

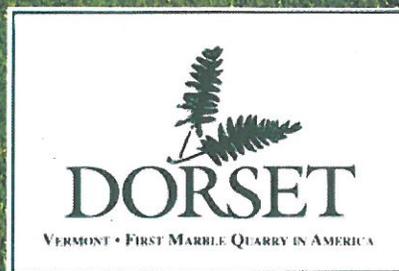
Owls Head Town Forest

Preserving Dorset's Iconic Ridgeline

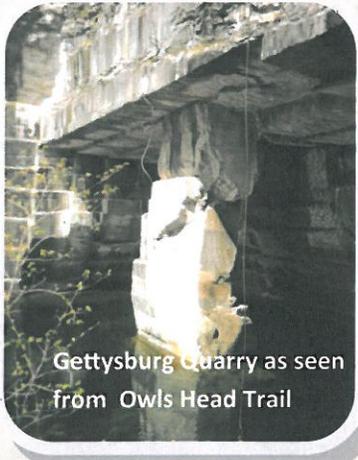
Recently the Town of Dorset was awarded grants from the United States Forest Service (USDA) and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to help acquire the 250 acre property home to the Gettysburg Quarry.

We were very fortunate to land these grants, however we still need to raise \$220,000 to make our dream become a reality. We are seeking support from the Dorset community to help us reach our goal.

Please review our information on the back of this form.



Preserving a ridgeline, protecting public access, saving a quarry...



Gettysburg Quarry as seen from Owls Head Trail

Historic Value

The Gettysburg Quarry, located on the expanded Owls Head Town Forest property, opened in the early 1800's to produce Dorset's famous marble and was revived multiple times over the years.

Once the quarry era ended the property was used for farming. Owls Head Forest is home to many historic artifacts that help us better understand Dorset's history. The Dorset Historical Society (DHS) traditionally holds an annual hike to the Quarry, led by Art Gilbert. In recent years DHS has foregone the Gettysburg hike due to access issues.

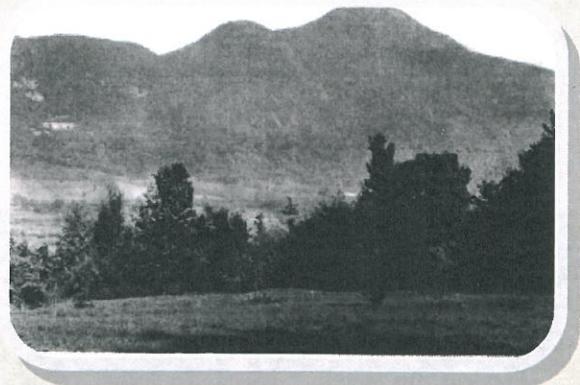
Recreational Value

The property is home to the Owls Head Peak hiking trail. This is the traditional access to the current Town Forest. Over the years development has been closing in on this trail, and there is a very real chance that access could be lost almost overnight. The Owls Head trail leads to "Gilbert Lookout" a rock outcropping with fantastic views to the west. The property is home to a group of quarry roads, woods trails, and foot paths that connect to historic hiking trails stretching across Dorset's ridgelines. Many of these trails were explored and mapped by the Dorset Science Club in the early 20th century, and captured in Dr. George Holley Gilbert's "The Dorset Trail" published in 1927.

Ecological Value

Owls Head Forest is home to many rare and endan-

gered plant species and natural communities. The limestone in the soil gives life to a variety of plants listed as rare/ threatened in the Natural Heritage Database, examples include Spreading Juniper, Yellow Lady's Slipper, Four Leaf Milkweed, and Hooker's Orchid. The property abuts the Black Rock Nature Preserve owned by the Nature Conservancy. Natural communities found on the property include Dry Oak Hickory Hop Hornbeam and Temperate Calcareous Cliff communities.



If you've ever looked up and admired the view of the Owls Head skyline, this is our chance to preserve this view forever!

Donations will be used 100% toward the purchase price of the property. Please join us in our effort to protect this vital community asset.

Sincerely,

The Dorset Conservation Commission

Malcolm Cooper, Chair

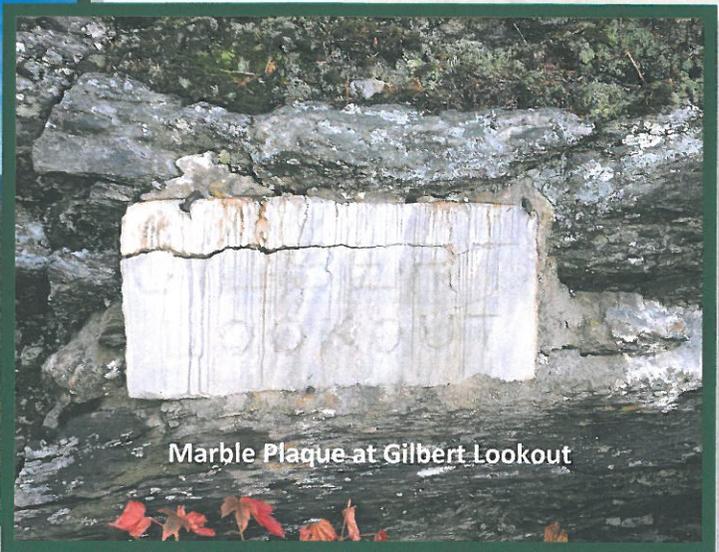
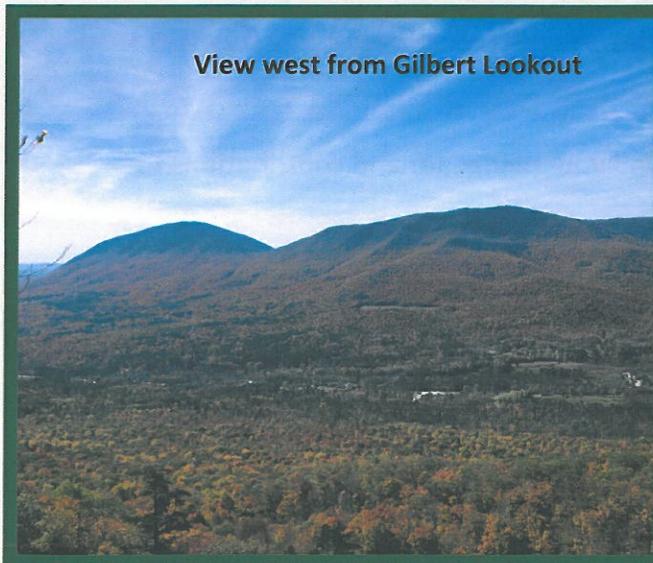
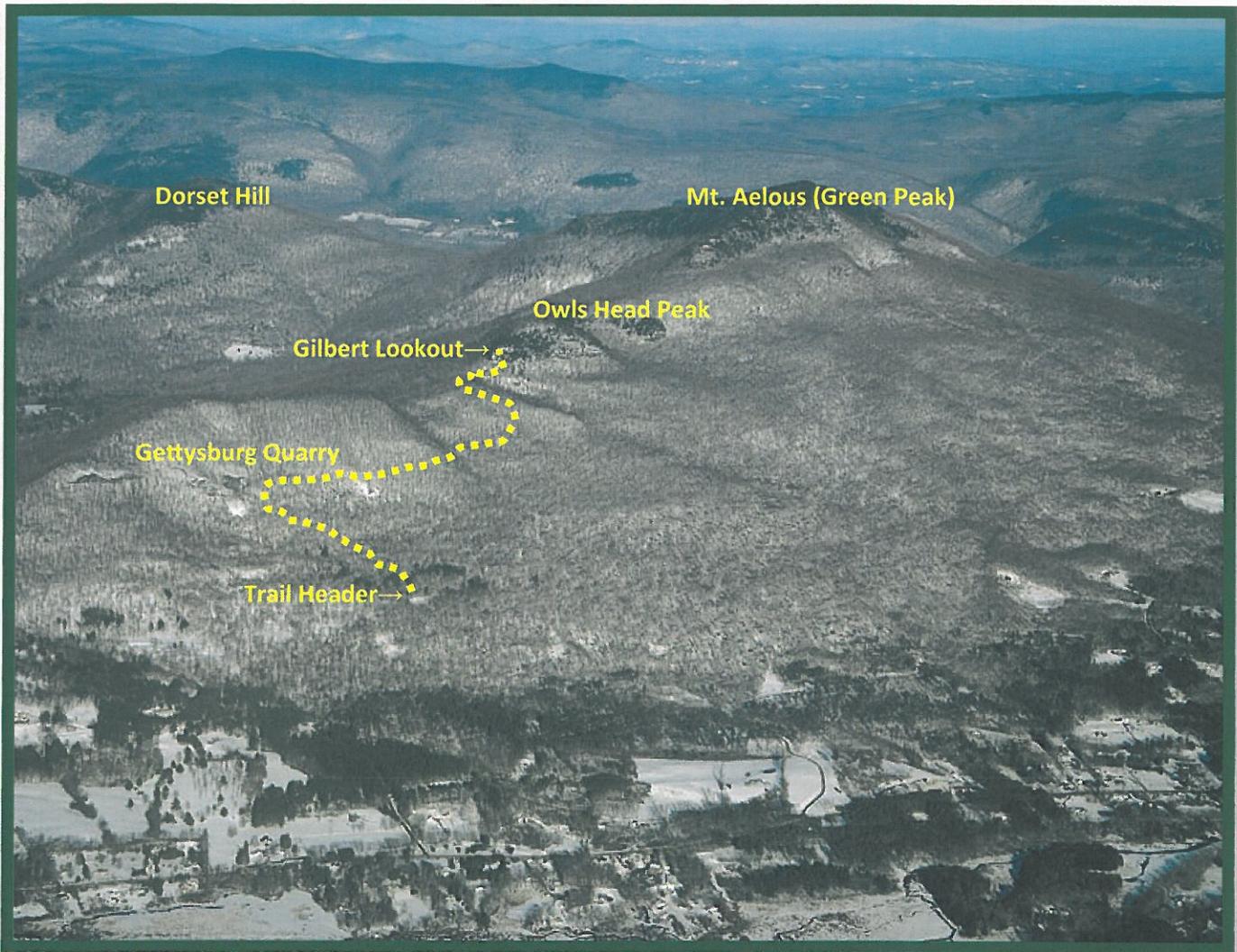
Alan Calfee, Vice Chair

Kevin O'Toole

Chip Ams

Art Gilbert

Preserving a ridgeline, protecting public access, saving a quarry...



Yes, I'll help the Owls Head Town Forest Project!

We pledge a contribution of \$ _____ to the Owls Head Town Forest Project, payable between now and January 2015.

We would appreciate a reminder prior to the payment date, by:

Telephone Letter Email:

We understand this gift is part of the campaign to purchase vital property in Dorset, and 100% of the gift will be used toward the purchase price of the land. We understand these payments may be made in cash or check, made out to the Town of Dorset.

We would like this gift to be:

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____
- Anonymous

Donor Signature(s) _____

Donor Name & Address _____

Phone & Email: _____



Hooker's Orchid

Please send your pledge for and contributions to:

Town of Dorset

PO Box 715

East Dorset, VT 05253

Thank you for supporting our work to protect and preserve this vital community asset.