



# OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE

King

## 2000 – 2001 HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

1. Sacandaga Confluence (Warren) – 294 acres
2. Faith Bible Church (Warren) – 70 acres
3. Helderberg Escarpment Addition (Albany) – 156 acres
4. Sutherland Pond (Columbia) – 180 acres
5. Kinderhook Corridor Additions (Columbia) – 182 acres
6. Lundy (Ulster) – 5,400 acres
7. Stony Kill Falls (Ulster) – 90 acres
8. Shevchenko (Ulster) – 1,366 acres
9. Lands & Forests (Ulster) – 1,300 acres
10. Harmony Asset (Putnam County) – 143 acres
11. King (Putnam) – 85 acres
12. Connecticut Camp (Putnam) – 16 acres
13. Garrison Investments (Putnam) – 131 acres
14. Garrison Landing (Putnam) – 20 acres
15. Glencllyffe (Putnam) – 93 acres
16. Decker (Orange County) – one acre
17. Washington's Lookout (Rockland) – 5 acres
18. Glenville Woods (Westchester) – 40 acres

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“The Open Space Institute has saved thousands of acres of stunning open space, working landscapes and historic treasures from the Hudson Highlands to the Adirondack Park. New York State could not have a better conservation partner.”

— Governor George E. Pataki

Governor Pataki & J. Grossman



Shawangunks



Lake Umbagog, NH

Dear Friends,

We are proud to share with you the Open Space Institute’s Biennial Report for 2000 and 2001. Over the course of two years, OSI and its land acquisition affiliate the Open Space Conservancy directly protected 20,000 acres of land in the Hudson River Valley and aided in the protection of nearly 90,000 acres in the northern forests of New York and New England. We could not have done it without the generous support of the Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Fund, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Surdna Foundation and many, many other foundations and our dedicated friends.

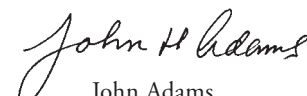
OSI has increasingly focused on regional landscapes in New York and across northern New England. We have expanded numerous state and local parks, building on a solid conservation foundation that began, in some cases, more than 100 years ago. But the threats to our landscapes are as ominous today as they were then. Unplanned development, brownfields, changing economic patterns and poor transportation planning have all led to the loss of valuable open space, forestland and farmland.

With each new threat, however, our resolve grows to protect not only the most beautiful landscapes, but the most productive as well. In 2000, we created the Northern Forest Protection Fund with generous grants from the Doris Duke Charitable and Surdna Foundations. That Fund provides grants and loans to conservation groups working to protect the vast northern forests that are essential to the region’s environmental and economic well being. In New York, we have been working with the State Department of Agriculture and Markets and other not-for-profits to purchase development rights on valuable farmland. And we have been strategically acquiring property that adds to a vast network of protected landscapes in the Hudson Highlands, the Shawangunks, Helderbergs and throughout the Hudson River Valley.

The Board of Trustees and staff at OSI would like to thank you and all of our supporters and friends. The beautiful places we have saved are as much your accomplishments as ours.

Sincerely,

  
Joe Martens  
President

  
John Adams  
Chairman

## INTRODUCTION

The Open Space Institute (OSI) has experienced extraordinary change and growth during the past two years. While it has aggressively pursued open space and farmland protection projects throughout the Hudson River Valley, OSI has expanded its programs to the northern forests of New York and New England. Thanks to generous lead grants from the Doris Duke Charitable and Surdna Foundations, OSI and its land acquisition affiliate the Open Space Conservancy<sup>1</sup> made the first round of grants from the newly created Northern Forest Protection Fund.

2001 also marked a transition in OSI’s relationship with the Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Fund for the Hudson Highlands. Since 1984 the Fund has supported OSI’s work protecting the Hudson River Valley’s open space and historic, cultural and natural resources. In Spring 2001 the Highlands Fund dissolved and turned over its assets to OSI and Scenic Hudson. The Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Endowment, a permanent fund, is now held and managed by OSI. Although not a new source of funding, it ensures that our open space work in the Hudson River Valley will continue for generations to come.

OSI also has a new home. In 2001 OSI moved into new office space at 1350 Broadway after having spent six years sharing space with our joint venture partner the Trust for Public Land. Although our partnership with TPL is as strong as ever, growth at the two organizations required us to leave 666 Broadway. Our new environmentally state-of-the-art headquarters is bright, energy efficient and easy to get to. Please come and visit us!

The following will provide you with a glimpse of our accomplishments during 2000 and 2001.

<sup>1</sup>OSI and OSC (formerly the Beaverkill Conservancy) are separate but affiliated corporate entities. For simplicity, OSI is used throughout the report.



Coos County, NH

“The forest that has covered this region since the ice retreated is the setting for our lives. Our economies, our culture, our sense of what is beautiful all are shaped by this amazing spread of birch and beech and maple, of spruce and pine and hemlock.”

—Bill McKibben in “Shaping The Northern Forest Economy,” Northern Forest Alliance



New Hampshire, from Magalloway Mountain



Black Falls Tract, VT

### NORTHERN FOREST PROTECTION FUND

The establishment of the Northern Forest Protection Fund in 2000 marked a major achievement for OSI. The Fund is an innovative new grant- and loan-making program dedicated to permanently protecting forestland in one of the nation’s most cherished and threatened landscapes: the Northern Forest.

Stretching across 26 million acres in northern New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, the Northern Forest is the largest remaining expanse of forest east of the Mississippi River. The region encompasses the most remote and pristine lands and waters in the Northeast, providing prime wildlife habitat, thousands of forest-based jobs and recreational opportunities for almost 10 million visitors each year. But a dramatic increase in the sale and fragmentation of the Northern Forest’s woodlands – almost 5 million acres have either changed hands in the past few years or are for sale today – threatens to erode both the region’s economy and the ecosystems on which they depend.

Through the Northern Forest Protection Fund, OSI seeks to catalyze new opportunities for landscape-scale forestland conservation across this vulnerable region.

Specifically, the Fund supports land trusts working to permanently protect large forestland parcels through fee acquisition or conservation easement. The Fund favors conservation projects that:

- ❖ Create or link protected land on a landscape scale (generally larger than 10,000 acres);
- ❖ Showcase the values of conservation, public recreation and sustainable forestry;
- ❖ Match the Fund’s dollars at least 4:1 with other private or public conservation funding.

With \$10 million in generous capital support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and \$2 million from the Surdna Foundation, OSI made its first round of grants from the Fund in June 2001. Six grants were awarded to land trusts in Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and New York, for a total of more than \$1.7 million. The grants support the permanent protection of nearly 90,000 acres of working forests and ecological reserves. The Fund’s contributions will be used to leverage an additional \$29 million in public and private contributions to these important projects.



Grants funded in 2001 include:

#### Pond of Safety, New Hampshire

The Fund awarded \$400,000 to the Trust for Public Land to help purchase over 13,000 acres of forestland in the towns of Randolph and Jefferson, NH. The parcel is the largest remaining undeveloped link between the two units of the White Mountain National Forest. By connecting the two units, the Pond of Safety project creates over 950,000 acres of permanently conserved forestland, and secures protection of and access to one of New England’s largest wildlife and recreation corridors. Close to 10,000 acres of the project area became the Randolph Town Forest, and will continue to be managed for timber production, wildlife protection and public recreation. TPL will hold an easement on the property to ensure its ongoing protection. The remaining 3,000 acres were sold to the U.S. Forest Service, to be added to the White Mountain National Forest.

#### Adirondack Lakes, New York

The Fund’s \$400,000 grant helped The Nature Conservancy acquire 26,500 acres of land in the central western Adirondacks. The deal consolidates a total of 195,000 acres of conserved lands, and protects critical habitat for New York’s native brook trout, common loon and endangered spruce grouse. TNC also plans to reopen an historic 40-mile wilderness canoe circuit running through the property, which has been closed to the public. Of the 26,500 acres, TNC will retain 12,500 acres to create an ecological reserve; 8,000 acres will be added to the Adirondack State Forest Preserve; and 6,000 acres will be managed as working forest, protected through a conservation easement.

#### Bunnell Tract, New Hampshire

The Fund’s \$400,000 grant to the New Hampshire chapter of The Nature Conservancy supported the conservation of 18,528 acres in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. The area is known for its outstanding wetland and alpine habitats, as well as its 13 high peaks. Over 10,000 acres will be managed as an ecological reserve by TNC. The remaining area will be managed for timber harvest, subject to a comprehensive forestland conservation easement.

#### Black Falls, Vermont

The Fund awarded a \$240,000 grant to the Green Mountain Club to support the purchase of 3,754 acres of forestland habitat adjacent to the Long Trail, a popular hiking route that runs the length of Vermont. The Black Falls Tract is part of a growing complex of conserved forestland in northern Vermont, totaling over 30,000 acres.

Through conservation purchases such as these, OSI and its partners envision creating a system of stable, well-managed commercial forests and ecological reserves that will work together to sustain the Northern Forest’s rural economies and its biodiversity.





Lundy Estate



Lundy Estate



Garrison Investments



Sam's Point Preserve

### THE JEWEL OF THE CATSKILLS — THE LUNDY ESTATE

In March 2000, OSI took a major step toward its goal of creating a conservation link between New York's Catskill and Shawangunk Mountains when it acquired the 5,400-acre Lundy Estate. This acquisition, accomplished with our joint venture partner the Trust for Public Land, is a milestone in the history of land conservation in the Catskills and fulfills the long-sought goal of protecting the largest single parcel between the two mountain ranges.

The property once belonged to Frederick W. I. Lundy, the successful owner of the eponymous New York City restaurant from 1934 to 1979. As part of the transaction, OSI and TPL sold two houses on the property dating back to the late 1800's and 1920's and approximately 470 acres of adjoining land to a private buyer subject to a stringent conservation easement that restricts future development and keeps these improved lands on the local tax rolls. OSI and TPL will clear dilapidated buildings from the balance of the property in preparation for conveyance to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, which will manage it for public use and enjoyment.

As one of the most significant acquisitions of open space in the Catskills since the Catskill Forest Preserve was formed in the 1880s, the purchase of the Lundy Estate offered a rare chance to preserve an entire river valley in a single transaction. The property includes thousands of acres of undeveloped woodland, as well as six miles of the Vernooey Kill, the only major undammed and undeveloped stream in the region. Its purchase protects fishing access along the length of the stream, wildlife habitat that includes numerous timber rattlesnake dens, and opens to the public superb recreational resources for hiking, hunting, and camping.

In addition, acquisition of the Lundy tract allows for the relocation of a significant stretch of the Long Path, a 328-mile public hiking trail, from public roads to remote and undeveloped woodlands. Hikers on this trail enjoy spectacular views of the Shawangunks, Catskills, Helderbergs and the Hudson River Valley.

### PROTECTING NEW YORK'S HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

OSI has been protecting important landscapes in the Hudson River Valley for more than 20 years, thanks in large measure to the Lila Acheson and DeWitt Wallace Fund for the Hudson Highlands. Since 1981, OSI has protected more than 70,000 acres in the Valley having a value of more than \$178 million. During the past two years, OSI continued to target parcels throughout the Hudson River Valley that further its far-reaching strategic land conservation plan.

#### Eastern Hudson Highlands

The Hudson Highlands are part of a two million-acre forested landscape that spans from Pennsylvania to Connecticut. This is a region of national significance due to its diversity of natural resources and proximity to 20 million Americans.

For years OSI has concentrated on preserving this beautiful and ecologically rich area. Our efforts have resulted in the protection of more than 8,000 acres in the eastern Highlands, almost doubling the size of Clarence Fahnestock Memorial and Hudson Highlands State Parks. During the last two years OSI has donated 113 acres of important parkland to the Village of Nelsonville and an additional 91 acres to the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as an addition to Hudson Highlands State Park. Further, it purchased the following five key properties in the eastern Highlands and secured conservation easements on four more.

OSI came a step closer to accomplishing one of its long-term goals of linking Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks when it purchased the 85-acre **King** property in February 2000. This property was the largest remaining parcel between the two State parks. The purchase of the King property helps protect the viewshed from the western boundary of Fahnestock State Park and prevents development along a commercially zoned half-mile corridor of Route 9 near its intersection with Route 301 in Cold Spring.

Complementing its purchase of the King property, OSI acquired a 16-acre parcel in the Village of Nelsonville known as the **Connecticut Camp**, so named because it was the Connecticut Division's winter encampment from 1780 to 1781 during the Revolutionary War. Like the King property, Connecticut Camp is strategically located between Fahnestock and Hudson Highlands State Parks and will further the connection between them.

OSI purchased the 113-acre **Garrison Investments** property. This unique parcel is one of the few parcels in the Highlands that is not forested and contains south facing meadows with stunning views of the Hudson River. The expansive grassland meadow on this parcel provides important habitat for grassland birds and mammals. OSI is developing a plan that will ensure the long-term maintenance of the meadows and will provide public trails connecting it with Fahnestock State Park.

OSI acquired 143 acres along the eastern boundary of Fahnestock State Park. The purchase of the **Harmony Asset** property will expand the eastern boundary of the Park and act as a buffer protecting its most remote and isolated area, which harbors coyote, black bears and badgers. The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is managing the property on OSI's behalf.

The 93-acre **Glenclyffe** property, a former Capuchin monastery located in the hamlet of Garrison lies immediately south of Arden Point State Park and opposite a Department of Environmental Conservation





Schunnemunk Mountain

“The Open Space Institute and The Nature Conservancy’s partnership in the Shawangunks has resulted in the protection of a globally significant landscape. This conservation milestone would not have been possible without OSI.”

— Henry Tepper, State Director, The Nature Conservancy



Shevchenko

Unique Area. This visually stunning and historic property has been owned and carefully managed by the Capuchin Friars since 1923. In the late 1990’s the property was slated for intensive residential and commercial development. The local planning board determined that the proposed development was inconsistent with the character of the community and did not grant the necessary approvals. In November 2001 OSI acquired the property, ensuring its long-term protection and care.

OSI intends to sell a portion of the site, including a 73,000-square-foot Friary, to a newly formed not-for-profit, the Garrison Institute, that will use the site for educational and contemplative purposes. OSI will work with the Town and area residents on a disposition plan for the balance of the property that will include public trails and rehabilitation of the remaining structures on the property.

**Historic Garrison Landing** lies on the banks of the Hudson opposite West Point and just downriver from Storm King Mountain. The Landing is part of a larger historic district that encompasses a Dutch farm dating back to the 1600’s, a historic mill house, which is currently being restored by OSI, and one of the oldest houses and barns in Putnam County. The historic integrity of this hamlet would have been destroyed by proposed subdivision and development if OSI had not acted quickly to secure conservation easements on four parcels comprising the core of the Landing area.

#### Western Hudson Highlands

The Hudson Highlands landscape west of the Hudson River has a long and proud conservation history. Bear Mountain State Park, Black Rock Forest, Storm King Art Center, Schunnemunk Mountain and Sterling Forest all contribute to a spectacular network of protected open space that is within a two-hour drive of the New York metropolitan region. As such, the western

Highlands are an important regional priority for OSI. Our goal is to expand and connect existing protected lands to minimize fragmentation, protect biological diversity, provide watershed protection and offer additional recreational opportunities for the millions of New York and New Jersey residents that visit this area.

OSI has protected thousands of acres in this region including 2,500 acres on the geologically unique Schunnemunk Mountain, and, with the Trust for Public Land, more than 17,000 acres of Sterling Forest. Most recently OSI and TPL negotiated the purchase of 1,100 acres of Sterling Forest that was not acquired by New York State in 1998. OSI directly acquired an additional 129 acres from the Sterling Forest Corporation, which it is donating to the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

In November 2001 the Open Space Institute acquired the **Decker** property in the Town of Cornwall, a one-acre parcel that was a high priority for both the New York New Jersey Trail Conference and for the Black Rock Consortium. The lot provides a critical access point for a trail leading to a spectacular 90-foot waterfall known as Mineral Falls.

#### The Shawangunks

The Shawangunk Ridge in Ulster and Orange Counties is a spectacular landscape that is home to the globally rare, high-altitude pitch pine barrens and numerous rare and endangered species. For nearly twenty years OSI has been protecting this beautiful and fragile landscape. To date, OSI has purchased 11,441 acres in the Shawangunks, including the almost 5,000-acre **Sam’s Point Preserve**, which is managed on OSI’s behalf by The Nature Conservancy. During 2000 and 2001, OSI acquired thirteen separate parcels in the “Gunks” totaling 3,524 acres.

Most notably, OSI and TPL acquired the 1,300-acre **Lands and Forests Tract**, which contains the highest summit in the southern Shawangunks. This property is

located in the Towns of Wawarsing and Mamakating in Ulster and Sullivan counties, respectively, and is known for its pitch pine barrens, exposed bedrock and nearly two miles of spectacular ridgeline. OSI has targeted this parcel for protection since the 1980s when it acquired and conveyed 2,300 acres immediately south on the Shawangunk Ridge to the State Department of Environmental Conservation as an addition to the State Forest Preserve. When it completed this purchase, OSI and TPL closed the last “gap” in the Shawangunk Ridge Trail, which runs from High Point State Park in New Jersey to Minnewaska State Park near New Paltz, New York.

Equally important, OSI acquired the 1,366-acre **Shevchenko Scientific Society** property located along

the western flank of Minnewaska State Park in the northern Shawangunks. This remote tract nearly connects the Shawangunk Ridge with the Lundy Estate in the southern Catskills, providing an important conservation connection between these critical natural resource areas. It contains a craggy viewpoint known as Napanoch Point, two secluded valleys and four major streams: the Little Stony Kill, Mine Hole Hollow Brook, Jumping Brook and Disappearing Brook.

OSI’s remaining purchases in the Shawangunks ranged in size from a single acre to 294 acres. They all provide key public access points to places like **Stony Kill Falls**, provide space for public camping facilities off the ridge and protect the visual integrity of the major entryway to the region at the Trapps Gateway.

#### CAPITAL REGION

Saratoga County’s rich farmland and agricultural heritage are in jeopardy. From 1950 to 1992, some 130,000 acres of Saratoga County farmland were converted to residential and commercial uses. This development pressure has accelerated over the last decade and is unlikely to slow down. By 2030 the county’s population is expected to increase by almost 30 percent.

Concern over the loss of farmland prompted the Town of Saratoga to seek a State Farmland Protection Program grant for the purchase of development rights on two parcels lying opposite the new Saratoga National Veterans’ Cemetery. Following state approval of the grant, the town asked OSI to negotiate the terms and conditions of the conservation easements and provided the required twenty-five percent local match. As a result of OSI’s participation, 250 acres of productive farmland was saved and the viewshed of the new national cemetery protected.

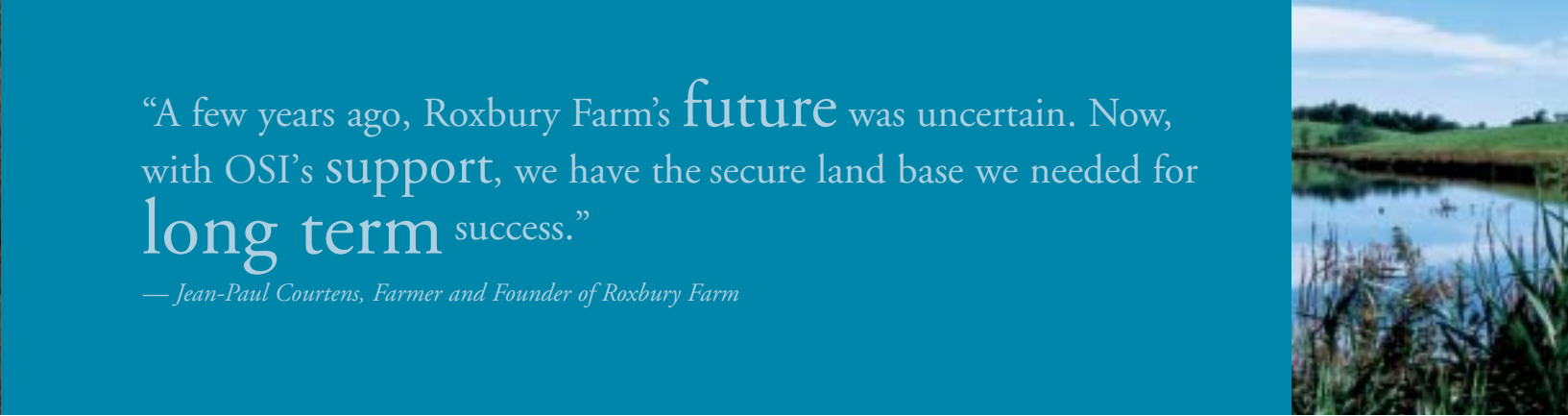
Just up the Hudson River in Warren County, OSI worked to protect an important recreational resource along the Sacandaga River near its confluence with the Hudson River. OSI bought 281 acres in the Town of Hadley from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation that will provide public access to scenic **Stewart’s Bridge Reservoir**, an important fishing and boating recreation area. In the same transaction OSI acquired an additional 13 acres on the Hudson River in the Town of Lake Luzerne that will be managed by the Town as a riverside park.

Also in Warren County, OSI advanced its partnership with the Town of Queensbury to enhance public access to the Hudson River. In February 2001, OSI acquired the 70-acre **Faith Bible Church** property, a former summer camp that will be managed by the Town as a Town Park and nature preserve. OSI also donated the neighboring 83-acre **Hudson Pointe Nature Preserve** to the Town, subject to a conservation easement that will maintain its undeveloped character.





Kinderhook Creek



Sutherland Pond

“A few years ago, Roxbury Farm’s **future** was uncertain. Now, with OSI’s support, we have the secure land base we needed for **long term** success.”

— Jean-Paul Courtens, Farmer and Founder of Roxbury Farm

### Helderberg Escarpment

The Helderberg Escarpment is a defining feature along the western edge of the Hudson River Valley in New York’s Capital region. Fossil-rich limestone cliffs provide a magnificent backdrop just 10 miles west of the State’s capital. Although John Boyd Thacher State Park protects a portion of the escarpment, a great deal of this ecologically sensitive area is vulnerable to residential development and has become a high priority for OSI’s landscape protection work.

Adding to the 350 acres that it has already protected along the northern escarpment, OSI recently acquired a 156-acre parcel in the Town of Knox, Albany County from the **Voorheesville Rod and Gun Club**. This purchase is a step toward OSI’s goal of linking John Boyd Thacher State Park with nearby Thompson’s Lake State Park. It has also provided for the northerly extension of the Long Path, a popular public hiking trail that spans the Valley from the George Washington Bridge to Thacher Park.

### Columbia County Agricultural and Historic Preservation

In Columbia County, OSI is at the center of a successful partnership among federal, state and local governments and several non-profit groups working to protect land of significant historic, agricultural, recreational, and scenic value.

In the mid-1990s several groups, including OSI, the National Park Service and the Columbia Land Conservancy, joined forces to protect the unique and historic landscape of the **Kinderhook Creek Corridor** in Columbia County. Some 10 miles upstream from its confluence with the Hudson, the Kinderhook Creek winds its way through the unspoiled pastoral beauty of the towns of Stuyvesant and Kinderhook. Within this area are some of New York State’s most fertile farmlands.

Historic preservation is also a focus of OSI in this regional landscape. There are two sites along Kinderhook Creek of particular historic value: the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, which includes the fully restored mansion of the former President, and the Luykas Van Alen House, a restored 18th century Dutch farmhouse that is owned and kept open to the public by the Columbia County Historical Society.

OSI and its project partners targeted 850 acres along the Kinderhook to be safeguarded either through fee acquisition or conservation easements. A public recreation trail is also planned to provide access to Kinderhook Creek and link the historic sites to the Village of Kinderhook, Town of Stuyvesant and other local points of interest.

OSI accomplished the first step of its vision for this historic corridor by purchasing a 71-acre parcel just south of the Van Alen house in January 1999. OSI subsequently resold this property to the Equity Trust, the non-profit funding partner of Roxbury Farm, subject to a conservation easement. Roxbury, an organic farm that is one of the region’s leading Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects, has more than 600 members in the New York City, Columbia County, and Capital Region areas.

OSI’s purchase of the 126-acre **Meyer Farm** in February 2000 marked the project’s second major success. Located next to the National Historic Site, this parcel was part of Martin Van Buren’s original estate. Following the acquisition, OSI leased the property to Roxbury Farm for future expansion of its CSA project. Eventually, portions of the site will be resold to the National Park Service and Roxbury, upon expansion of the current National Historic Site boundaries through federal legislation.

In a third transaction, OSI purchased a conservation

easement on 56 acres adjacent to the Equity Trust parcel described above. Roxbury will also farm this land. The Town of Kinderhook will manage public hiking trails on all three protected parcels.

With funding support from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Columbia Land Conservancy, OSI acquired the stunning, 180-acre **Sutherland Pond** property in December 2001. The property contains rolling grassland meadows, panoramic views of the Catskills and Berkshires, and one of only four publicly accessible water bodies in Columbia

County. The site will be managed on OSI’s behalf by CLC.

OSI also purchased a conservation easement on a key 15-acre adjoining parcel, the **Griffin** property. The Griffins donated back the purchase price to be used as part of an endowment for the management of Sutherland Pond. These purchases highlight how land conservation, agricultural, historic, and recreational needs can be met through creative public/private partnerships.

### LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

#### Rockland County Historic Preservation

In early 2000 Governor George Pataki celebrated OSI’s acquisition of the historic **Washington’s Lookout** property in the Town of Stony Point, Rockland County. Military historians claim that this was the spot where General George Washington and Colonel “Mad” Anthony Wayne planned a surprise attack on British troops during the Revolutionary War. This attack became known later as the Battle of Stony Point.

Washington’s Lookout contains a rocky promontory on the side of Buckberg Mountain that overlooks Haverstraw Bay and the Hudson River. The Lookout offers a clear view of Stony Point Fort and the Hudson River, which allowed the two officers to pinpoint the inland and water assault routes that led to the defeat of the British garrison.

Local citizens drew OSI’s attention to Washington’s Lookout when they learned that the lot on which it stands was facing imminent development. Working with these citizens, OSI purchased the 5.4-acre parcel and entered into an agreement with the Town of Stony Point to manage it for public recreational and educational use.

#### Curbing Sprawl in Westchester County

In another creative partnership, OSI, the Trust for Public Land and County and local officials joined forces to protect a 40-acre parcel in the Town of Greenburgh known as **Glenville Woods**. This parcel, which lies south of Tarrytown Reservoir and west of existing County parkland, had been slated for an intense residential development. Area residents contacted OSI and TPL who negotiated an option agreement with the developer.

Over the next six months, OSI and TPL secured funding commitments from the Town, County and State, which in addition to OSI’s commitment of more than \$837,000, ensured the protection of this important open space resource. In February 2001, Governor Pataki, County Executive Andy Spano, State Senator Nick Spano, Assemblyman Richard Brodsky and Town Supervisor Paul Feiner joined OSI and TPL staff and area residents to celebrate the protection of Glenville Woods.





Columbia County Farmland



Randolph Community Forest, NH

### CITIZEN ACTION

One of OSI's founding purposes was to support citizen groups working in their communities to protect open space, promote sound land use planning, help ensure compliance with environmental laws and to educate the public. Since its inception the Citizen Action program has provided administrative support to 100 groups nationwide. Today, OSI's Citizen Action Program enables 32 grassroots organizations to focus on their primary missions rather than administrative functions.

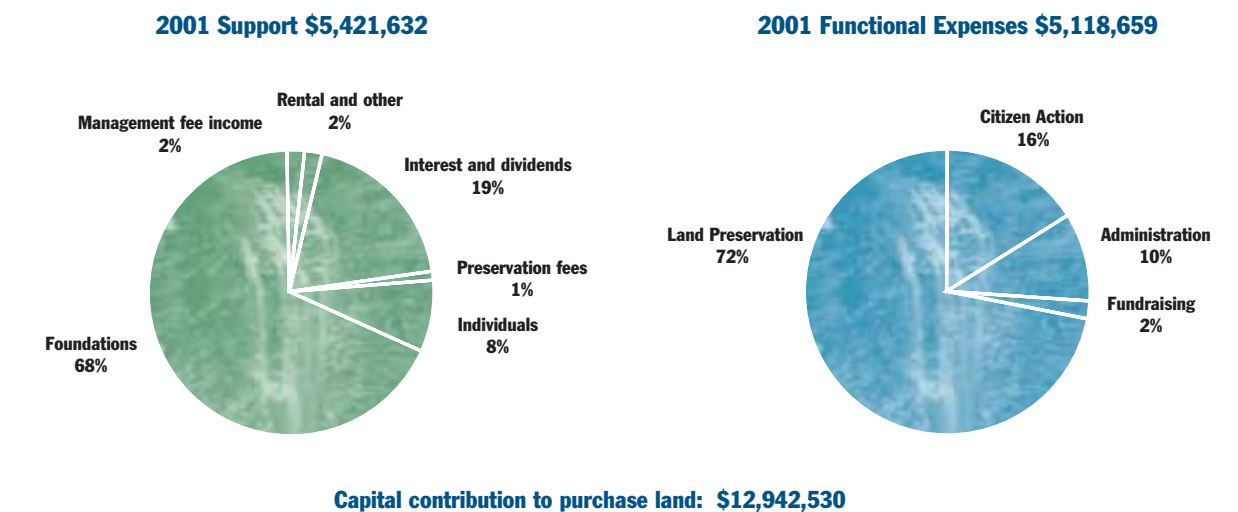
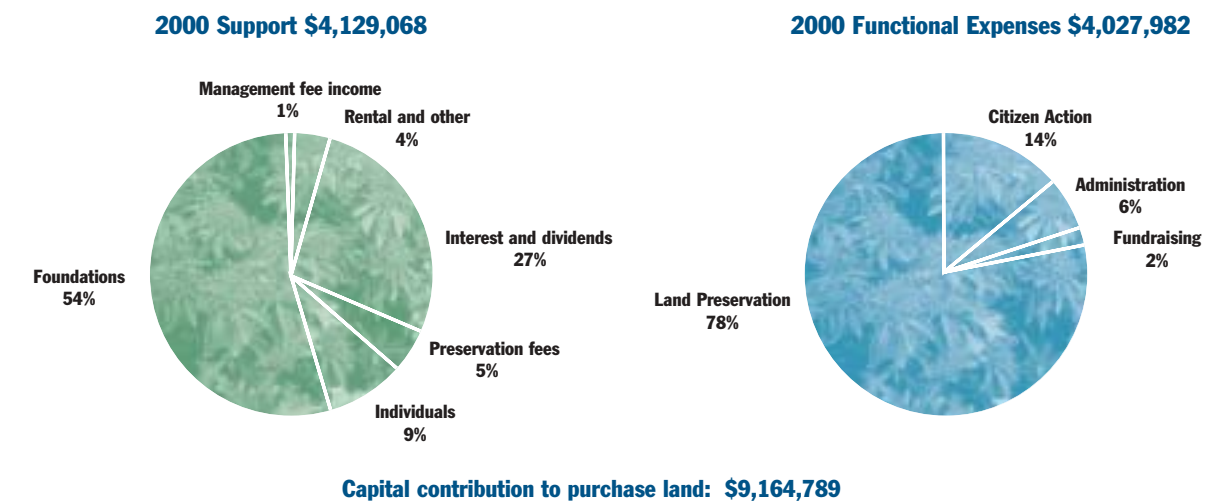
Over the past twenty-one years OSI has sponsored groups varied in their goals and regional focus. **Friends of Hudson** formed to address the scenic and environmental problems associated with a proposed cement plant and to protect and promote Hudson — the City, the River, and the Valley. **Friends of Catskill Park** opposes the construction of a large scale golf course and residential resort in the heart of the Catskills. **Sustainable Careers Institute** was started to advise college career offices of employment opportunities in environmentally related fields. OSI has long supported **Alaska Education**, which is devoted to promoting a healthy economy based on sustainable forestry in southeast Alaska and is expanding to Costa Rica.

### VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The Open Space Institute's work in the Hudson River Valley and the Northern Forests of New York and New England is helping to secure the environmental and economic future of this region. For years, OSI has been building on the conservation foundation laid more than a hundred years ago by thoughtful New Yorkers who were thinking not of themselves but of future generations when they set aside land in the Adirondacks and Catskills and started the State's park system. OSI's strategy of focusing on protection of regional landscapes, whether in the Hudson Highlands or the Northern Forests, ensures high quality recreational experiences, protects biological diversity, supports rural economies, and is cost effective.

While OSI has focused on regional landscape protection projects, it has not forgotten the importance, if not necessity, of purchasing key, smaller scale properties that help preserve our history, culture and heritage. Together, these landscapes, large and small, are what define us as New Yorkers, New Englanders and Americans.

### FINANCIAL REPORT — 2000 and 2001







Glenclyffe

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