



The Cavendish Association of Trails (C.A.T.) is a committee of the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association, a local non-profit supporting many projects in our town.

The active committees served by the CCCA include:

STREETSCAPES

ENERGY COMMITTEE

SUMMER CONCERTS

CONSERVATION

C.A.T.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

You can find out more about our activities and how to reach us, participate or contribute by going to our website or facebook page.

Let us know if you would like to be part of our evolving work!

www.cavendishccca.org

cavendishcommunityconservation@gmail.com

CCCA Box 605 Cavendish Vt. 05142

Abenaki Original Trails

Abenaki people and their ancestors established and utilized a vast network of routes through Ndakinna, their homelands, connecting them with relatives, allies, subsistence sources and trade partners. Many of these trails follow and connect waterways as the natural paths of travel, either on the water itself or paralleling it. Two of the most traveled routes between settlements in the Bitawbagok (Lake Champlain) basin and the Kwenitegok (Connecticut River) valley employed the Wnegigwtekw (Otter Creek) drainage on the west side of Askaskwiwajoak (The Green Mountains) over passes to the Wantastekw (West River) or Mkazatekw (the Black River). Necessary for the conduct of subsistence, relations, trade and diplomacy during times of peace, these trails were also used during conflict, for resistance, raiding, reinforcement, and reconnaissance. Many settler captives followed these watery and mountain paths with their Abenaki captors on return to more secure points north. The Crown Point Road was begun in 1759 under British orders as a strategic cross-country route for supplies and troops in the campaign against the French in Canada. The Black River-Otter Creek transit was chosen as a practical established Native trail. Captain John Stark was the primary officer in charge of the task. Stark was very familiar with Abenaki lifeways and knowledge systems having been taken prisoner himself in 1752. His familiarity with the landscape and the skills needed to traverse it were put to good use in his troops' accomplishments laying out the Crown Point Road along the ancient path. Subsequent improvements were made by Hawkes, Small and Goffe and, later, Revolutionary War amendments created alternate side routes and branches.

Contributed by Rich Holschuh, Elnu Abenaki Cultural Relations and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer:

www.elnuabenakitribe.org www.atowi.org

Crown Point Road Association

www.crownpointroad.org

**Cavendish
Association of
Trails** 



HARDY HILL TRAIL
PROCTOR PIPER TRAIL
VAST TRAILS
ORIGINAL TRAILS
*Abenaki routes and the
Crown Point Trail*

HARDY HILL TRAIL

[Check website for trail opening](#)

Hardy Hill covers around 215 acres adjacent to Lord State Forest, and features a large beaver pond, in which there are nests of Great Blue Herons that take up residence each year. These features you will find on our Lower Loop Trails, and on the Upper Loop trails you'll find glacial erratics, several varieties of orchids and lady slippers, as well as other natural attractions. The goal for the Hardy Hill project is to permanently conserve this land by donating it to the State of Vt. And joining the list of official state trails. In accordance with this, we seek to strengthen our trail network and have its main features be handicap accessible. Longer term, we will connect these trails to nearby Hardy Hill (1590 ft) creating a summit trail that provides more challenging hikes and great views of the surrounding countryside. For updated info and ways to support the Hardy Hill Trail, visit facebook.com/cavendishtrails.



CAVENDISH VAST TRAILS GREEN MOUNTAIN SNOW FLEAS



The Cavendish Green Mountain Snowmobile Club is grateful to the Cavendish and Proctorsville landowners who allow snowmobile trails on their property. Thanks to their generosity, snowmobile riders can experience a variety of scenic views – the Proctor Piper State Forest, the Green Mountains, the Black River, and the Arthur Davis Wildlife Sanctuary as they ride the snowmobile trails from Cavendish to the surrounding towns.

Please go to the Club's website or Facebook page for more information and photographs:

cavendishsnowfleas.com

Information on the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) and VAST snowmobile trail system can be found at - vtvast.org.



PROCTOR PIPER TRAIL

[Parts of trail are now open](#)

This trail project was conceived as a way to connect the Villages of Proctorsville and Cavendish. The trail meanders through camping areas built by the CCC in the 1930's evidenced by still standing fire pits and the remnants of two standing fireplaces which bookend a warming pavilion. A gravel parking area is at the Pratt Hill trail head. The trail is intended for both the local and regional population as well as visitors to the area and offers recreational activities for all ages. In addition the majority of the trail has fairly easy grades and offers spectacular forest views. There are shallow streams with fords for crossing. A kiosk is located at trail head with user guides and regulations. At this time the Pratt Hill Trail head is open. This project will expand creating more trails in the future.

For updated information and ways you can support the trail please go to facebook.com/cavendishtrails.

