

Deerfield loamy fine sand is a nearly level, well-drained soil found in low-lying areas of outwash plains and terraces. This soil has a seasonal high water table of about 20" from late fall through mid-spring. Permeability is rapid to very rapid, available water capacity is low, and runoff is slow. This soil is very strongly acid through slightly acid and most areas are cleared and used for farming or openland wildlife habitat. This soil is suited for trees and cultivated crops and is recognized as a Soil of Statewide Importance for Agriculture.⁵

Mansfield mucky silt loam is a nearly level, very poorly drained soil that is extremely through medium acid. This soil has a seasonal high water table at or near the surface from late fall through mid-summer. Permeability is moderate to slow or very slow, available water capacity is moderate, and runoff is slow. This soil is unsuitable for most uses except as wetland wildlife habitat.

Newport silt loam soils are well drained soils of very strong to medium acidity with moderate permeability in the surface layer and slow or very slow permeability in the substratum. Available water capacity is moderate and runoff is medium through rapid, depending on slope. Newport silt loam soils are suitable for community development and are aptly suited to cultivated crops, pasture, trees, and wildlife habitat, although NeC

³ Rhode Island Geographic Information Systems, RIDEM Conservation Lands Datalayer, 4/2010.

⁴ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

⁵ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

soils may be constrained by steep slopes and erosion hazards. Newport silt loam soil of 3-8% slope (NeB) is classified as a Prime Farmland Soils in the State of Rhode Island.⁶ Newport silt loam soil of 8-15% slopes (NeC) is classified as a Soil of Statewide Importance for Agriculture.⁷

Poquonock loamy fine sand soils are well drained to somewhat excessively drained soils of very strong to medium acidity with rapid permeability in the surface layer and slow or very slow permeability in the substratum. Available water capacity is low and runoff is slow to medium, depending on slope. Poquonock soils are suitable for community development and farming, but are prone to periods of draught. These soils are also suited to woodland and openland wildlife habitat. Both PsA and PsB soils are classified as a Prime Farmland Soils in the State of Rhode Island.⁸

Agricultural Resources

The Premises were historically used for agricultural purposes (see Appendix 1) and contain both Prime Farmland Soils (approximately 104 acres, 83% of the Premises) and Soils of Statewide Importance for Agriculture (approximately 18 acres, 14% of the Premises). Limited farming currently exists on Prudence Island, but one active agricultural operation continues immediately north of the Premises.

Water Resources

The Premises are located entirely within the Narragansett Bay drainage basin.⁹ The western portion of the Premises drains to the Upper West Passage, while the eastern portion drains to the Upper East Passage of Narragansett Bay.

A narrow band of shoreline (approximately 1,000 feet) runs along the western edge of the Premises and would best be classified as marine intertidal unconsolidated shoreline. Adjacent waters on the Upper West Passage of Narragansett Bay are designated as Type 1 waters by the Rhode Island Coastal Management Council, indicating conservation uses only.¹⁰

The Premises contain limited freshwater wetlands. A single perennial stream, Mill Creek, bisects the property at its center and drains south into Schoolhouse Swamp (Figure 6). Water quality in Mill Creek is designated as Class A, indicating that these waters are designated for primary and secondary contact recreational activities and for fish and wildlife habitat; are suitable for compatible industrial processes and cooling, hydropower, aquacultural uses, navigation, irrigation and other agricultural uses; and have excellent aesthetic value.¹¹ A narrow band of freshwater wetland skirts this stream corridor. A second streambed was located in the far southeast of the property, but was dry at the time of the site visit (9/24/2010) and appears to be only intermittent in character.

⁶ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

⁷ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

⁸ Rhode Island Soil Survey, United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, 1981.

⁹ USDA-NRCS HUC 12 Drainage Basins for Rhode Island datalayer, 2003 (from RIGIS).

¹⁰ RICRMC Coastal Water Type Use datalayer, 4/2008 (from RIGIS).

¹¹ RIDEM, RI Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, 2008. (from RIGIS)

Portions of the Premises fall within a Community Wellhead Protection Area, and the entire Premises is rated with a GA or GAA designation, indicating known or presumed suitability for drinking water use without treatment.^{12, 13}

Wildlife Habitat/Conservation Resources

The Premises contain predominantly forested habitats comprised of mixed oak and maple deciduous forest and pitch pine barrens. The Premises also contain marine intertidal rocky shore along the western edge, a perennial stream corridor with a band of associated red maple swamp running through the center of the Premises, and several patches of field habitat maintained through mowing. A single site visit to the Premises was conducted on September 24, 2010. During this site visit the following species were observed:

FAUNA

Birds

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchus*)
Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapilla*)
Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*)
Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

Mammals (detected by sign)

White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

FLORA

*(species in bold are considered to be ‘widespread and invasive’ by the Rhode Island Invasive Species Council)*¹⁴

Apple (*Pyrus malus*)
Asiatic Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
Beach Pea (*Lathyrus maritimus*)
Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*)
Black Swallowwort (*Cynanchum nigrum*)
Blackberry (*Rubus* species)
Bracken Fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*)
Butter-and-Eggs (*Linaria vulgaris*)
Cardinal-flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
Common Alder (*Alnus serrulata*)
Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
Common St John’s Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
English Oak (*Quercus robur*)

¹² Community Wellhead Protection Areas datalayer, RIDEM, 2010 (from RIGIS).

¹³ Groundwater Quality Standard, RIDEM, 2010 (from RIGIS).

¹⁴ Rhode Island Invasive Species Council, List of Invasive Plants, 2005.

Goldenrods (*Solidago* species)
 Bullbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*)
 Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)
 Ironwood (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
 Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)
Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)
 Knapweed (*Centaurea* spp.)
 Lowbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)
 Marsh Fern (*Thelypteris palustris*)
 Mixed Grasses (Family *Graminae*)
 Mulberry (*Morus* spp.)
Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
 New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)
 Northern Bayberry (*Morella pensylvanica*)
 Pasture Rose (*Rosa virginiana*)
 Pear (*Pyrus* spp.)
 Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*)
 Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*)
 Pussy Willow (*Salix discolor*)
 Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)
 Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)
 Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*)
 Sedge Species (*Carex* spp.)
 Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
 Smooth Cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*)
 Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*)
 Sweet Pepper Bush (*Clethra alnifolia*)
 Violets (*Viola* spp.)
 Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
 White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
 Wild Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
 Wild Grape (*Vitis* spp.)
 Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)

Only a single site visit was conducted on the Premises, therefore there is a limited likelihood that uncommon species or species present or visible during other portions of the year could be detected. The species list above represents those species detected during this visit, but should not be viewed as a complete inventory for the property.

Abundant white-tailed deer sign was noted. The vegetative communities present on the Premises have been significantly altered by an overabundant white-tailed deer population: understory vegetation is almost non-existent, biodiversity is limited, and species composition is dominated by non-native and deer-resistant plants (i.e. bullbrier).

Scenic, Historic, Educational, and Recreational Resources

The Premises lie within a state-designated greenway and within the South Prudence Scenic Area.^{15 16} The Premises contain approximately 1,000 feet of frontage on the Upper West Passage of Narragansett Bay and also along Bay Ave, a private but publicly accessible, unpaved roadway. Abundant publicly accessible walking trails are present on the Premises and provide significant recreational opportunities. The Conservation Easement with the Prudence Conservancy specifically allows for public access for walking and educational purposes. Bow hunting is permitted on the Premises by permit only.

The Premises contain significant historical resources including historic house foundations, extensive stone walls, several 18th and 19th century dump sites, and a shell midden (see Appendix 1 for more information). In 2004 the Town of Portsmouth enacted a Stone Wall Preservation and Protection Ordinance (#2004-10-12B) that recognizes the public value of historic stone walls for their aesthetic and cultural merit and their contribution to the town's rural character.

Human Made Features:

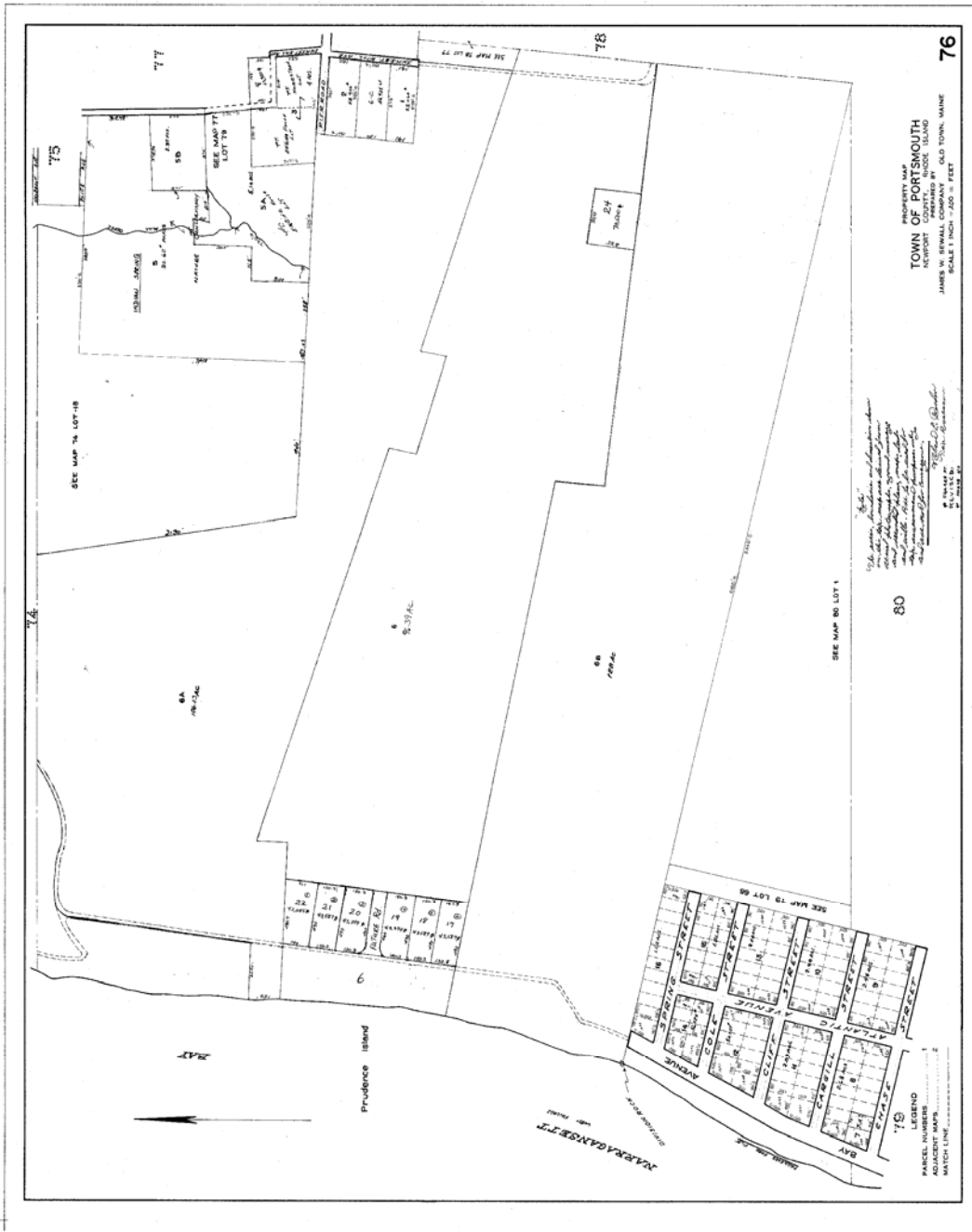
Human-made features noted on the Premises include extensive stone walls and historic fencing, two wooden picnic tables (located in the southwestern portion at Division Rock and Sunset Trail; see photo #3), approximately five 6" x 24" carved wooden trail signs marking various walking trails, a large RIDEM entrance sign (see photo #7), and several wooden tree stands (see photo # 8). An abandoned vehicle of significant age was also observed near photo station #28 (digital photo only; see below). Historic house foundations were not observed during the site visit on 9/24/2010, but are recorded existing on the Premises (see Appendix 1).

¹⁵ Greenways datalayer, RIDEM, 1989 (from RIGIS)

¹⁶ Scenic Area Datalayer, RIDEM, 1989 (from RIGIS)



Figure 1.
Portsmouth Tax Assessor's Plat 76
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island



**Figure 2.
Survey Plan
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island**



Figure 3.
Location Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

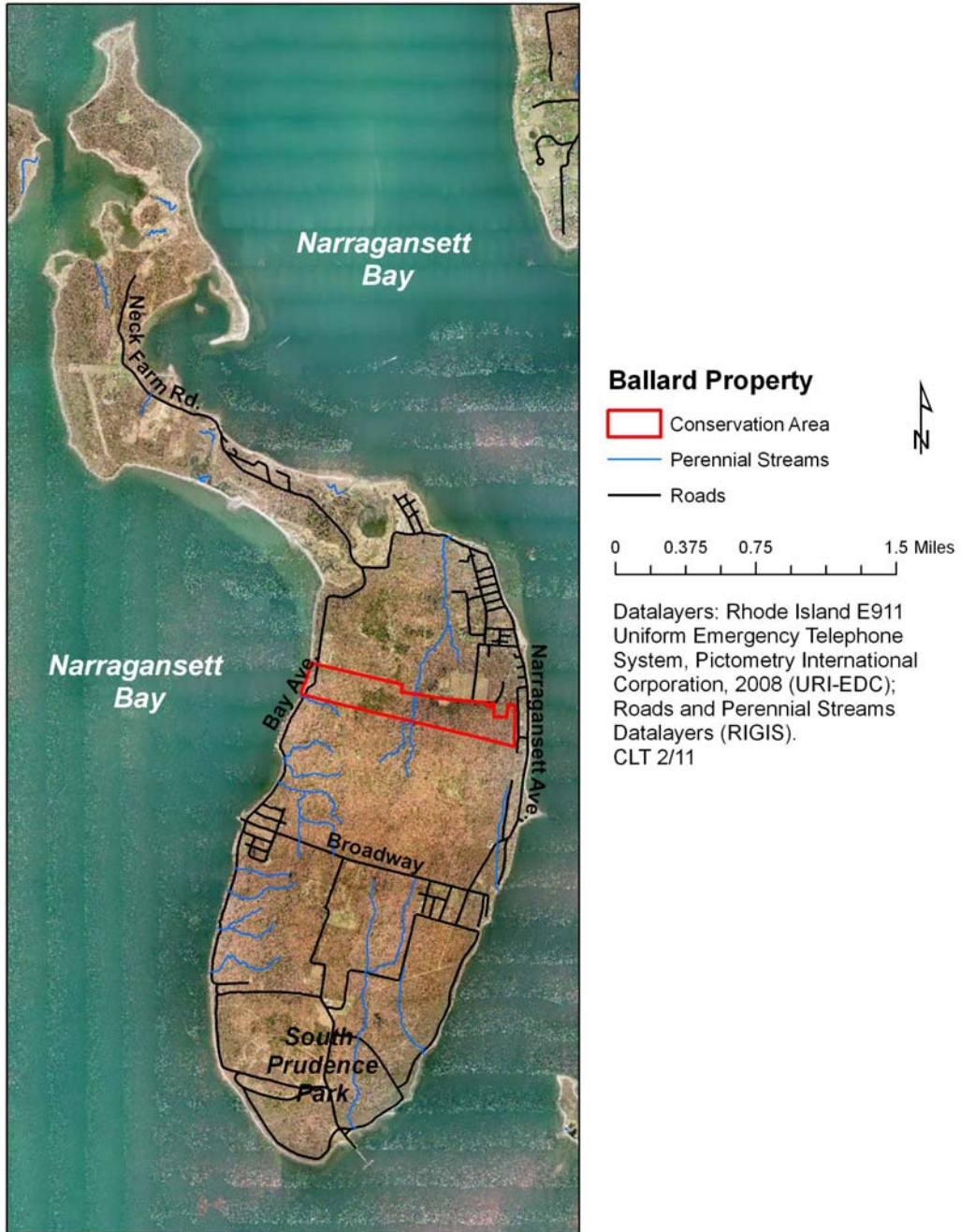
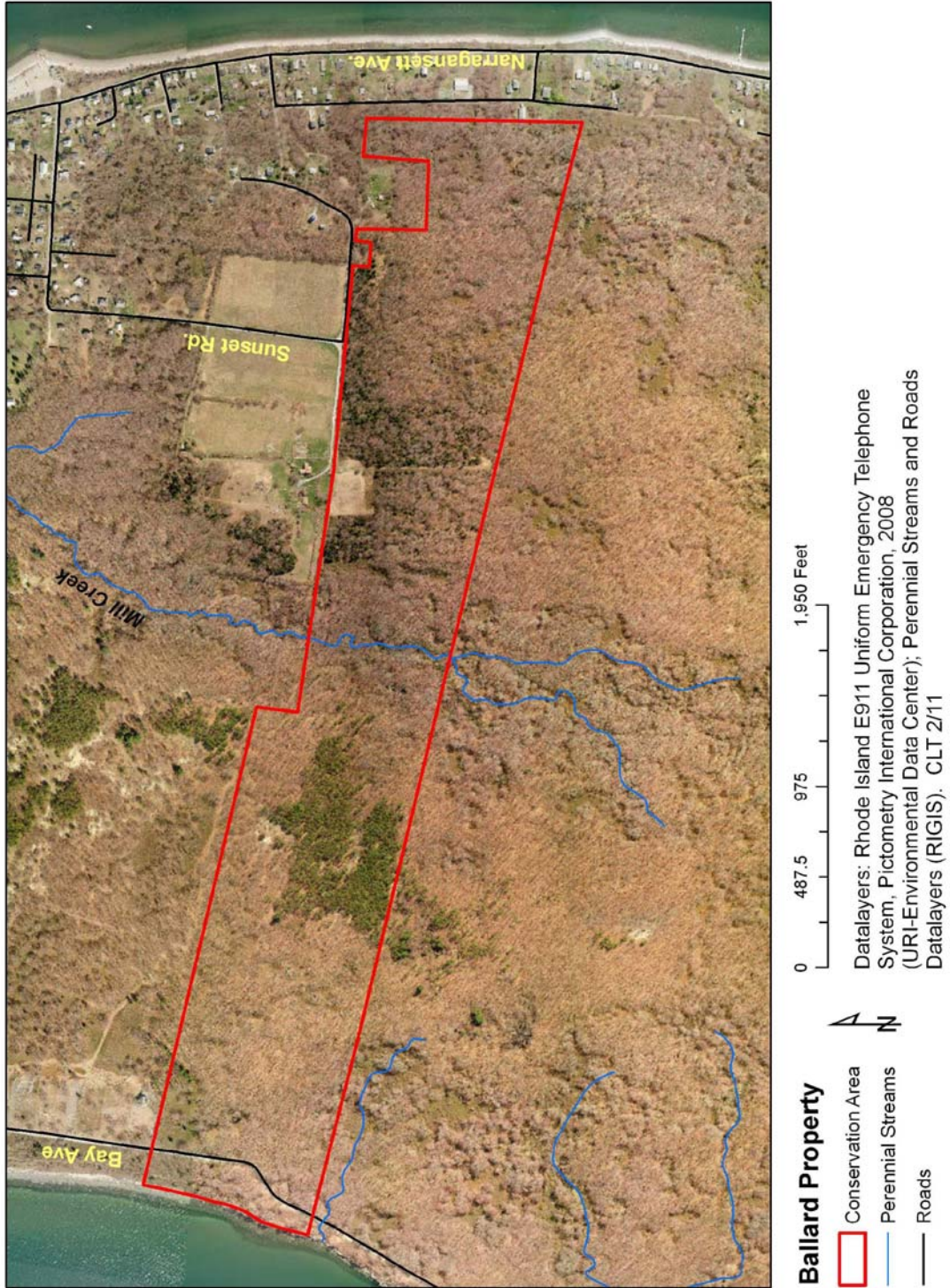


Figure 4.
Aerial Photo / Property Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island



**Figure 5.
Landscape Context Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island**

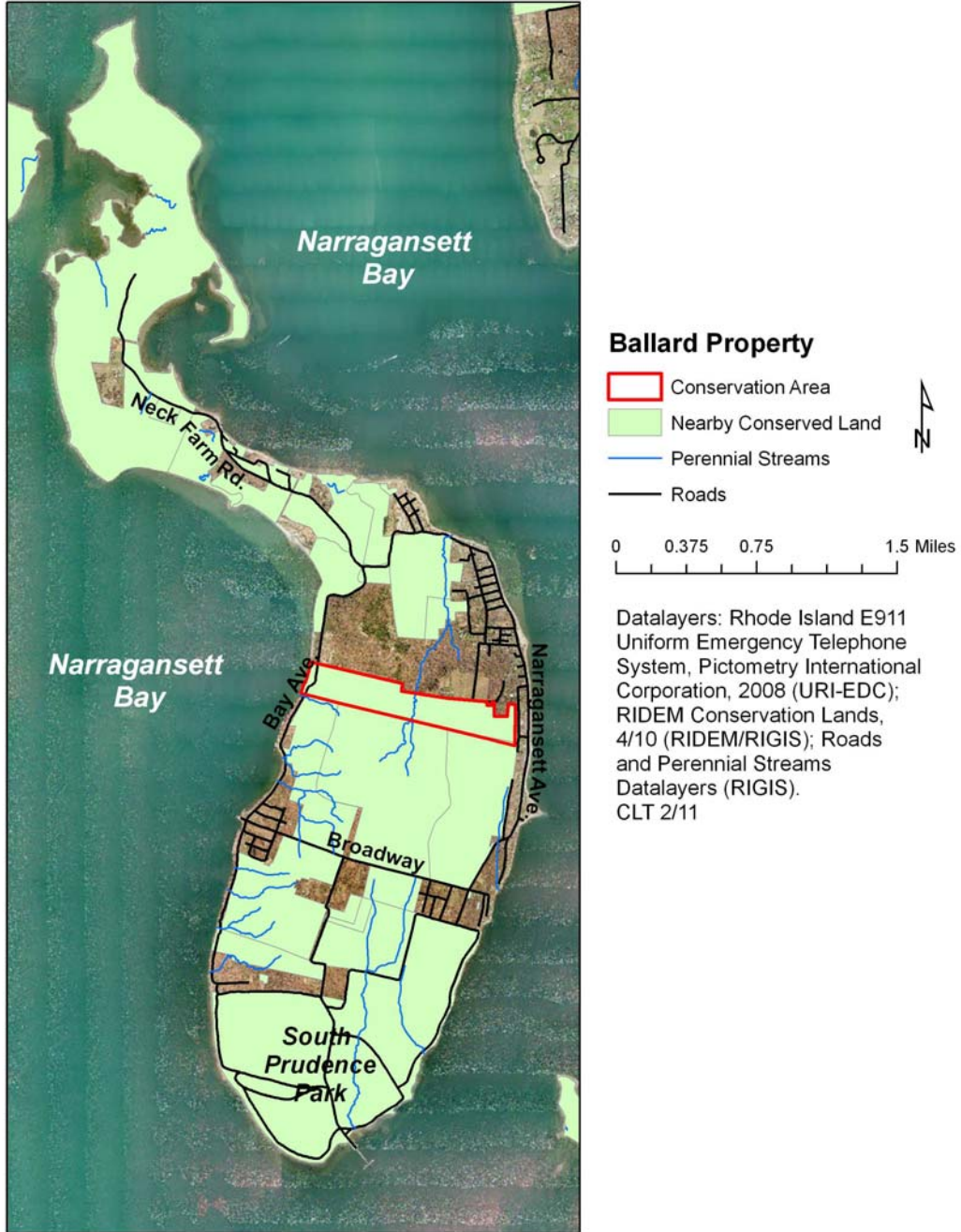
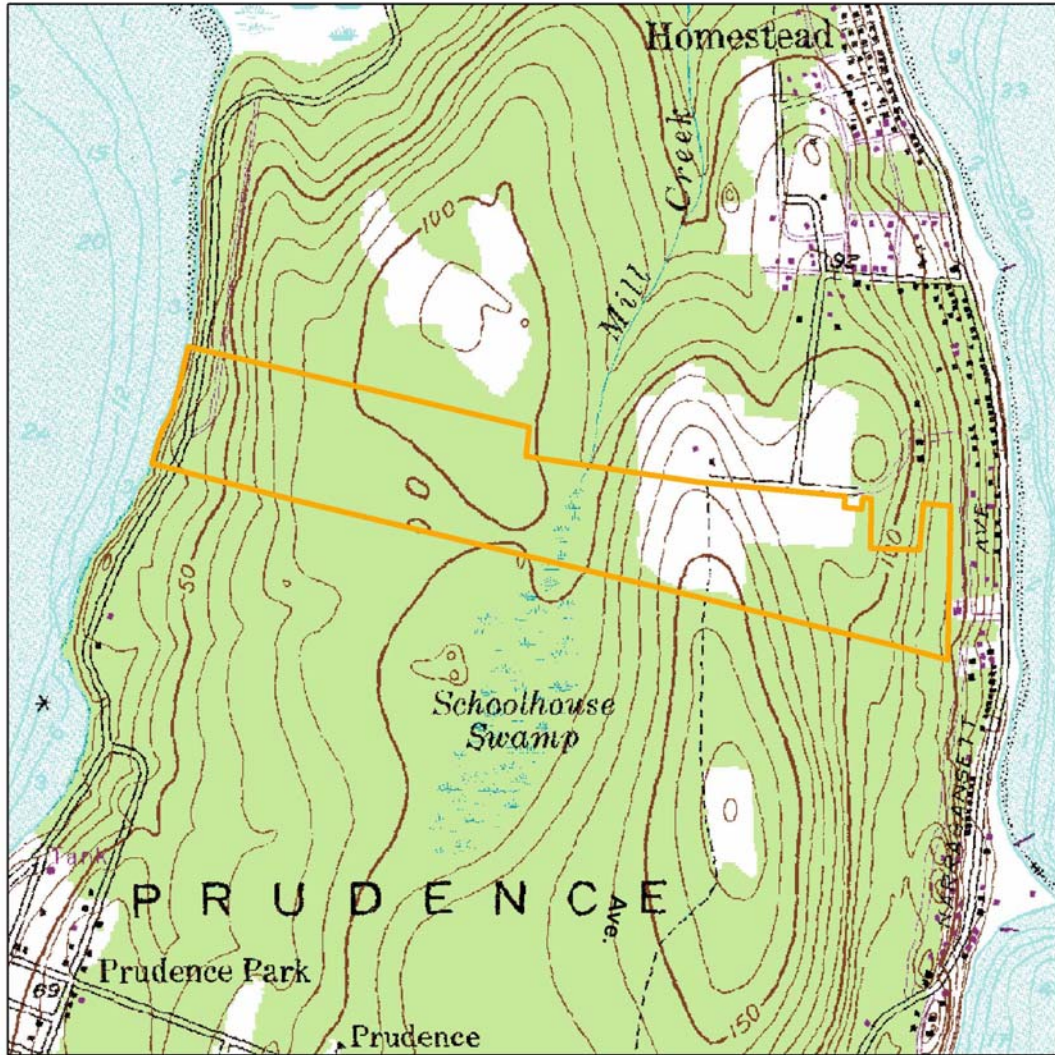


Figure 6.
USGS Topo Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island



Ballard Property
Conservation Area



0 0.15 0.3 0.6 Miles

Datalayers: USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic
Quadrangle, Prudence Quad (RIGIS).
CLT 2/11

Figure 7.
Soil Survey Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

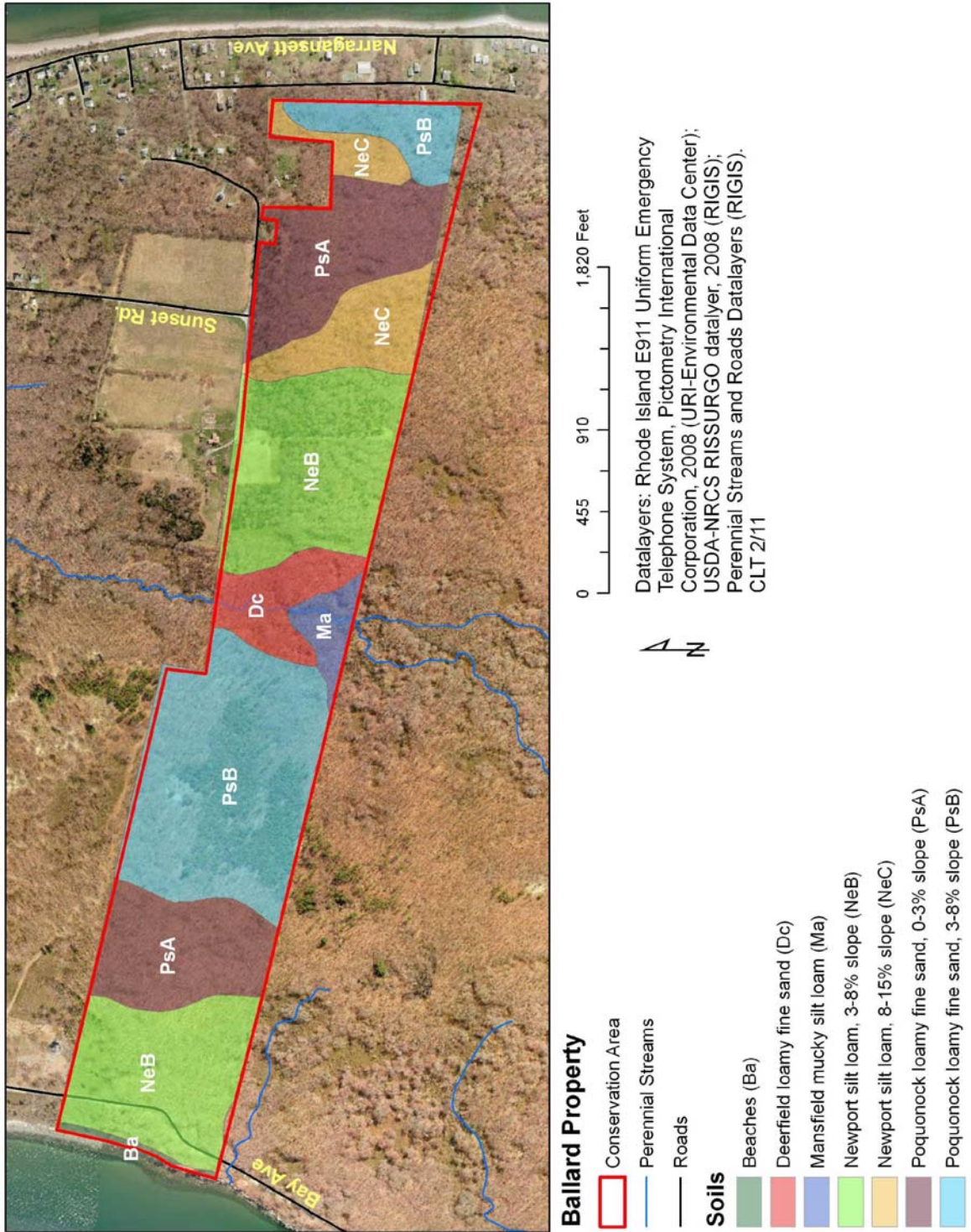


Figure 8.
Photo Point Location Map
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

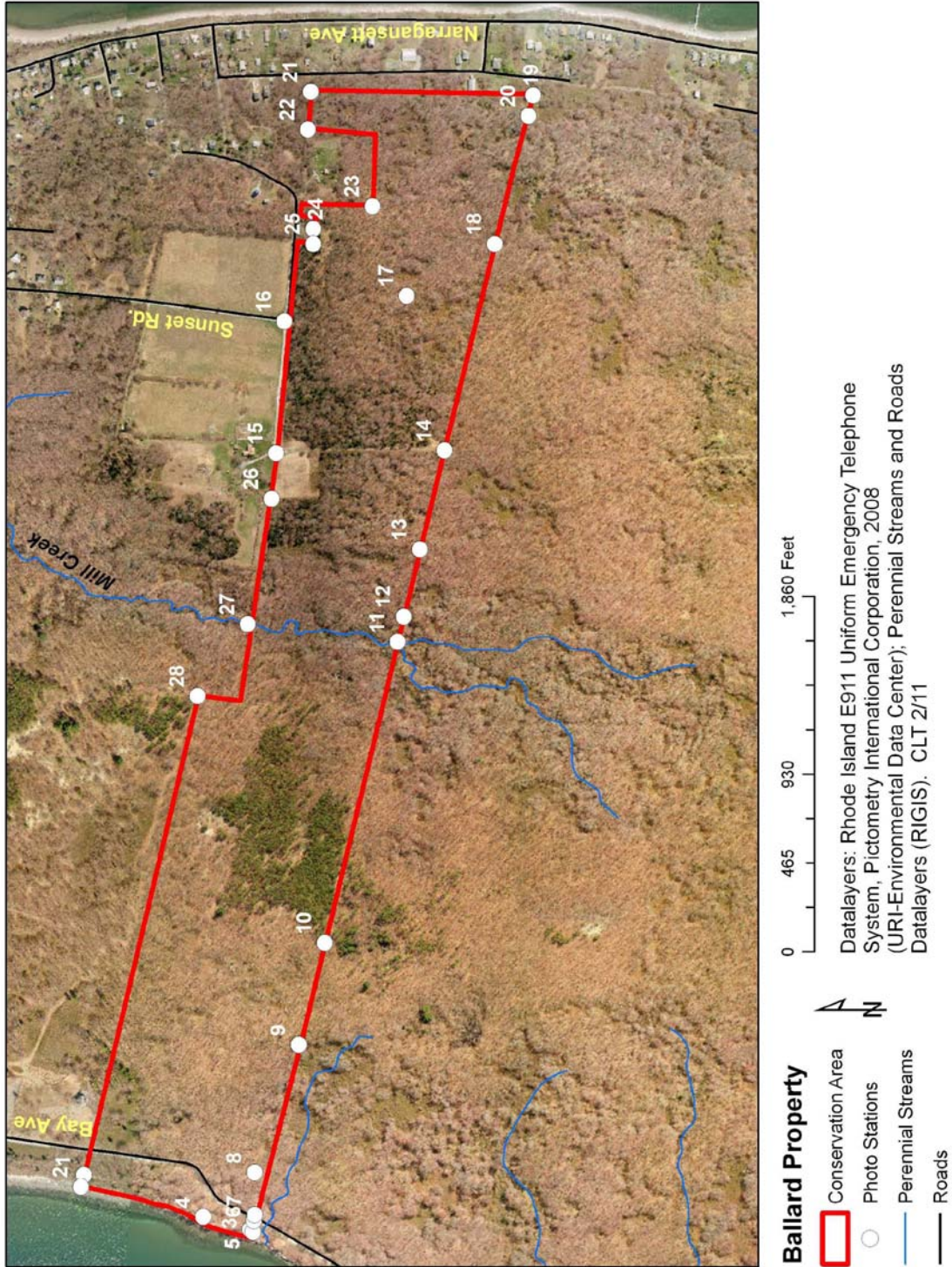


Photo Point Description Sheet
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

Photo No.	Photo Description
1	Looking south along the trail running down the western edge of the Premises.
2A	Looking ESE along the northern boundary of the Premises from the northwest corner.
2B	Looking SSW along the western boundary of the Premises, along the shoreline, from the northwest corner.
3	Approximate location of picnic table along trail.
4A	Looking ESE along stone wall intersecting trail.
4B	Looking WNW towards shoreline.
5A	Looking ESE along stone wall running along the southern boundary of the Premises.
5B	Looking WNW towards shoreline.
6	Looking NNE onto unpaved road running along the western portion of the Premises.
7	Sign posted at entrance to trail running along the southern boundary of the Premises.
8	Tree stand located in deciduous forest in the western portion of the Premises (location approximate).
9A	Looking north along a stone wall running through the Premises.
9B	Looking ESE along the southern boundary of the Premises.
10	Looking NE in coniferous forest from the southern boundary of the Premises at the edge of the pine barrens.
11A	Looking NNE up Mill Creek where it intersects the southern boundary of the Premises.
11B	Looking WNW along the southern boundary of the Premises.
12A	Looking NNE into the Premises.
12B	Looking NW into the Premises towards the stream corridor.
13	Looking NNW along a stone wall intersecting the southern boundary of the Premises.
14	Looking NNW along an unpaved track running through the Premises.
15A	Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises.
15B	Looking S along the unpaved track running through the Premises.
15C	Looking E along the northern boundary of the Premises.
16	Looking S into the Premises where a trail enters from the northern boundary.
17	Deciduous forest characteristic of the eastern portion of the Premises (location approximate).
18A	Looking N into the Premises from a stone wall intersection on the southern boundary.
18B	Looking ESE along the southern boundary of the Premises.

18C	Looking WNW along the southern boundary of the Premises.
19	Looking N along the western boundary of the Premises from the southeast corner.
20	Looking N into the Premises along a dry streambed.
21A	Looking S along the eastern boundary of the Premises from the northeast corner.
21B	Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises from the northeast corner.
22	Looking S along the boundary of the Premises.
23A	Looking N along the boundary of the Premises.
23B	Looking W into the Premises.
24	Looking S into the Premises.
25	Looking S into the Premises.
26	Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises.
27	Looking S down Mill Creek where it crosses the northern boundary of the Premises.
28	Looking SSW into the Premises at a stone wall intersection.

**Photographs
Ballard Property
Prudence Island, Portsmouth, Rhode Island**

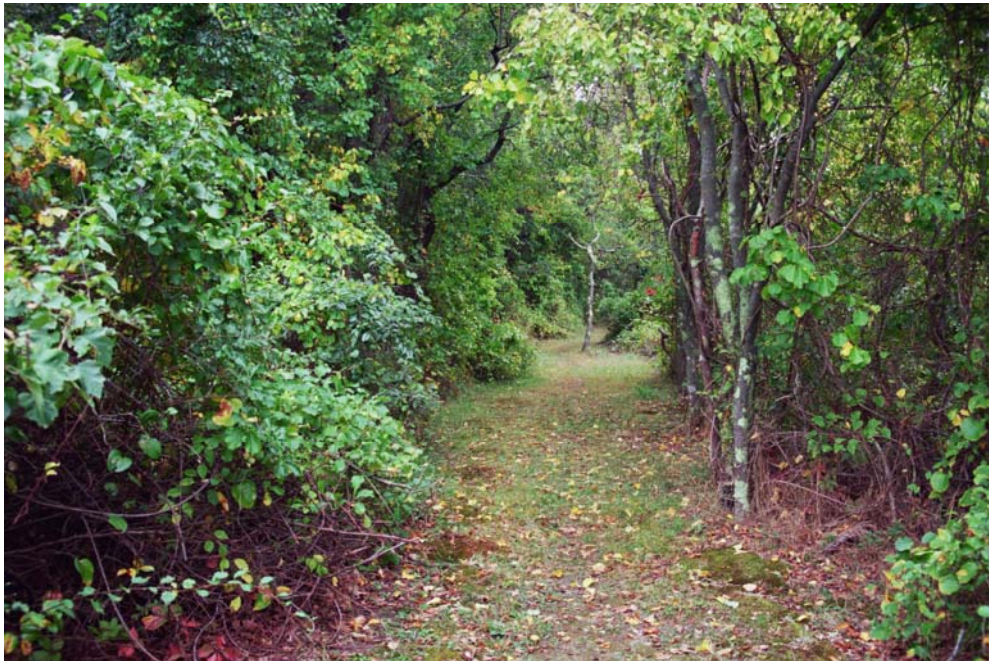


Photo 1

Looking south along the trail running down the western edge of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 2A

Looking ESE along the northern boundary of the Premises from the northwest corner.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 2B

Looking SSW along the western boundary of the Premises,
along the shoreline, from the northwest corner.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 3

Approximate location of picnic table along trail.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010

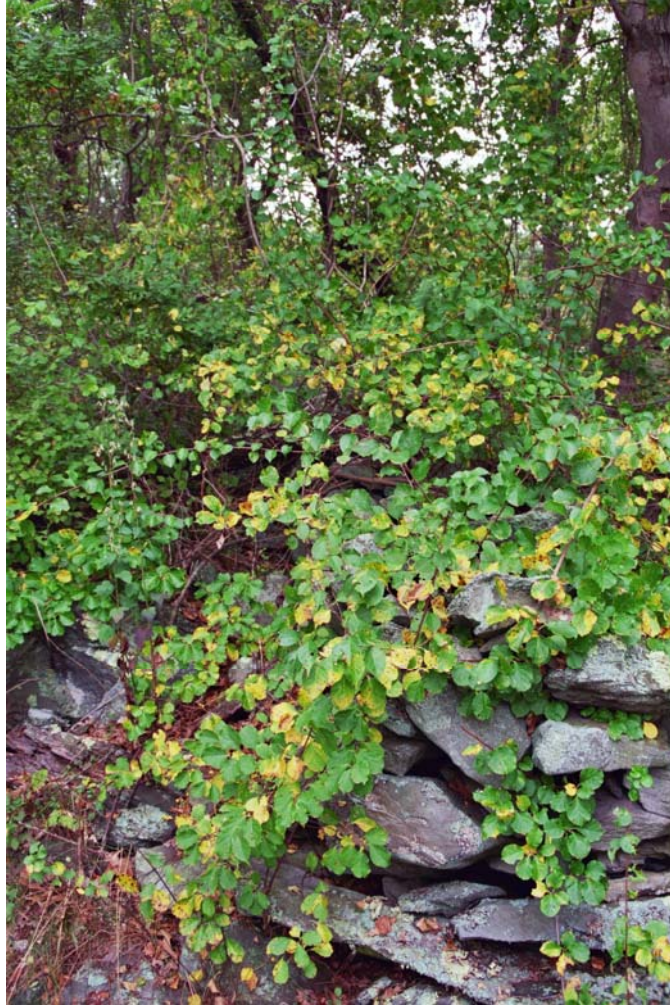


Photo 4A

Looking ESE along stone wall intersecting trail.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 4B
Looking WNW towards shoreline.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 5A

Looking ESE along stone wall running along the southern boundary of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 5B

Looking WNW towards shoreline.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 6

Looking NNE onto unpaved road running along the western portion of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 7

Sign posted at entrance to trail running along the southern boundary of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 8

Tree stand located in deciduous forest in the western portion of the Premises (location approximate).

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 9A

Looking north along a stone wall running through the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 9B

Looking ESE along the southern boundary of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 10

Looking NE in coniferous forest from the southern boundary
of the Premises at the edge of the pine barrens.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 11A

Looking NNE up Mill Creek where it intersects the southern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 11B

Looking WNW along the southern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 12A

Looking NNE into the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 12B

Looking NW into the Premises towards the stream corridor.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 13

Looking NNW along a stone wall intersecting the southern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 14

Looking NNW along an unpaved track running through the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 15A

Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 15B

Looking S along the unpaved track running through the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 15C

Looking E along the northern boundary of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 16

Looking S into the Premises where a trail enters from the northern boundary.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 17

Deciduous forest characteristic of the eastern portion of the Premises (location approximate).

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 18A

Looking N into the Premises from a stone wall intersection on the southern boundary.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 18B

Looking ESE along the southern boundary of the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 18C

Looking WNW along the southern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 19

Looking N along the western boundary of the Premises from the southeast corner.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 20

Looking N into the Premises along a dry streambed.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 21A

Looking S along the eastern boundary of the Premises from the northeast corner.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010

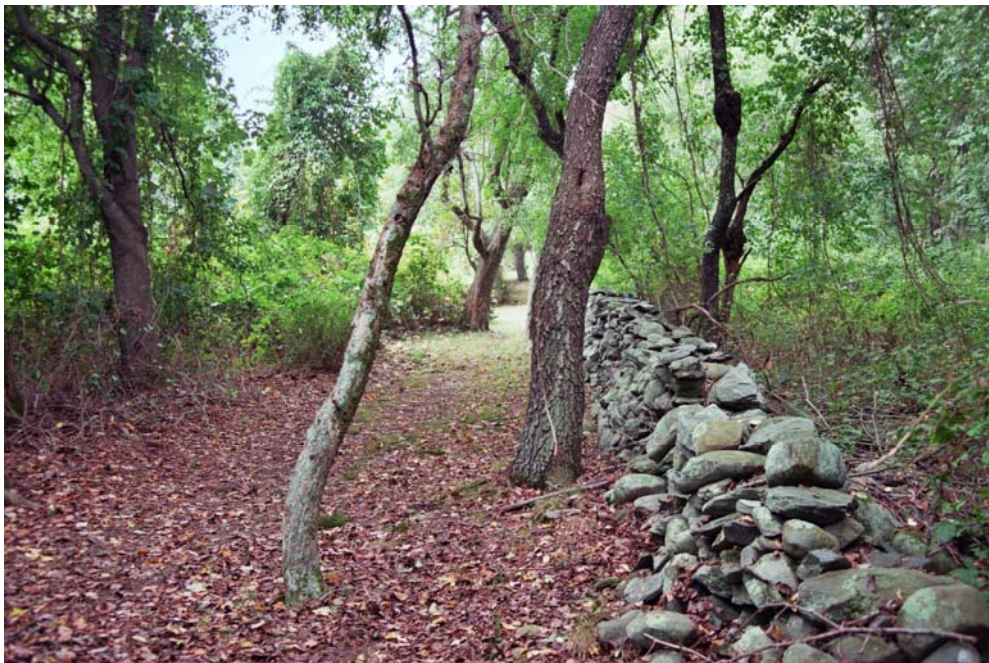


Photo 21B

Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises from the northeast corner.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 22

Looking S along the boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 23A

Looking N along the boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 23B

Looking W into the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 24
Looking S into the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 25
Looking S into the Premises.
Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki
9/24/2010



Photo 26

Looking WNW along the northern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 27

Looking S down Mill Creek where it crosses the northern boundary of the Premises.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010



Photo 28

Looking SSW into the Premises at a stone wall intersection.

Photographed by Carol Lynn Trocki

9/24/2010

Appendix 1.

History of the Ballard Property

Provided by Joe Bains

The history of the Ballard property is primarily that of farming, from the 1730s until the mid-twentieth century. Initially, members of the Allen Family farmed here. From the 1730s to the time of the American Revolution, it belonged to various members of the Allen family, particularly John Allen and his descendents. From the late 18th Century until the early 20th Century, this property was owned by John Brown and his descendents (Herreshoff family). During the Brown/Herreshoff ownership the property was occupied by tenant farmers, including some members of the Chase family, one of whom, Eugene Chase, purchased the farm of which the Ballard property was part.

During the second half of the 19th century, for a period of time part of the land was used for growing grass seed and also turf for golf courses. This resulted in some ecological consequences visible today, including many examples of wind erosion.

At one time the Ballard family property made up the southern third of the Eugene & Louise Chase Farm. After the deaths of Eugene (1960) and Louise (late 1960s) the farm was divided among their three children. Eleanor Chase Ballard, the oldest child, inherited the southern third of the farm.

Today, the Ballard land is undeveloped, but contains many sites of historic interest.

- At the western edge of the property, just north of Division Rock is the stone foundation of a 17th century dwelling, that of John Davis, referenced in the 1678 survey that divided the island between its two owners at the time.
- Approximately 400 yards to the east are the remains of two 18th century farms, owned at the time by members of the Allen family.
- Farther east, near the eastern edge of the Schoolhouse Swamp is the foundation of an old schoolhouse built about 1781, but later moved (about 1824) to a location on the Baker Farm. Halsey Chase mentions this school in his memoir of Prudence Island.
- Also found on the property are many old stone walls or fences, dating from the 17th - 19th centuries.
- The property also contains some old (18th & 19th century) dump sites and also an old shell midden

Sources:

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Maytum, Charles G., Land Evidence on Prudence Island, Undated (c. 1960s), Unpublished

Stachiw, Myron O. & Turner, Steven I., Preliminary Report On A Historic Survey of Prudence Island, 1980, Unpublished

Stachiw, Myron O., A Historic Sites Archaeological Survey of Prudence And Patience Islands, 1981, Unpublished

Yentsch, Anne E., Excavation at an Allen Family Farm Site on Prudence Island, Undated (c.1970s), Unpublished

Appendix 2.

CAROL LYNN TROCKI

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GRADUATE EDUCATION: University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

- Master of Science in Environmental Science, Wildlife and Conservation Biology
- Thesis title: Patterns of salt marsh and farmland use by wading birds in southern Rhode Island.
- Degree Conferred: December 2003

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

- Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science and Management, with highest distinction, May 1999
- Bachelor of Science, Secondary Science Education, with highest distinction, May 1999

RELEVANT PROFESSION EXPERIENCE:

Research Associate II - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / Ocean SAMP Avian Research
28 hrs/wk Jun 2009-current

- Explore avian use of RI offshore waters to inform potential future wind development siting

Research Associate II - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / US National Park Service
28 hrs/wk Jan 2006-current

- Develop biotic synthesis reports for northeast coastal parks to help inform management and prioritization efforts, beginning with Fire Island National Seashore

Contract Biologist - URI Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Economics, 2005-2008

- Involved in an innovative experimental market for ecosystem services, using hayfields as a demonstration
- Work with area farmers to better understand the effects of hayfield and cattle grazing on grassland nesting birds
- Conduct field surveys of breeding grassland bird on project area farm fields

Undergraduate Course Instructor – University of Rhode Island, Spring Semester 2005-current

- Teaching a junior-level course, Principles of Wildlife Management, within the Dept of Natural Resources Science

Conservation Biologist – Aquidneck Island Land Trust and assorted land conservation organizations
Contract Basis, November 2004 - present

- Provide conservation value assessment of prospective properties; create Baseline Documentation Reports and design Management Plans for protected properties

Contract Research Associate - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science / US National Park Service
Approx 28hrs/wk, Jan. 2003–Dec. 2003; Variable, Jan. 2004 – 2007

- Developing coastal breeding bird monitoring protocol for Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area that uses volunteers for implementation (2007)
- Conducted mammal, reptile, and amphibian inventory in Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area (2005, 2006)

- Created a grassland bird conservation strategy for Saratoga National Historical Park, taking into account the Park's primary designation for historic purposes, current literature and best management recommendations, and park-specific history of research and management (2003 - 2005)
- Oversaw breeding season avian monitoring in the Northeast Temperate Network of the National Park Service: recruited, screened, and hired local point count surveyors at seven regional parks, created documentation of survey protocol and instructions, managed collected data, prepared final report (2003) and database documentation to NPS specifications (2004)
- Conducted breeding waterbird surveys in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area, managed collected data, collaborated on a manuscript outlining current and historic avian records from the park and providing specific recommendations for future management (2003, 2005-2007)

Avian Ecology Independent Contractor – US Environmental Protection Agency, Atlantic Ecology Division, May 2005-2007

- Involved in a collaboration between the USEPA National Health and Environmental Effects Laboratory and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to examine the extent to which acid and mercury deposition interact, resulting in factors that influence avian population declines in the eastern US

Contract Biologist – US Geological Survey Pawtuxent Wildlife Research Center through Johnson Controls Inc.

Approx 25hrs/wk, November 2004 - 2006

- Field sampling medium-sized mammals on Cape Cod National Seashore using a variety of methods for development of a monitoring protocol

Stewardship/Trail Manager (Conservation Biologist) - Aquidneck Island Land Trust (AILT)

Full Time, Jan. 2004 – Nov. 2004;

- Created Baseline Documentation Reports and Management Plans; provided input and support in determining the conservation value of prospective properties; designed and implemented a strategic conservation mapping project to identify conservation priorities on Aquidneck Island
- Stewarded and managed AILT-owned properties and trail projects; conducted annual monitoring visits on all properties, managed volunteer monitoring program, and maintained positive landowner relations

Graduate Research Assistant - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

25-30 hrs/wk., Jan. 2001 – Dec. 2004

- Designed a research project to fill a critical information gap in the current understanding of the habitat needs of nesting wading birds in Narragansett Bay
- Monitored wading bird use of salt marshes in southern Rhode Island during the breeding and the post-breeding season (2001 and 2002)
- Used photo-interpretation and GIS to create habitat maps of coastal wetland study sites
- Acquired complete project funding through competitive small grants for field assistance and travel
- Mentored and supervised undergraduate field research assistants
- Provided management recommendations to organizations and agencies interested in preserving and restoring salt marshes and active agricultural lands for foraging wading bird use

Program Coordinator - URI Coastal Fellows Program

Full Time, May 1999-Jan. 2003

- Mentored undergraduate research and outreach fellows, developed student opportunities, monitored student progress, and evaluated program success; developed and team-taught an

undergraduate fall seminar in the communication and presentation of scientific research and outreach projects

Research Assistant – URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

Approx. 15 hrs/wk, Aug. 1999 – Jan. 2000

- Conducted shorebird surveys of three coastal ponds in southern Rhode Island
- Designed and carried out project protocol to meet Army Corps specifications, with a focus on habitat use by endangered species; responsible for data acquisition, entry and analysis, budget tracking, drafting final report and presentation

Field Research Assistant - URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

30hrs/wk, May - Aug. 1999

- Conducted research on avian community structure at a recently restored salt marsh in Galilee, Rhode Island
- Performed point count surveys, spot-mapping, nest searching, and tracking of color-banded birds throughout the breeding season to correlate bird use to habitat change occurring with restoration

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation, Board of Directors, April 2003–09, Board President 2005-09

Jamestown Conservation Commission, November 2004 –present

Jamestown Farm Viability Committee, May 2003 - present

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. 2006. Assessing habitat selection by foraging egrets in salt marshes at multiple spatial scales. *Wetlands* 26(2):307-312.

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. 2006. Comparison of two foraging habitats used by Glossy Ibis during the breeding season in Rhode Island. *Northeastern Naturalist* 13(1):93-102.

Paton, P. W. C., R. J. Harris, and C. L. Trocki. 2005. Distribution and Abundance of Birds during the Breeding Season in Boston Harbor. *Northeastern Naturalist*. 12 (Special Issue 3):145-168.

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS:

Trocki CL. 2011. Biotic synthesis of Fire Island National Seashore. National Park Service, Natural Resource Program Center. Fort Collins, Colorado. Natural Resource Report. NPS/NCBN/NRR—2011/292. Published Report-2167695.

Trocki, C., B. Mitchell, and P. Paton. 2010. Coastal breeding bird monitoring protocol for Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area: Northeast Temperate Network. Natural Resource Report NPS/NETN/NRR—2010/176. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Trocki, C., B. Mitchell, and P. Paton. 2010. Coastal breeding bird monitoring protocol for Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area: Northeast Temperate Network. Natural Resource Report NPS/NETN/NRR—2010/176. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Trocki, C. L. 2009. Boston Harbor Islands Coastal Breeding Bird Monitoring 2008 Field Season Summary. Natural Resources Report NPS/NETN/NRTR—2009/209. National Park Service. Fort Collins, CO.

Trocki, C. L. 2008. Coastal breeding bird monitoring in the Boston Harbor Islands. *Bird Observer* 36(6).

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. October 2007. Boston Harbor Islands Coastal Breeding Bird Monitoring 2007 Field Season Summary. Natural Resources Report NPS/NER/NRR—2007/016. National Park Service. Northeast Region. Boston, MA.

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. August 2007. Study Design for Assessing the Effects of Knapweed Control on Grassland Birds at Saratoga National Historic Park. Natural Resources Report NPS/NER/NRR – 2007/015. National Park Service. Northeast Region. Boston, MA.

Trocki, C. L., N. W. Talancy, and P. C. W. Paton. August 2007. An Inventory of Amphibians, Reptiles, Nonvolant Mammals, and Select Bird Species on Islands in Boston Harbor. Technical Report NPS/NER/NRTR – 2007/094. National Park Service. Northeast Region. Boston, MA.

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. March 2005. Developing a Conservation Strategy for Grassland Birds at Saratoga National Historical Park. Natural Resources Report NPS/NER/NRR—2005/004. National Park Service. Boston, MA.

Trocki, C. L. and P. C. W. Paton. December 2003. Avian Surveys in the Northeast Temperate Network Parks. Technical Report NPS/NER/NRTR – 2005/004. National Park Service. Woodstock, VT.

Trocki, C. L. Patterns of Salt Marsh and Farmland Use by Wading Birds in Southern Rhode Island. Master of Science Thesis – University of Rhode Island. 2003.