



## Sperry Park Committee Meeting

January 30, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Town Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room and via Zoom

### Meeting Minutes

Committee members in attendance: John Adamovich, Sheila McCreven, Chris Burr-Bahner and Clifford Lynch. Committee members absent: Jane Shernow and Mike Walter. Guests in attendance: Sophia McDermott, Jason Morrill, Jeanette Glicksman (via Zoom).

Chairman John Adamovich called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Sheila McCreven took notes for the minutes as Secretary pro tem. The recently appointed members introduced themselves, and the guests were greeted. John provided an update on his search of committee files and shared a set of documents (attached pages) that he found. He will continue to search for additional material.

The committee then discussed Amity High School student Sophia McDermott's latest draft survey and gave her some additional feedback. On a motion by Sheila, seconded by Chris, the committee voted unanimously to approve the survey project, and thanked Sophia. She will now finalize the document based on the committee discussion and then share with the local newspaper as well as on social media, indicating that the committee has authorized the survey project (see attached published final survey). She will also make paper copies available, and John will ask the Rec office to help distribute to the public. Sheila will report at the February Board of Selectmen meeting and encourage public participation in the survey. Sheila reported that a website for Sperry Park has been created ([SperryPark.org](http://SperryPark.org)) and she will post a link to Sophia's survey as soon as its available. Sophia will keep the survey open through the end of February and then analyze the data. She will be submitting to her UCONN program and will also present to the committee at a meeting in early March (to be scheduled).

The committee next discussed a project proposal from Jason Morrill (attached PDF). Jason described how he would like to conduct a clean-up/reclamation and general maintenance of the park, especially the areas of historic use (dwelling house, other out buildings as may be identified, and millworks). The committee was very enthusiastic and discussed next steps. Consensus emerged that the committee should invite the Town Trail Master and others who participate in monthly trail cleanup work as volunteers (including representatives of the Land Trust, The Woodbridge Parks Association, and the Conservation Commission) to the park to look around on their next scheduled cleanup day (February 12). Jason reported that the volunteer group is planning to work nearby, at the old Cassway Road intersection with Sperry Road, so they may find it convenient to stop by the park after their work concludes at Cassway. The committee would like an assessment of the proposed cleanup work to take place and then further plans for a work day in March or early April can be pursued. John noted that no work should be conducted unless a member of the committee is present, and also stressed that the Town's Park supervisor, Adam Parsons, should also always be notified and present whenever possible. Next steps will be discussed at the meeting planned for March (see above).

Jeanette Glicksman noted that the park is a beautiful place and she is enthusiastic to hear about opportunities to contribute to the work to make it more broadly available while also safeguarding the property. The committee agreed that as stewards of this land, it will be important to ensure that work proceed carefully so the park will remain protected for future generations to also enjoy.

On a motion by Sheila, seconded by Chris, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:40 pm.

# Sperry Park Survey

Hi, my name is Sophia and I am a senior at Amity High School. In partnership with UConn's Natural Resource Conservation Academy and the Town of Woodbridge's Sperry Park Committee I developed this short, anonymous survey to better understand awareness and recent use of Sperry Park among Woodbridge, Orange, and Bethany residents. Additionally, the survey intends to educate participants on the history of Sperry Park, and attempts to find ways to honor that history. I would greatly appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to answer the following questions.

 sheila.mccreven@gmail.com (not shared) [Switch account](#)



\* Required

## Sperry Falls at Sperry Park



Which town are you a resident of? \*

Woodbridge

Bethany

Orange

Other:



## Recreational Use of Sperry Park

Are you aware of Sperry Park in Woodbridge? \*

Yes

No

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Sperry Park, a town owned property, is a walking and hiking spot. Located on Sperry Road in Woodbridge, the Park is accessible by car when the dirt road portion of Sperry Road is open (Spring through Fall) and otherwise by foot and horseback.

Have you ever visited Sperry Park? \*

Never

Yes, in the past 3 months

Yes, in the past 3 months to 1 year

Yes, more than 1 year ago

If you have ever visited Sperry Park, please indicate which of the following activities you have engaged in. (Check all that apply.) \*

Sightseeing (waterfall, historic sights, etc.)

Walking or hiking, without dogs

Walking or hiking, with dogs on leash

Birdwatching, observing nature

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For both those who have and have not visited Sperry Park, please indicate which, <sup>\*</sup> if any, of the following activities you are interested in participating in. (Check all that apply.)

- Sightseeing (water fall, historic sights, etc.)
- Walking or hiking, without dogs
- Walking or hiking, with dogs on leash
- Birdwatching, observing nature
- Other:     x

Please indicate your awareness of whether the following activities are allowable <sup>\*</sup> or prohibited by law at Sperry Park:

	Allowed	Prohibited	Don't know
Swimming and/or diving from rocks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consuming alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trespassing on adjoining Water Company property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Removal of stones from stone walls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vandalism/graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Littering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Park use after sundown/before sunrise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# Sperry Park Survey

 sheila.mccreven@gmail.com (not shared) [Switch account](#)



## Rules of Sperry Park

The rules that govern use of Sperry Park prohibit the following activities:

- Swimming and/or diving from rocks
- Consuming alcohol
- Trespassing on adjoining Water Company property
- Removal of stones from stone walls
- Vandalism/graffiti
- Littering
- Park use after sundown/before sunrise

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[Clear form](#)



## History of Sperry Park

To what extent are you aware of the history of Sperry Park? \*

- Not at all
- Somewhat
- Very
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### History of Sperry Park

These four acres were donated to the Town of Woodbridge from the Sperry heirs in 1907 on condition that this home lot of their family be preserved forever as a rural park.

At this site stood the home of some of the original European settlers in our area, including Nathaniel Sperry (1695-1751), his son, Revolutionary War patriot Sgt. Simeon Sperry (1739-1805), grandson Enoch Sperry (1787-1856), and great-grandson U.S. Congressman Nehemiah Day Sperry (1827-1911) who was an early anti-slavery advocate and a Connecticut delegate to the National Republican Convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln for president in 1864.

In 1781, Nehemiah's grandfather Simeon Sperry filed manumission papers to "set at liberty" an enslaved person named Alexander and free him from servitude. Alexander may have lived at this location with the Sperry family in the mid-1700s – more research of historical records is needed.

Over the years, the people who lived and worked at the Sperry Park location left evidence of Woodbridge's early history. The fieldstone foundation of the family home is still visible on the property and may have been built as early as 1701. The park is edged by an old fieldstone wall, and Sperry Falls, which is located within the park, is both a scenic attraction and was the site of mill works powered by the river and waterfall in the early 1800's. The mill stone can still be seen on the park property and the foundation of the mill is also visible about 60 yards downstream on the bank of the river beyond the falls.

Today, the Sperry Park Committee is responsible for the maintenance of the park and ensuring that it remains available to the public as a historical site and for recreational use.

Are you aware of the Witness Stones Project? \*

Yes

No

### The Witness Stones Project

According to its website, "*The Witness Stones Project™ is an educational initiative whose mission is to restore the history and honor the humanity of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities.*

*The Project provides local archival research, professional teacher development, a classroom curriculum, and public programming to help students discover and chronicle the local history of slavery. The final component of the work in each community is the placement of Witness Stone Memorials™ that honor enslaved individuals where they lived, worked, or worshiped.*

*Inspired by the [Stolpersteine](#) project, and with its blessing, the Project [began in Guilford, Connecticut, in 2017](#), and became a 501(c)(3) in October 2019. In five years, the Project has partnered with [94 schools and civic organizations in 50 communities across 5 states](#). More than 6,600 middle and high school students and their communities have participated in the Project.*

*The Project has been [lauded as a rigorous and transformative program](#). Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro praised it for "bringing together the community to learn, to heal, and to grow," while Connecticut Department of Education Social Studies Coordinator Stephen Armstrong described it as "the perfect program for what we would like to promote at the State Department of Education." In 2022, the Project was honored by Connecticut Explored as a Game Changer that "advances the way we study, interpret, and disseminate Connecticut history." <https://witnessstonesproject.org/>*

If it can be documented that an enslaved person lived at the Sperry Park, would you like to see a Witness Stones Project at Sperry Park? \*

Yes

No

Don't know



Would you visit Sperry Park to see a Witness Stone marker? \*

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Would you like to be involved in future projects or activities at Sperry Park? \*

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Do you have any further questions or comments regarding Sperry Park?

Your answer

---

Thank you for completing this survey!

Visit Sperry Park's Website <https://sperrypark.org/> or email [info@sperrypark.org](mailto:info@sperrypark.org) for more information.

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Submit

Clear form



# Proposal for Sperry Park Homestead

2023-01-15

## Reclamation

### Purpose

- Remove the natural overgrowth of the cellar foundation, nearby well, and other homestead features
- Draw attention to the historical aspect of the Park
- Gain interest from the local community to further protect and enhance the park

### Timeline & Scope of work

This work can be accomplished by a team of 3 to 5 volunteers with an estimated total investment of 10 hours. No invasive groundwork such as excavation or meaningful movement of stones will happen.

Jan – Mar 2023

- Clear the inner foundation of all trees, shrubs and other natural growth
- Clear up to 30-feet from the foundation walls of shrubs, dead trees, and any trees which may imminently cause a foundation wall to collapse
- Remove all surface leaves both inside the foundation and up to 30 feet outside

## Maintenance

### Purpose

- Prohibit the regrowth of nature in and around the foundation
- Prohibit buildup of leaves and debris inside and around the foundation
- Remove trash and repair vandalism

### Timeline & Scope of work

This is an on-going task.

Jan – Mar

- Trash clean up
- Cut and clear regrowth of shrubs and saplings

Apr – Jun

- Trash clean up
- Removal of winter blow-down
- Repair any new stonework damage at foundation

Jul – Sep

- Trash clean up

Oct – Dec

- Trash clean up
- Leaf clearing

## Repairs

### Purpose

- Stabilize and repair the cellar foundation walls with the intention of preserving as-is conditions
- Re-stack central chimney footing using dry-stack method with only stones found within the cellar with the intention of having a representation of the original chimney
- Take actions based upon historical research findings

### Timeline & Scope of work

This is an open-ended scope of work with shifting priorities and new items based upon future findings in the historical research. The intention is to repair what remains of the homestead and perhaps minimally restore any points of interest relevant to the Sperry homestead.

## Historical Research

### Purpose

- Collect all historical information related to the Sperry homestead, family, and descendants
- Provide public access to all information
- Offer tangible historical information at Sperry Park via signage
- Encourage public interaction with research and historical learning by allowing easy communication channels

### Timeline & Scope of work

The is an open-ended scope of work. Much work has already been completed by volunteers throughout the years. The items below are offered without specific timelines in this proposal.

Create online presence for public interaction

- Register website, sperrypark.org
- Establish email accounts to allow communication with the public
- Create basic website highlighting happenings at the park, upcoming maintenance, and the historical information

Investigate contents of cellar

- Perform careful excavation of the cellar without impacting structural integrity of the cellar walls
- Present findings to the public
- Highlight such research both in the park, online, and news outlets
- Engage with experts with colonial/historical digs

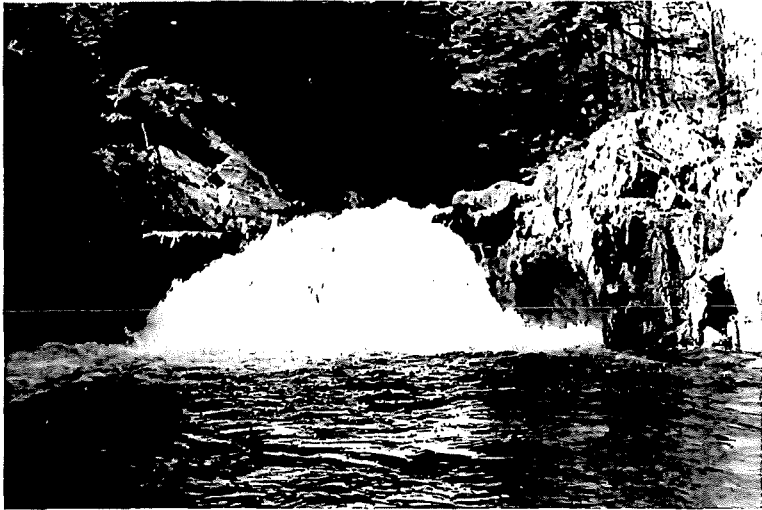
#### Investigate area around well

- Perform careful work around the site of the old well
- Present findings to the public
- Highlight such research both in the park, online, and news outlets
- Engage with experts with colonial/historical digs
- 

#### Investigate area around mill foundations

- Perform careful work around the sites of the old mills
- Present findings to the public
- Highlight such research both in the park, online, and news outlets
- Engage with experts with colonial/historical digs



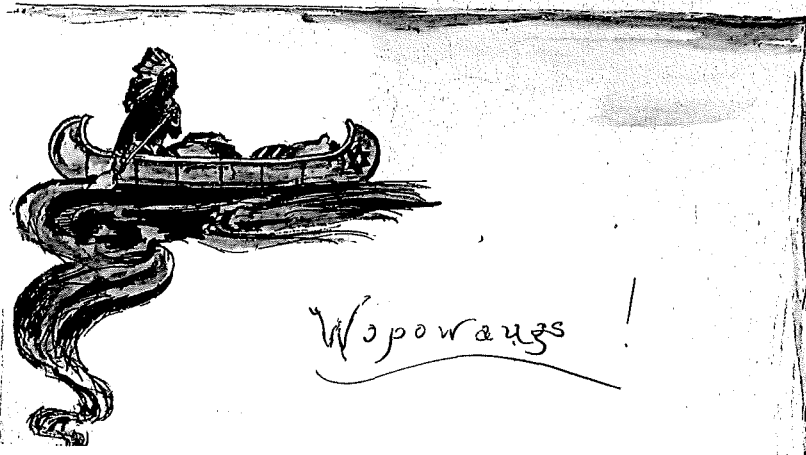


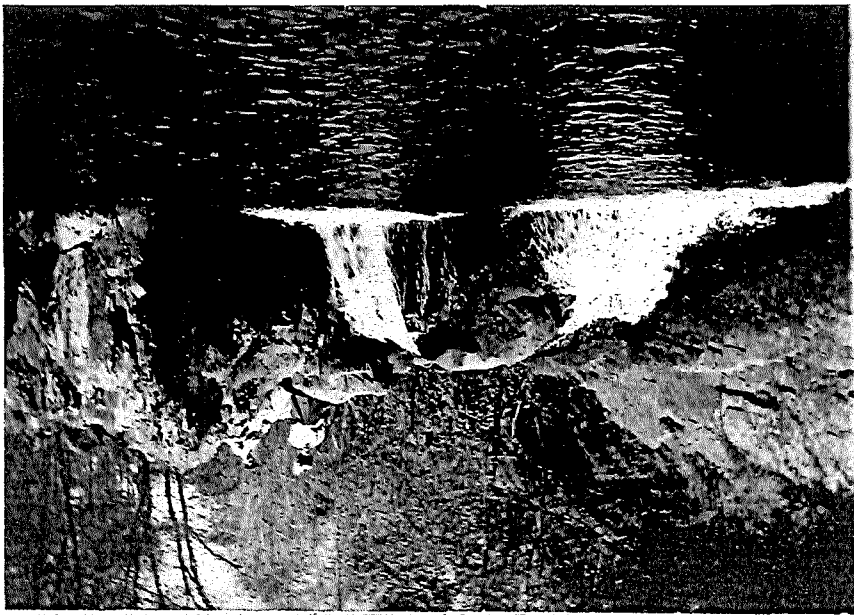
MARCH 1954 (over)



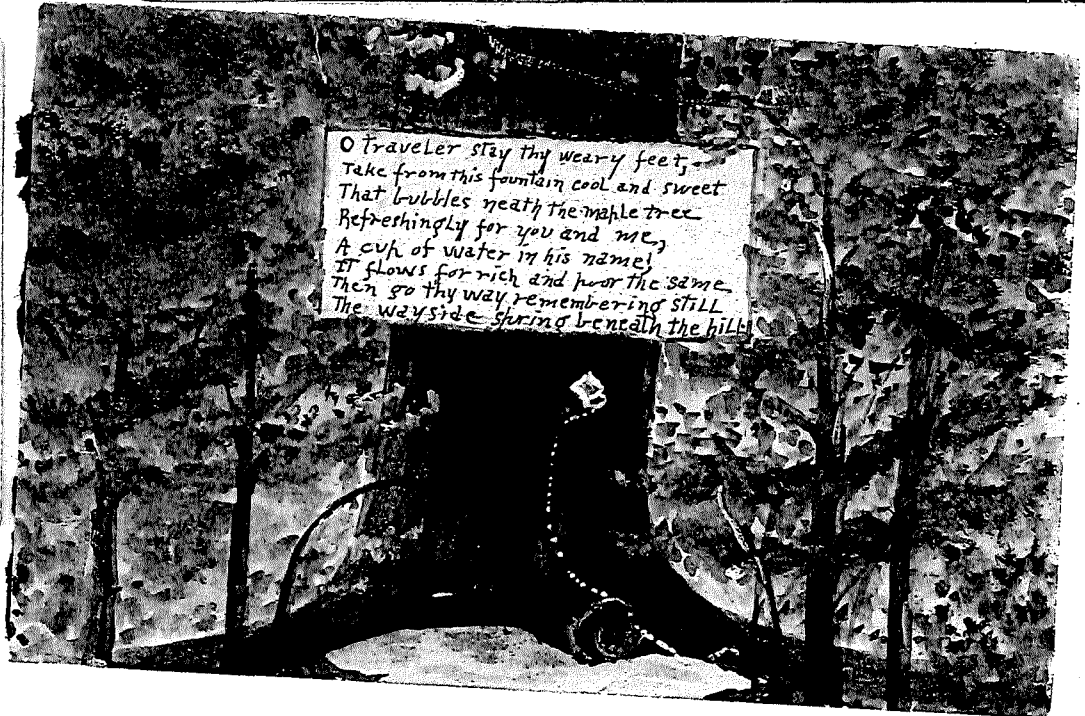
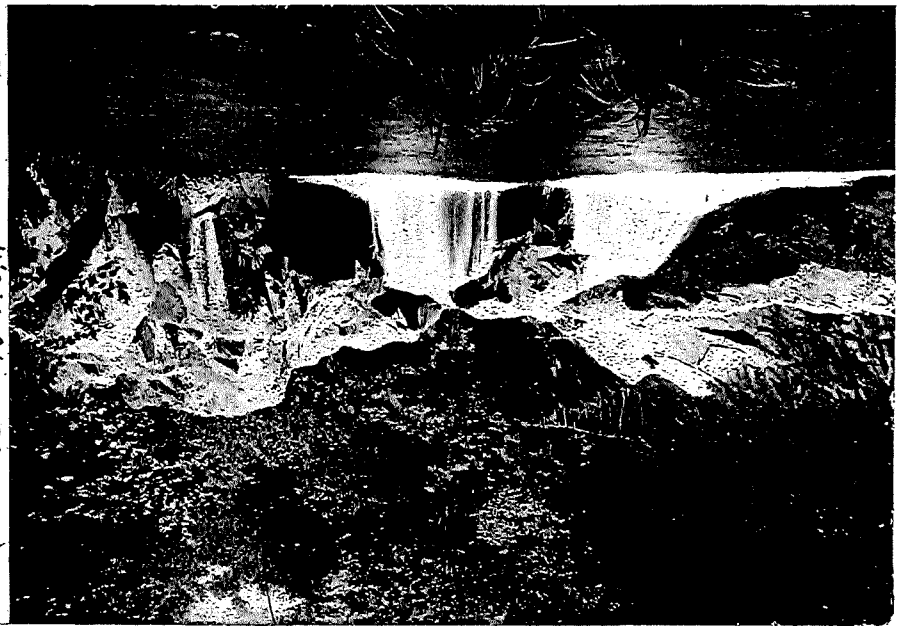
2<sup>nd</sup> Pow-wow and  
Cornroast of the  
Wepowaug!

Stamping Ground at  
Sperry's Falls.  
After the 12 - Heaps big moon!  
Friday, August 31, 1906.





In the  
 corner  
 of the  
 hill  
 1905



O Traveler stay thy weary feet,  
 Take from this fountain cool and sweet  
 That bubbles neath the maple tree  
 Refreshingly for you and me,  
 A cup of water in his name!  
 It flows for rich and poor the same,  
 Then go thy way remembering still  
 The wayside spring beneath the hill





Woodbridge, Connecticut  
November 14th, 1952

Board of Selectmen  
Woodbridge  
Connecticut

Gentlemen:

On October 7th, 1907, a deed was recorded in the Woodbridge Land Records, by which deed the heirs of Enoch and Mary Atlanta Sperry conveyed a tract of land containing 4 acres, more or less, and known as the "Home Lot" to the Town of Woodbridge for park purposes. Soon after that date we offered to donate to the Town of Woodbridge a certain tract of land containing 1 acre more or less situated between said "Home Lot", so-called, which was deeded to the town, and the highway known as Sperry Road, for park purposes, to be added to "Sperry Park". To the best of our knowledge no action was ever taken by the town regarding our offer.

Since that date, but more specifically on January 21st, 1920, we conveyed by deed the rest of our land consisting of 75 acres, more or less, to Pasquale and Teresa Longo. However, we have never deeded to anyone the above mentioned tract containing 1 acre, more or less, and lying easterly of Sperry Road. At this time we wish to renew our offer to donate this 1 acre tract of land to the Town of Woodbridge for park purposes only.

Respectfully yours,

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Mr. Charles H. Ford of Seymour Road, Woodbridge, volunteered to Miss Helen F. Newton and me on the date above, the statements contained herein. For personal reasons Mr. Ford refrained from signing the letter

*Newton H. Street*

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SPERRY PARK BOARD

May 6, 1968

Chairman of the Sperry Park Board, Mr. Winchester Hubbard, called a special meeting of the Board to meet at 8:00 P.M. in the Woodbridge Town Hall on May 6th, 1968. Messrs. Hubbard and Lockyer, Mrs. Meiss, Mrs. Scully and ex-officio member, Mr. Clark were present. Mr. Street and Miss Newton did not attend.

The purpose of the meeting was to report on the unusual number of people who had used the Park over the last weekend and to discuss any suitable precautions against the Park's being either over-used or mis-used. On Saturday, sixty-seven persons went to the Park; and, on Sunday between noon and 3:30 P.M., one hundred and twelve persons came in thirty-nine cars. There were no signs or reports of abuse of the Park, and on each day the trash barrels were filled and the grounds left in good order.

As a precautionary measure for the future, however, the Board decided: (1) to post signs, as in the State Parks, saying "NO Alcoholic Beverages", and (2) to double the police officers on duty in good weather through the next four weekends. The police would continue their regular patrols and further by their presence serve as reminders of the Park's rules prohibiting alcohol, wading, litter and so on.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M..

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan Kett Scully*  
Secretary

RECEIVED FOR FILED

5/8 1968 1:30 P.M.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

WOODBRIDGE TOWN

*Charlene M. Sitzer*  
TOWN CLERK

Copy of letter from Congressman N.D.Sperry to Town of Woodbridge

*Newton H. Street, Town Clerk.*

House of Representatives  
Washington

New Haven, Conn.,  
Aug. 30, 1907.

To the Selectmen,  
Town of Woodbridge.

Gentlemen:-

The heirs of Enoch and Mary Atlanta Sperry, of Woodbridge, Connecticut, owners of that portion of the Sperry Farm known as the home lot on which the dwelling house stood, and which contains some five acres, more or less, propose to quit claim, by deed to the authorities of Woodbridge, Connecticut, a plot of ground, to be known as "The Sperry Park", on condition that the lot so deeded shall be kept in good condition for a rural park. The spring on the lot shall be kept cleaned out at all times, and provided with a cup for drinking purposes.

This plot contains what is known as the "Sperry Falls", near which stood three shops. Two of the shops stood on the ground above described. Here a grist mill was built to grind the grain for the early settlers. Here wool was taken from the sheeps' backs, carded, spun, woven and colored for wear.

This place has been in the Sperry family from the earliest settlement. Here Enoch and Mary Atlanta Sperry, the last to occupy the place, raised a family of six children, all but one arriving at maturity, viz., Joseph Hart Sperry.

Having been spoken to by some of the people of Woodbridge concerning the disposition of this place, and after consultation with all the heirs, who heretofore have agreed never to sell the home place above described, I hereby, on behalf of all the heirs, offer to the Town of Woodbridge, free of charge, the above described property, on the conditions named. We offer this as a park to the people of Woodbridge, on account of the great regard and love we entertain towards the good people of the Town and the place of our birth, and we sincerely hope our offer will be accepted.

Very truly yours,

N.D.Sperry

See Quit Claim by Sperrys et al. Sept.28,1907,Vol.27,p.121,Wbg.Land.Rec.



DEED TO SPERRY PARK: Woodbridge Land Records, vol. 27, p. 121-122/

To all people to whom these presents shall come--Greeting.

Know ye that we, Nehemiah D. Sperry and Knight Sperry and Harriet S. Miller all of New Haven Conn. and Andrew J. Ramsdell, E. Atlanta Ramsdell and G. Louise McIntosh of the Borough of Brooklyn in the city of Greater New York, State of New York, for the consideration of the great regard and love we entertain towards the people of the town of Woodbridge and for other valuable considerations received to our full satisfaction of said town of Woodbridge, Connecticut, do remise, release and forever quit claim unto the said town of Woodbridge and its successors forever, all the right, title, interest, claim and demand whatsoever as we the said Releasors have or ought to have in or to one certain piece or parcel of land with all buildings thereon standing situated in said town of Woodbridge. Being that portion of the "Sperry Farm" known as the "Home Lot" on which the dwelling house stood and which contains four (4) acres more or less, bounded and described as follows, to wit.

Easterly by land of New Haven Water Company. Southerly by land of said New Haven Water Company, Westerly by land of said Water Company and by highway and Northerly by highway.

This deed is given upon condition that said plot of land shall be known as "Sperry Park" and shall be kept in good condition for a rural park, The spring on the lot shall be kept cleaned out at all times and provided with a cup for drinking purposes and that said land shall not be leased, sold or exchanged or be taken by any corporation public or private, nor shall the timber or wood thereon be sold, removed or destroyed.

To have and to hold the premises with all their appurtenances unto the said Releasee the said Town of Woodbridge forever so that neither we the Releasors nor our heirs nor any other person under us or them shall hereafter have any claim, right or title in or to the premises or any part thereof, but therefrom we and they are by these presents forever barred and secluded.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 28th day of September A.D., 1907.

Signed sealed and delivered }  
in presence of }

Estella Francis } witness as to  
Samuel C. Morehouse } N.D.S. & E.K.S.

Nehemiah D. Sperry . L.S.  
E. Knight Sperry L.S.

E.W. Miller } as to Harriet S.  
J. W. Matlock } Miller

Harriet S. Miller L.S.  
A.J. Ramsdell . N.B. L.S.

Mary E. Wadley } witnesses for  
Florence G. Babcock } Andrew J. Ramsdell  
G. Louise McIntosh  
L. Atlanta Ramsdell

G. Louise McIntosh N.B. L.S.  
L Atlanta Ramsdell N.B. L.S.

New Haven County. es New Haven Sept. 28th, 1907

Personally appeared Nehemiah D. Sperry and E. Knight Sperry, two of the Signers and Sealers of the foregoing Instrument and acknowledged the same to be their free act and deed before me.

Samuel C. Morehouse

Commissioner for the Superior Court  
New Haven County,

CERTIFIED COPY OF VOTE CREATING SPERRY PARK COMMITTEE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at a Special Town Meeting of the Town of Woodbridge, legally warned and held in said Town on October 13th, 1952, the following votes were passed:

"VOTED: The Selectmen of the Town shall appoint a committee consisting of six members composed of six resident electors of the Town, and the First Selectman shall be an ex-officio member, said committee to be known as the 'Sperry Park Committee'. Two members of this committee shall be appointed to serve until November 1st, 1954. Two members of this committee shall be appointed to serve until November 1st, 1956. Two members of this committee shall be appointed to serve until November 1st, 1958 and beginning in 1954 in the month of October in each even numbered year, two members of this committee shall be appointed to serve for a term of six years from the first day of November succeeding his appointment. They shall elect a Chairman and a Secretary from their number and shall be sworn to a faithful performance of their duties. Meetings may be called by the Chairman or by a majority of the members of the committee. A majority shall constitute a quorum. In the event of a tie vote, the First Selectman shall be called to vote thereon, and the tie shall thereby be dissolved. All vacancies occurring in said committee shall be filled by the Board of Selectmen. No member shall receive compensation for his services as such, but the necessary expenses of the committee shall be paid by the Town upon approval by the Board of Selectmen. Said committee shall have the general management and control of the parcel of land known as 'Sperry Park' and any buildings, apparatus or equipment owned by the Town of Woodbridge and located in, or used in connection with said Sperry Park and shall provide for the maintenance of the same, shall annually prepare a budget for consideration by the Board of Finance and shall make such rules and regulations as are necessary or desirable governing the use of Sperry Park by the public."

"VOTED: To Authorize and empower the Sperry Park Committee and the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and to act in the name of the Town regarding boundary disputes and any other matters concerning Sperry Park."

Attest:

Dated at Woodbridge, Connecticut,  
this 20th day of November, A.D.1952.

Newton H. Street  
Town Clerk

Vote 5/16/55

64

The Sperry Park Committee, is hereby authorized and empowered to accept, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any and all devises, legacies or gifts of property, either real or personal, of any kind or class, that may be given or left to it by will or devise, or within its budget, to purchase land desirable for the maintenance or enlargement of Sperry Park; and the Sperry Park Committee is hereby given full power and authority, as trustees or otherwise, to invest, reinvest and to have complete direction and management over all such property of any class or kind, already given, or which may hereafter be given, either to The Sperry Park Committee or to the Town of Woodbridge for the use of said Committee or for the benefit of said Sperry Park.

W.A.



TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE

When the Town of Woodbridge purchased the T. Halsted Bishop property for open spaces it was then indicated that the house itself would eventually become a town museum administered by the Amity and Woodbridge Historical Society. Miss Berenice Baldwin, the last member of the family, thoroughly approved of this use of her house as she so expressed herself from time to time to various members of the Historical Society and in addition demonstrated her approval by leaving her personal property plus \$5000 in cash to the Society for museum use. The Woodbridge Historical Society wishes to go on record as being ready and willing to accept the responsibility for administering the house as a museum and further that they are prepared to accept full financial responsibility as well without requesting funds of any kind from the town. To this end we submit the following proposal for the society's assuming custody of the house, both physically and financially.

\*\*\*\*\*

I. The Society would like a lease from the town of at least five years duration at one dollar per year on the house and approximately two acres of ground surrounding it. This with an automatic option for renewal at the end of each leasing period. The reason for this is that the Society expects to spend considerable money in repairs and renovations to the house and would not like to do so if the lease were temporary or shorter term. The reason for two acres land around it is so parking facilities could be expanded if necessary and gardens and grounds maintained and developed.

II. The Society will maintain all phases of insurance as the town now has them. This means fire and extended coverage plus liability either as they are now or as recommended by competent insurance brokers. The Society now has fine arts insurance on the contents of the house. The Society would comply with any laws governing insurance on public buildings etc.

III. The Society will maintain the buildings on the property on the east side of the Litchfield Turnpike and keep them in at least as good repair as they now are. The Society reserves the right to add buildings if the occasion arises subject to any restrictions placed by the Open Space Act under which the property was purchased. This is so that if any historically significant building becomes available in Woodbridge and is in danger of destruction we can possibly move it on to the property to be added to the Woodbridge museum complex.

*plus  
barn on  
west side*

The Board of Selectmen, either singly or as a group, have the right to inspect the property at any time. This also extends to the building inspector of the town but is restricted to this group and is not extended to any other town employee, elected or appointed except as such times as the house may be open to the public.

*Delete*  
V. Any repairs or renovations the Society makes to the buildings will conform to the town building code whenever they fall into the jurisdiction of the building department. Consideration should be given to the ancient construction of the buildings however, and in some cases it might be impossible to conform strictly to modern methods. However, safety and sanitary standards will in all cases be maintained.

VI. The Society will hold no general meetings in the house. The only types of meetings to be held now are an open house where no concentration of people is likely or an outdoor meeting during the summer or small committee meetings. Changes in this clause may only be requested at such a time as adequate provisions are made for a meeting room seating at least 100 persons in conformity to present fire laws. This is looking toward future possible adaptation of the barn to this purpose.

VII. The Society will keep a resident caretaker on the premises. The Society reserves the right to determine who the custodian shall be and provide for recompense to same. Custodial duties are to be determined by the Society in arrangement with the custodian.

*make paragraph TAI*  
VIII. The Society shall not be expected to have the house open as a museum on a regular basis for at least one year from the effective date of this agreement. The number of hours open shall be determined on the basis of public interest and need. However, if interest is shown by the school authorities arrangements will be made so classes of school children may visit the house any time during school hours. Every effort will be made to collaborate with the Woodbridge Library or other interested town organizations in any suitable way.