

Property Owner: Saratoga P.L.A.N.

Acreage: 18



This sign welcomes visitors to the Preserve's nature trail.

History: This land was donated by the family of conservationist and author Dr. Orra Phelps in 1996. She lived here from 1946 until 1962, except in winters when she lived in Albany. Prior to this, various members of the Phelps family farmed the land. According to a local historian, the land was likely on the ancient Indian trail from Canada to the Mohawk Valley.

Dr. Phelps was a well-known naturalist who spent much of her time hiking, birding and gathering plant specimens in the Adirondacks. She was a prominent member of the ADK, authoring early guidebooks that became the models for later editions. She also served as Ranger-Naturalist for the ADK for many years. She climbed all 46 peaks and finished hiking the Northville-Placid trail when she was 83, having hiked portions of it for the prior 50 years.

Directions: Take the Northway (I-87) to Exit 16. Turn west on Ballard Road. After 2 miles, cross Route 9, then turn left (south) on Parkhurst Road. Go one more mile to the preserve parking lot on the left. The trailhead is just beyond the public parking lot.

Rules:

ON THIS NATURE PRESERVE, IT IS UNLAWFUL TO:

- Hunt, trap, remove, harass, touch, or feed wildlife.
- Camp, or ignite a fire.
- View or attempt to view wildlife with artificial light.
- Possess loaded or uncased firearms and/or traps.
- Cut, remove, or damage any tree, shrub, or foliage, or any living or dead thing.
- Permit dogs, cats, or other pets to run free. All animals must be leashed.
- Use motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, or similar off-road devices.
- Leave anything brought with you onto the Preserve on the Preserve. Carry in, Carry out.



Saratoga P.L.A.N.
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Dr. Orra Phelps Preserve



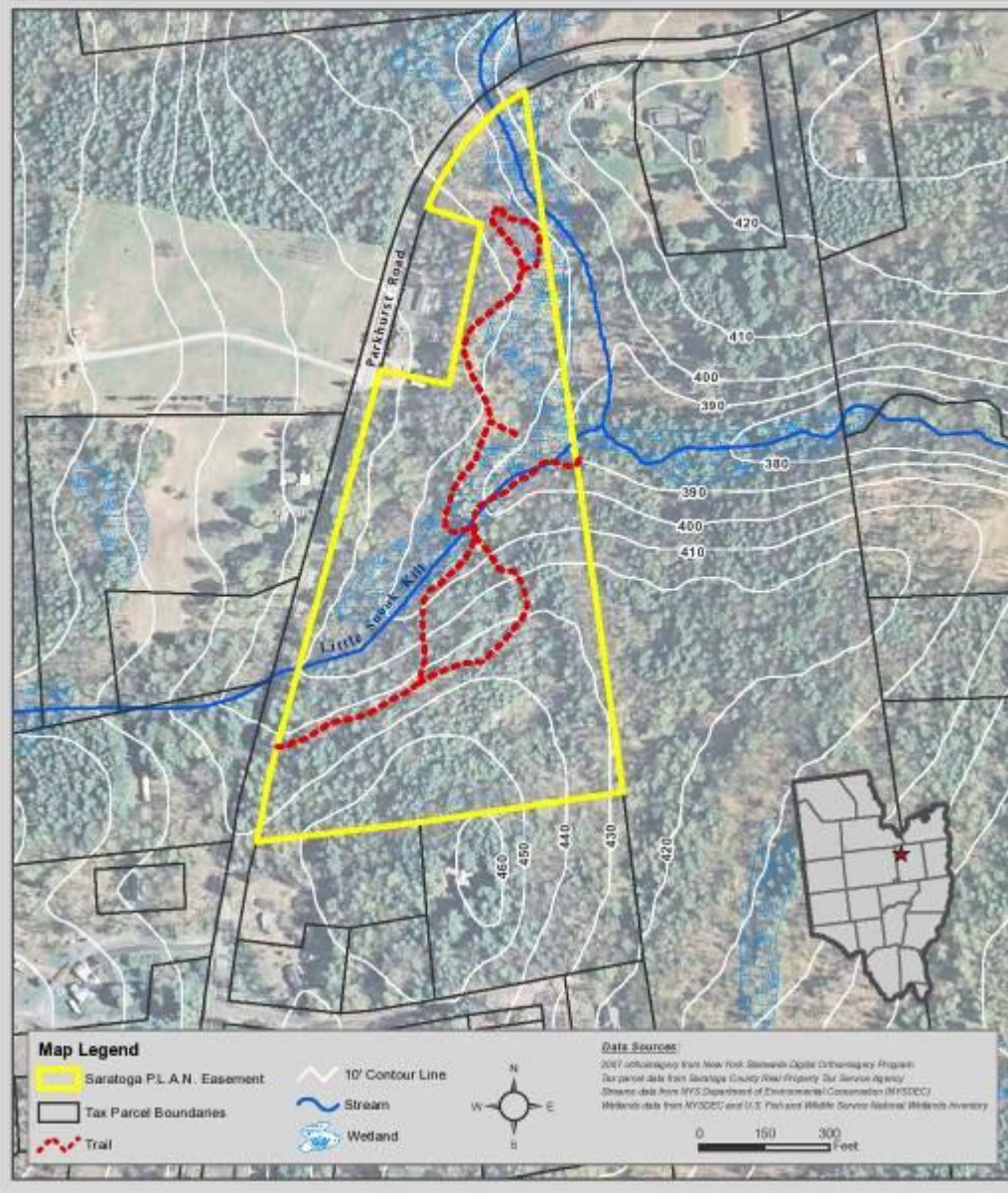
Saratoga PLAN helps protect the exceptional quality of life in our region by conserving open spaces and special places for present and future generations.

Dr. Orra Phelps Preserve
Parkhurst Rd., Wilton NY. 12830



Orra Phelps Preserve

Tax Parcel #114.-1-10.11
Parkhurst Road
Town of Wilton



Description: The Orra Phelps Preserve boasts several marked trails and multiple boardwalks winding along the Little Snook Kill. The property contains wetlands, wet woodlands, and an upland area with sandy soils boasting fringed gentian and horsetail. It also contains many types of loam, including Charlton, Hinckley Gravelly Sand, and Sutton Loam. Dr. Orra Phelps planted many native floral species here, and it is rumored that 75% of New York's indigenous fern species are growing here.



Orra Phelps Preserve is beautiful during all four seasons.

Dr. Orra Phelps Preserve Highlights:

- Scenic wetland boardwalks
- Incredible fern diversity
- ¾ mile of looping trail
- Hidden Letterbox for family fun (see downloadable clue sheet)
- Trailside benches at overlooks
- Parking for several vehicles
- Unique wildflowers