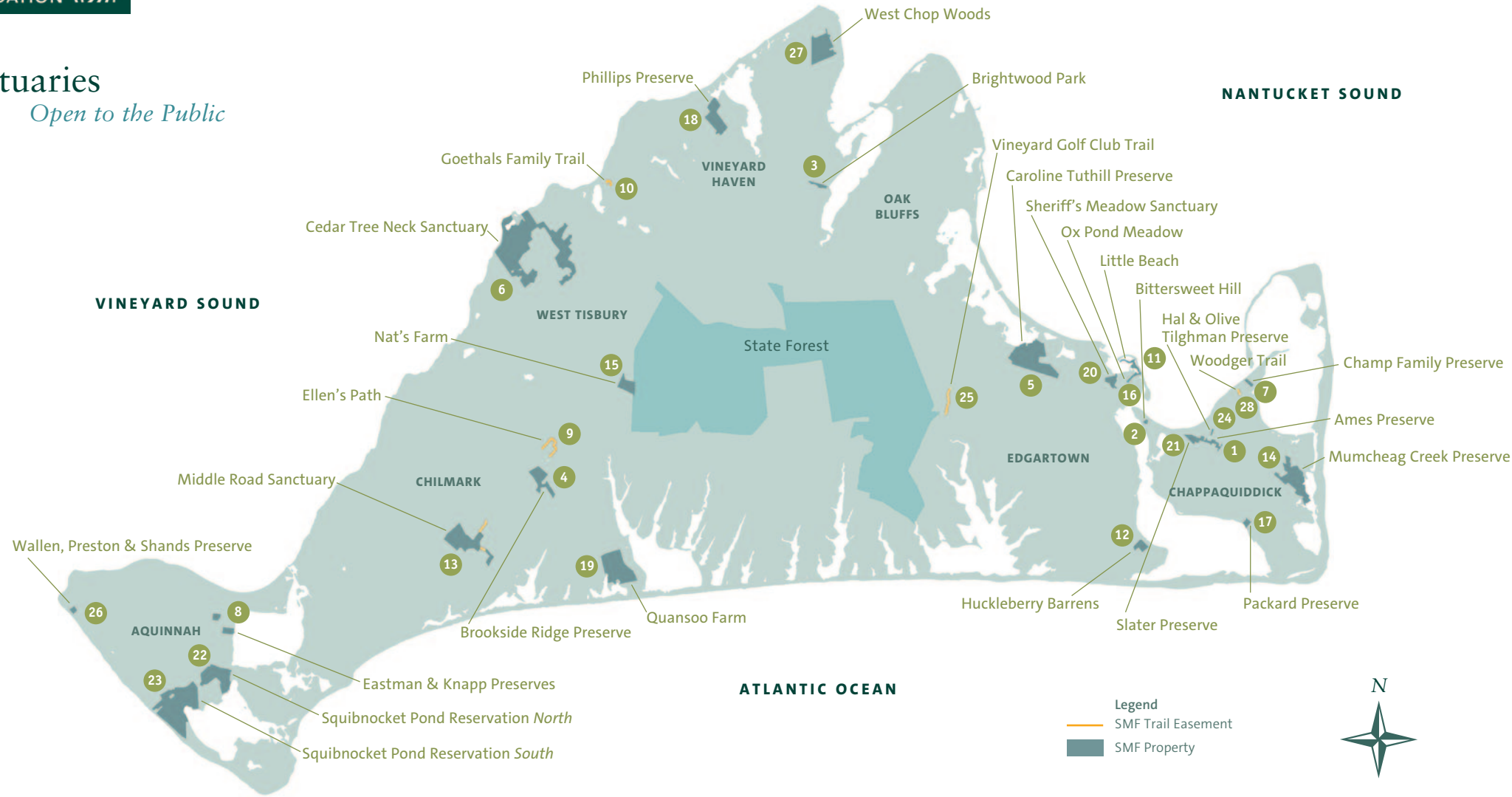


Sanctuaries

Open to the Public



Founded in 1959, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation is the local land trust for the island of Martha's Vineyard. Our mission is to conserve the natural, beautiful, rural landscape and character of Martha's Vineyard for present and future generations. The Foundation was created by Henry Beetle Hough and Elizabeth Bowie Hough to save a small, Edgartown property known as the "Sheriff's Meadow." Since our founding, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation has grown considerably.

We now own 2,482 acres of conservation land and protect an additional 999 acres with conservation restrictions. Sheriff's Meadow is a nonprofit, charitable organization supported by contributions.

We are your local land trust, and we invite you to enjoy visiting the sanctuaries described in this guide and to become involved.

www.sheriffsmeadow.org

To find property-specific trail maps and to learn more about Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, please visit our website, found at www.sheriffsmeadow.org.

Download TrailsMV, the free mobile app developed by Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. TrailsMV was made possible by the financial support and vision of generous donors, volunteer photographers, the collaboration of all the island conservation organizations, the Martha's Vineyard Commission, and many of the island towns.

Conserving the natural, beautiful, rural landscape and character of Martha's Vineyard for present and future generations.

Please send me information on the following:

Ways to Get Involved

- Volunteer Opportunities, in the Field and in the Office
- Guided Walks and Outings

Ways to Give

- Donating Land or Conservation Restrictions
- Making an Endowment Gift
- Planned Giving and Bequests

Enclosed please find my gift of:

\$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$250 ___ \$500 ___ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____



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Founded by Henry Beetle Hough and Elizabeth Bowie Hough in 1959.

www.sheriffsmeadow.org

Cover photo: Kate Feiffer | Squibnocket Pond Reservation



Sanctuary Guide

Sanctuaries *Open to the Public*

1 Ames Preserve

The Ames Preserve connects the Slater Preserve to the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank's (MVLB) Three Ponds Reservation at Brine's Pond via a winding woodland trail. The Lewis-Wood section of the Ames Preserve is co-owned with the MVLB.

To access the Ames Preserve, enter the Slater Preserve on foot via Chappaquiddick Road or park at the MVLB trailhead at the Chappy Community Center and take the trail system south to the trail intersection.

2 Bittersweet Hill

Bittersweet Hill is a 2.5-acre property that commands a view of Edgartown Harbor, Katama Bay, and all of Water Street in Edgartown. Trails connect to nearby Town and MVLB conservation lands.

No parking available onsite. Access from the ferry or the MVLB's Chappy Point Beach parking and walk over via the Gardner property.

3 Brightwood Park

The 8.5-acre Brightwood Park directly abuts the MVLB's Ramble Trail Preserve. Cloven by a steep ravine, these neighboring properties are linked together by a trail.

From State Road in Vineyard Haven, take the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road .4 miles to Winyah Lane. Take a sharp right after .6 miles onto Weaver Lane. The trailhead is on the right at the end of Weaver Lane.

4 Brookside Ridge Preserve

The 50-acre Brookside Ridge Preserve offers a path through a once-magnificent grove of American beeches. The Preserve's main trail is dedicated to Steve Crampton, President of Sheriff's Meadow Foundation from 2006 to 2008.

Middle Road: Park at the MVLB trailhead for Tiasquam Valley Reservation off Middle Road. Walk up-island on Middle Road to Sarah Brown Lane, on the left, and follow trail signs to the Preserve.

South Road: Park at MVLB Tiasquam Valley Reservation trailhead off South Road. The trail leads directly to the Brookside Ridge Preserve.

5 Caroline Tuthill Preserve

With 150 acres of woods, salt marsh, meadows, and kettlehole ponds, Caroline Tuthill Preserve is one of Sheriff's Meadow Foundation's largest sanctuaries.

From the Triangle in Edgartown, travel .5 miles west on the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road to the trailhead located on the right.

6 Cedar Tree Neck Sanctuary

Enjoy rugged trails crossing 400 acres of forests, bluffs, beaches, and bogs on this spectacular, picturesque property.

Daggett Trailhead: From State Road follow Indian Hill Road 1.75 miles. Turn right onto Obed Daggett Road (near the hilltop) and follow the "Sanctuary" signs for 1 mile to the trailhead.

Taylor Gate Trailhead: Follow Indian Hill Road for 2 miles to the end at Norton Circle. Parking is directly ahead.

Irvin Trailhead: Follow Indian Hill Road for 1.7 miles. Parking is on your right just before Obed Daggett Road.

7 Champ Family Preserve

Located on North Neck, the Champ Family Preserve offers sweeping views out to Edgartown Harbor and Cape Pogue.

The Champ Family Preserve may be reached by parking at the MVLB's North Neck Highlands trailhead and walking south on North Neck Road.

8 Eastman & Knapp Preserves

The 18-acre Eastman & Knapp Preserves offer a lovely trail that descends to the shore of Menemsha Pond, with breathtaking views of Menemsha Pond and Prospect Hill.

From State Road in Aquinnah, turn onto East Pasture Road. Follow signs to parking. Stay on East Pasture Road for .7 miles (pass the trail) and walk back down the road.

9 Ellen's Path

This .5-mile trail easement loops around pastoral fields and connects to the MVLB's Tiasquam Valley trail off Murphy Road.

To access the trail easement, park at the MVLB's trailhead off Murphy Road.

10 Goethals Family Trail

This 9.5 acres of sand dunes, coastal heath, streams, and woodlands are protected by a conservation restriction on land that is owned by the Town of West Tisbury. In the off-season months, the public is invited to enjoy the Goethals Family Trail.

Follow Lambert's Cove Road to the parking lot for Lambert's Cove Beach. Public parking is available in the off-season months.

11 Little Beach

Little Beach consists of 10 acres of sandy beach along Nantucket Sound and the marshes surrounding much of Eel Pond. Rare birds breed here, including terns and piping plovers. Access is restricted during nesting season.

Little Beach may be reached via Fuller Street Beach.

12 Huckleberry Barrens

Huckleberry Barrens is a 17-acre swath of the Katama Plain. Two loop trails, one of which meets accessibility guidelines, weave through barrens of huckleberry, thickets of scrub oak, and groves of cedars and bayberries.

Head south on the Katama Road and turn left onto Edgartown Bay Road. Trailhead is located on the right.

13 Middle Road Sanctuary

Traverse a forest of black, white, and scarlet oaks on the rugged glacial moraine of Chilmark. Trails loop across the 100-acre Middle Road Sanctuary, and connect to multiple conservation lands via King's Highway and other trails.

Heading up-island, take Middle Road past Meetinghouse Road and find the trailhead .4 miles ahead on the left. Heading down-island from Beetlebung Corner, pass Tabor House Road and find trailhead .2 miles down on the right.

14 Mumcheag Creek Preserve

The Mumcheag Creek Preserve offers trails that weave through woods and fields, providing stunning views across the saltmarsh to Pocha Pond. This Preserve, which was formerly part of Pimpneymouse Farm, connects to the Land Bank's Poucha Pond Reservation trail system.

Drive, walk or bike approximately 0.25 miles down Dike Bridge Road; the trailhead will be on your right.

15 Nat's Farm

Along Old County Road in West Tisbury lies Nat's Farm, a 56-acre expanse of hay fields, meadow, woods, and pasture. Trails run the perimeter of the land and offer connections to the State Forest.

Located off Old County Road, approximately .5 miles north of Scotchman's Bridge Lane and .5 miles south of the West Tisbury School.

16 Ox Pond Meadow

Open meadow, blueberries, and a bit of woods make up the 4-acre Ox Pond Meadow. A path crosses the meadow and offers a lovely view of Nantucket Sound.

No parking is available onsite. Access Ox Pond Meadow on foot via Braley's Way and Orr Lane.

17 Packard Preserve

The 7-acre Packard Preserve trail leads from Pocha Road to a scenic overlook atop Katama Bay.

Parking is available across Pocha Road from the Packard Preserve, at the MVLB's old Poucha Pond Reservation trailhead, 3.8 miles from the ferry landing.

18 Phillips Preserve

The Phillips Preserve is a 68-acre oak and pine forest on the west side of Lake Tashmoo. The *Margaret Lindsay Memorial Trail* offers a loop walk leading to Aunt Rhoda's Pond.

From the entrance to Lambert's Cove Road at the lower end, follow Lambert's Cove Road to Northern Pines Road. Take a right onto Northern Pines Road and follow for .5 miles. Parking is on the left.

19 Quansoo Farm

On the outwash plain of Chilmark, 146-acre Quansoo Farm is a mix of fields, meadows and forests of sculpted oaks that stretch to the shores of Black Point Pond and Tisbury Great Pond. The MVLB trail easement runs the perimeter of the property.

From the Chilmark/West Tisbury town line, take South Road up-island .5 miles to the unmarked Quenames Road. Turn left and follow Quenames Road for .6 miles then bear left onto Quansoo Road. Follow Quansoo Road for .8 miles staying straight at the Black Point fork, then bear left for 100 feet. The trailhead will be on your right.

20 Sheriff's Meadow Sanctuary

The Foundation's namesake property, 18-acre Sheriff's Meadow Sanctuary was the first property given to Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. The *Ruth and Ed Brooks Trail* offers a loop walk and views of John Butler's Mudhole, Eel Pond, and Nantucket Sound.

Approaching downtown Edgartown on Main Street, turn left onto Pease's Point Way. Continue straight onto Plantingfield Way. Proceed .2 miles to the trailhead on the right.

21 Slater Preserve

Enjoy meandering through oak woodlands, pockets of scrub oak, and a beech grove on this 14-acre preserve located off Chappaquiddick Road.

Access by walking along Chappaquiddick Road from the Ferry or Chappy Community Center. No parking available onsite.

22 Squibnocket Pond Reservation North

Co-owned with the MVLB, this 85-acre section of Squibnocket Pond Reservation offers views out to Menemsha Pond, Herring Creek, Squibnocket Pond, and Witch Pond. Reservations required in season.

The trailhead is located off State Road .25 miles west from the Aquinnah/Chilmark town line.

23 Squibnocket Pond Reservation South

Co-owned with the MVLB, this stunning 254-acre property offers woodland and boardwalked dune trails through a mosaic of habitats with amazing views over the back dune system and out to Lily Pond, Squibnocket Pond, and the Atlantic Ocean. Reservations required in season.

The trailhead is located off Moshup Trail .6 miles down from the eastern entrance of State Road.

24 Hal & Olive Tilghman Preserve

The trail on the 2-acre Hal & Olive Tilghman Preserve travels beneath stately hickories and connects to the Landing Place Road leading to the beach on Edgartown Harbor.

The trail is located on Chappaquiddick Road approximately 1.4 miles from the ferry landing. The nearest available parking is at the Chappy Community Center.

25 Vineyard Golf Club Trail

View the frostbottom and connect to Dr. Fisher Road and many ancient ways along this trail on the western edge of the Vineyard Golf Club conservation area.

Access the trail via the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, just east of Metcalf Drive, or via the Dr. Fisher Road Ancient Way. No parking available onsite.

26 Wallen, Preston & Shands Preserve

Atop the Gay Head Cliffs and high above Moshup Beach, these 5.6 rolling acres offer panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean and Nomans Land. The loop trail connects to the Aquinnah Cultural Center and Moshup Beach.

Near the circle by the Gay Head Cliffs, park at the MVLB trailhead or in the Town of Aquinnah parking lot.

27 West Chop Woods

The 80 forested acres of West Chop Woods are located less than 1.5 miles from downtown Vineyard Haven. The old Lighthouse Road and other trails offer loops of varying lengths.

Parking is located off Franklin Street and a walk-on entrance is located off Main Street.

28 Woodger Trail

This beautiful path skirts the edge of the Chappy Golf Course and connects to the Cove Meadow conservation area.

Hike or bike to the trail from North Neck Road. Parking is available at MVLB's North Neck Highlands Preserve.