

HARRIS PRESERVE

TOWN OF LAKE LUZERNE

Welcome!

The Harris Land Preserve was a gift to the community through the estate of Alice Harris. The lands had been in the Harris family since the early 1900's and were gifted to the Preserve after the passing of Alice in 2007. In partnership with the Hadley Luzerne School District, the Preserve was formed to manage the property and develop recreation and educational uses. In keeping with Alice's wishes, the deed states that the Preserve, "be used solely for permanent forestry, non-motorized recreation, hiking, horseback riding and educational purposes.", and, "shall not be used or sold for commercial purposes."

Alice's Wonderland

Alice Harris was a woman of vision, believed in the power of education, and wanted future generations to benefit from the Harris family's hard work and good fortune. Late in her life, Alice sold off most of the parcels, with the proceeds funding the Alice Harris Charitable Trust. Since 2007, the Trust has awarded yearly scholarships to Hadley-Luzerne students who exhibit a work ethic and a desire to learn. Alice also realized that much can be learned from the Great Outdoors—the forest, streams, plants, and animals can enrich the lives of young and old alike. This led to Alice's last gift, this 112-acre Preserve.

As Alice might have said, enjoy the trails, enjoy the views, learn from nature.



ALICE HARRIS

Potash Mountain

It is said that the name Potash Mountain originated due to the shape of the mountain resembling an upturned potash kettle. The making of potash was one of the earliest of the backcountry industries (17 tons were produced in Warren County in 1820). As settlers cleared their lands of the abundance of trees, they burned the trees in a controlled manner that resulted in a residue of ashes from which potash could be extracted. The resultant ashes were leached of their lye and boiled down to "black salts", which were either processed on the home farm with animal fats or taken to the local "ashery" for firing in a brick kiln, producing pearl ash. The pearl ash was used locally to make soaps, dyes, and for scouring wool after shearing. Nearly every town in the region during the early 1800s had an "ashery".



www.FIRSTWILDERNESS.com
FIRST WILDERNESS HERITAGE CORRIDOR