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Land Committee Update

The Land Committee Update is focused on the Trust’s mission of conserving open land. The committee has established three primary goals for 2009:

- An updated database of 'Sconset properties
- Conservation of the Coffin Property
- Conservation of the Loran Station

The new database will show current zoning and development potential for all properties in 'Sconset. This will enable us to establish conservation and preservation priorities. This database will be updated annually.

The 120 acre Coffin Property on Mizvone Road includes the 66 acre public golf course and the adjacent 54 acre parcel to the east. With wetlands approval from the Nantucket Conservation Commission, the property is ready for subdivision. These 150 acres include half acre and 3 acre zoning lots that could see extensive development. We are continuing our best efforts to conserve this land, working closely with the Nantucket Golf Club, the Nantucket Land Bank and the Nantucket Conservation Foundation. We plan to work proactively with these groups to minimize development for all of the Coffin property, conserving as much open space as possible.

The 190 acre Loran Station is currently owned by the federal government with some portions leased to the town of Nantucket. Currently used by the U.S. Coast Guard, there is concern this property could be declared surplus government land and be open for development. Town planners have been studying potential use which includes recreational uses, open space and affordable housing. The Trust is working closely with the 'Sconset Civic Association on an area plan that would include recommendations to the Town. We are also in discussions with town officials and Low Beach Road residents.

To deal with these challenges we are working closely with other island conservation groups, government officials and the members of the Trust. We will keep you updated. These parcels represent two of the four largest properties (over 50 acres) with development potential remaining on the island. It will take the support of the entire island and all of you to conserve them.

—Submitted by David Cheek

Preservation Committee News

The 'Sconset Trust 2008 Annual Meeting marked the introduction of the Lourie Preservation Award. This award honors the Lourie family who were the first members of the 'Sconset Community to place an Historic Preservation Easement on a private residence. In 2002, Donald Lourie and Sherry Lourie gave an Historic Preservation Restriction or easement to the 'Sconset Trust on the facade and front lawn of Atlantic House on Main Street, thus preventing the property’s potential division into six house lots by future owners possible under current zoning. The purpose of the gift was to preserve the beauty and historic character of Main Street. The Trust in accepting the easement agreed to confirm by an annual inspection of that the lawn and facade remain intact. The rear and sides of the property could be changed in any manner allowable.

by current building department regulations, thus allowing a guesthouse or pool as examples. The 2008 recipient of the Lourie Award is the Siasconset Chapel, whose board of directors and devoted parishioners through great effort and dedication were able to acquire an easement for the chapel in 2007. The easement will assure that the chapel, celebrating its 125th year, will be protected from future alteration and will remain an integral component of this very special place. The newly formed Preservation Committee is working cooperatively with the Nantucket Preservation Trust to promote the popular architectural walking tours of the village and in 2009, will co-host the NPT’s annual fete in the historic district of 'Sconset. This wonderful event will include historic house tours as well as a “block party.”

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The 'Sconset Trust
Conservation & Preservation

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Save the Dates!
Trust Soirees 2009
Washington, D.C. Soiree
March 2009
FIFTH ANNUAL
New York City Soiree
at the Metropolitan Club
April 17, 2009
More details to follow