

The Trails

ELIZEBETH PLIMPTON MEMORIAL

Much of this land is now is a mixed hardwood forest, including oak, beech, hickory, birch and maple trees, with remnant red cedar and open grown white oaks, indicating its earlier use as pasture.

The trail entrance is about ¼ mile from the Lyme Congregational Church, on the north side of Sterling City Road, opposite the entrance to Stone Post Road. The 1.25 mile trail works its way along the property's perimeter to the top of the first of two hills, a 150-foot rise from Sterling City Road. From there, the trail drops down before meandering its way up to the second hill and the Overlook at an elevation of 370 feet. From here you can see Hamburg Cove, the Connecticut River and the north shore of Long Island.

Descending from the Overlook, the trail joins the route of Meetinghouse Hill Road as it returns to Sterling City Road. This road opened in 1724 and was not discontinued by the town until 1849. Somewhere above this road stood the first meetinghouse, completed around 1728; nothing now remains of this building. Sections of chestnut split rail fence are still visible along the road. The trail is open to the public all year.

ALLOWED ACTIVITIES:

The Plimpton Preserve is open from sunrise to sunset and the trail provides opportunities for hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting, and leashed pets. Please respect the environment; do not disturb or remove anything and keep the trails clean.

NOTE

- During deer/firearm hunting season (dates posted) written permission is required to hunt Monday – Friday.
- During bow hunting season (dates posted) written permission is required to hunt Monday – Thursday.
- Hunters are required to post their presence at the Preserve entrance
- **Hunting is not permitted on Saturdays or Sundays.**

STERLING CITY PRESERVE

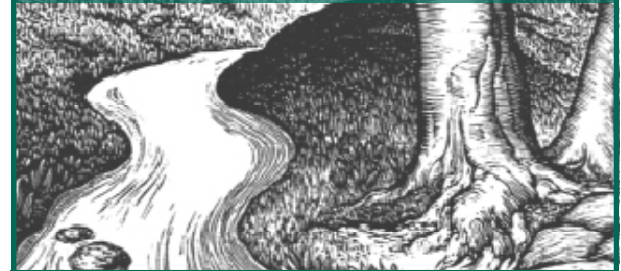
Just west of the intersection of Sterling City and Birch Mill Roads, this 12-acre preserve was put together from four parcels of land. The LLCT was given conservation easements on three of these pieces, and the fourth piece, half of the 6-acre field, was acquired in 1997 from Martha Blum. The purchase price for the field was covered by donations from Henry and Lois Willard, Paul Harper, Templeton and Susie Brown, Ethel Feltham and Richard and Catherine Zall.

Report any problems during your visit to the Lyme Open Space Coordinator.

For more information, see www.lymelandtrust.org

TRAILS OF LYME

Elizabeth Plimpton Memorial Preserve & Sterling City Preserve




Thomas W. Nason, *The Brook*, Florence Griswold Museum; Lyme Historical Society

ELIZEBETH PLIMPTON MEMORIAL PRESERVE



The Lyme Land Conservation Trust purchased 80 acres from Ken Plimpton at a bargain sale in 2001, and this parcel is now named in honor of his wife. Both Ken and Elizabeth grew up in Lyme and she was town historian for many years. The Lyme Land Trust Stewardship Committee created, cleared and marked a trail for an inaugural walk on October 27, 2002, led by ecologist Anthony Irving. This trail crosses an additional 25-acre parcel, which Ken owns and has generously allowed the public to use.

STERLING CITY PRESERVE

This preserve is part of the watershed of Falls Brook and the Eightmile River. The field portion is now under cultivation by Tiffany Farm. On the rise overlooking the field, a granite bench offers a place for contemplation and sunset views. It is dedicated to the memory of the Willard's son Stephen, an outdoorsman and rock climber, who died of cancer in 1997.



Lyme Land Conservation Trust
**PLIMPTON PRESERVE
 & STERLING CITY PRESERVE**

- - - TRAIL (1.5 miles)
- - - OTHER TRAILS
-  PRESERVE BOUNDARY
-  PRIVATE PROPERTY BOUNDARY

0 0.5 Kilometer 0.5 Mile

