

MEADOW BROOK AND STURTEVANT FARMS

Please enjoy KLT's 327 acre Meadow Brook Farm and Sturtevant Farm Conservation Area! We hope you enjoy your visit.

Meadow Brook Farm

Elaine and Berndt Graf started their 245 acre organic farm, Meadow Brook, in 1983. The Graf's farm consisted of 30 milking Jerseys, a fiber business with Romney/ Finn sheep and angora goats, and a riding stable. In 201 the Grafs sold their farm to the Eva family.

Berndt and Elaine were determined to ensure that agriculture remains in Fayette, so working with the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, they agreed to a permanent conservation easement for their farm.



Brian Kent

This easement provided financial support for the Graf's acquisition of a contiguous 90-acre parcel of land.

This project was funded in part by the Land for Maine's Future program.

Sturtevant Farm

The Sturtevant Farm Conservation Area consists of 22.5 acres of open land with a stunning view of Maine's western mountains. After hearing of the Meadow Brook easement, Arnold and Leda Sturtevant offered to donate a conservation easement of two additional parcels of land totaling to 64.2 acres.

The earliest part of the main farmhouse was erected in 1784. The Homestead has been occupied by nine generations of one family, dating from Andrew Sturtevant, a Revolutionary Veteran. Largely a subsistence farm until the late 19th century, the land now hosts a country inn. Several structures are operated by the Sturtevant family as rental units, currently owned by Arn and Leda Sturtevant.



Sarah Fuller

"We wanted our land to stay a farm and to be affordable for the next generation of farmers."

— Berndt and Elaine Graf

THE KENNEBEC LAND TRUST

Founded in 1988, The **Kennebec Land Trust** (KLT) works cooperatively with landowners and communities to conserve the forests, lakes, streams, wetlands, fields, and wildlife that help define central Maine. KLT protects and stewards land permanently, offers access to conserved properties, provides opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy the natural world, and works with partners to support sustainable forestry and farming.



Brian Kent

Please join us!

A full listing of Kennebec Land Trust properties and an interactive map with directions can be found at our website:

www.tkl.org.

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MEADOW BROOK AND STURTEVANT FARM CONSERVATION AREA

FAYETTE, MAINE



Arn Sturtevant

327 acres of conserved farm, forest, and wetlands with a hiking trail open to the public

Conservation Across Generations

ECOLOGY

Starting from the trailhead on Bamford Hill Road the hiking trail follows the path of a small stream bordered by wetlands that are chiefly forested. The stream is beneath a



Teresa Withee

dense canopy of balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). This type of wetland is known as a Cedar Seepage Forest. Soon however the path crosses the stream and begins to climb out of the wetland into the Sturtevant Farm. The

land is dryer here although still wet and exhibiting a pit and mount topology. The path continues to follow the river, back onto Meadow Brook Farm, finally turning east to intersect with a snowmobile trail.



Teresa Withee

Bird species present include Winter Wren, Black-Capped Chickadee, Common Raven, Red Tailed Hawk, Ruffed Grouse, Common Blue Jay, and American Woodcock. Mammal species include Porcupine, Red Squirrel, and the occasional Moose, White Tailed Deer, and Eastern Coyote.

HISTORY OF FAYETTE

Fayette, originally settled as the Sterling Plantation in 1781, was incorporated in 1795. Its former business center, Fayette Corner, was conveniently located on a route between the Kennebec and Androscogin Rivers. During the 19th century the town was known for the quality of its dairy products and wool.

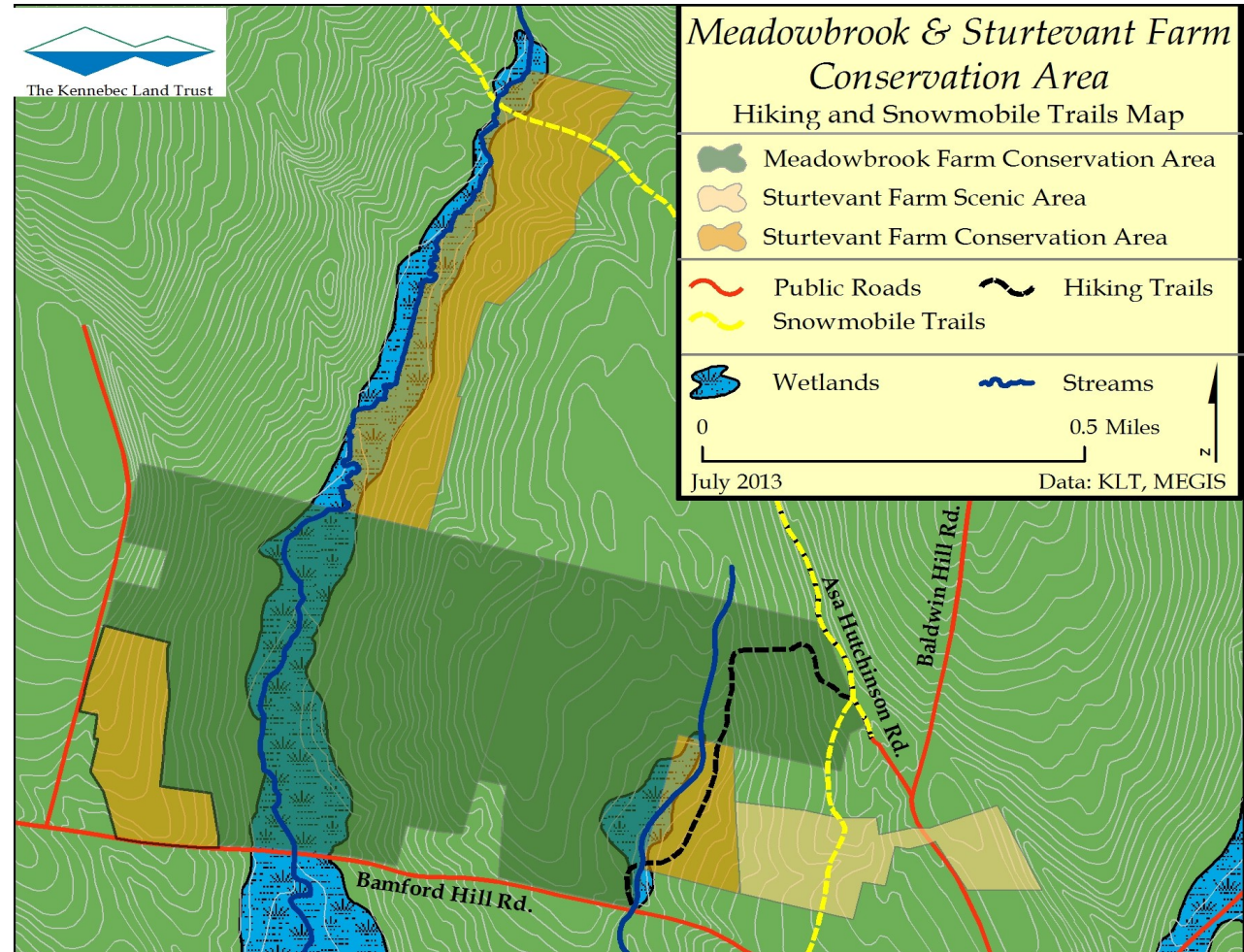


Fayette Historical Society

Fayette gained notary in 1980, when the novel Emmiline, by Judith Rossner was set in the town and based upon a historical resident, Emeline Bachelder Gurney.

Today, many of the bustle surrounding Fayette Corner has died down. The Fayette Corner's school is no longer open. The old tavern, once located on a major stage route, has long been abandoned. Other features of Fayette Corner that have disappeared include the general store, the post office, a law office, a carriage-makers shop, two churches (a third remains there today).

Produced by: Hannah Caswell, Rich Nagle, & Teresa Withee



Public uses: This KLT property is open to the public for hiking, nature observation, cross-country skiing, hunting, and other low impact non-motorized recreation. Snowmobiling is permitted on designated snowmobile trails.

Directions to Trailhead: *From the North:* From Route 133 in East Livermore, turn left onto Haines Corner Road. Continue for 1.7 miles on this road until it turns into Bamford Hill Road. Continue straight on Bamford Hill Road for approximately 1.5 miles. The trailhead will be on your left. *From the South:* From Route 41 in Readfield, turn left onto Maine Street and continue for 6.1 miles, following Route 17. Turn left onto Sanderson's Corner Road and follow it for 0.1 miles until it turns into Fayette Corner Road. After 1.4 miles, this road turns into Bamford Hill Road. Continue for .3 miles. The trailhead will be on your right. **Trail access:** The trail is accessed on the Bamford Hill Road. As there is no parking lot, visitors may park on the side of the road. The trail is a relatively easy one mile walk through wetlands and forests that ends at a junction with snowmobile roads. **Dogs:** Out of respect for hikers and small children, dogs should be under voice command or on a leash. Please pick up after your pets.