

DUVAL TRAIL in Susanna's Woods

The 2.4 mile DuVal Trail crosses numerous parcels protected by SKLT and RIDEM between 1983 and 1998. SKLT's DuVal Trail project was chosen as a Conservation Assistance Project by the National Park Service (NPS) for its Rivers & Trails Program in 1998, which provided technical assistance in siting and design of the trail in Perryville.

This trail features the hill and kettle topography of a terminal moraine left by the retreating glaciers of the last ice age. Visitors enjoy a sweeping view of the ocean and Block Island to the south from a scenic overlook. *Mountain bikes and motorized vehicles are not allowed*.

Susanna's Woods is noted for its stands of oak and thick under-story of mountain laurel. It lies within the Charlestown Recessional Moraine, a line of hilly terrain which runs from Narragansett Bay through Watch Hill, Fisher's Island, and Long Island, marking where the last glacier paused before its final retreat. Acting as a natural dam, the moraine created Worden's Pond, the Great Swamp, and the course of the Pawcatuck River.

Historically, the woods were used as woodlots for the plantation families who farmed the flat land nearer the coast. Though the area was never cleared, it has been continually cut for 300 years.

Driving directions:

From Wakefield proceed Southwest on Main Street for 1.49 miles to Route 1. Stay on Route 1 South for about 2.9 miles then take the exit marked Post Road / Perryville. Proceed 0.31 miles to a stop sign at the intersection of Ministerial Road (Route 110). Go straight on Post Road for 1.28 miles, passing Moonstone Beach Road on your left, to a parking area on the right at the foot of the Quaker Burial Ground. The trail begins about 50 feet west of the parking area on the same side.