

Aspetuck Land Trust established The Honey Hill Nature Preserve in 1968 when Andre Beaumont offered the Trust a 21 acre donation. The Preserve was subsequently enlarged from Beaumont's sister, Elsie French, who donated additional acreage in 1974 and 1978.

The 37 acre nature preserve offers visitors a chance to meander through several different habitats within a relatively short distance. Topographically, the parcel occupies the northern end of an elliptical hill. The crest of the hill roughly parallels the Wilton/Weston town line. The main trail slowly descends as one follows it north into the preserve. The land drops steeply to the west where one can look upon a large swamp, the northern portion of which is included in the preserve holdings. This swamp forms part of the headwaters for Mayapple Brook which, in turn, is a tributary to the Norwalk River.

Proceeding down the old carriage road, a trail on the right, labeled "Elsie French Riding

Trails", runs up a slight grade to the top of the ridge and a four-way junction. A person may walk any of these trails which will loop back to the four-way intersection or the carriage road. The trail bisecting the property lies in a north/south direction providing an exceptional view of stone fences and a white pine stand.

Hardwoods; primarily oaks, maples, tulip poplar and black birch populate the ridge top. The northeast corner holds a large bitternut hickory. Wetlands border both sides of the ridge. Along portions of the carriage road, heading from the eastern to the western side, marsh marigolds abound in the wet areas.



**Directions:** From Wilton Center, go north on Route 7 for 2.6 miles to Honey Hill Road on right (east). Follow Honey Hill Road 0.81 miles to Wampum Hill Road. Turn left (north) on Wampum Hill and follow to Honey Hill Preserve.

**Acreage:**  $\pm 37.468$

**Parking:** Parking is not available at the Preserve entrance. We suggest you park off Wampum Hill Road, south of Honey Hill Road and walk north to the park entrance. A sign marks the entrance to the preserve.

**Access:** Entrance off Wampum Hill Road

**Trails:** Good network, distances not available

**Ownership:** Aspetuck Land Trust, Inc.

