

**KINGSTON, 1996
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HATHAWAY PRESERVE

**First Property Acquired by the Kingston Open Space Committee
Trails, Rest Areas, Four Bridges and a 100 Ft Long Boardwalk for the Public**

The Hathaway Preserve, a 77 acre parcel of land stretched along a mile of the Jones River, is the first property acquired by the Kingston Open Space Committee when it formed in 1996. The Preserve offers trails, rest areas, bridges and a boardwalk for hikers, walkers and explorers and forms part of the Bay Circuit Trail, a network of parks and open space that runs from Duxbury to Ipswich.

The Preserve includes Steven Bradford's privilege, a mill site for much of the 19th century. As early as 1804, a clay mill supported brick and pottery manufacturing. Later industry included a trip hammer forge around 1808, a cotton factory in 1812, a sawmill and gristmill in 1814, and a shingle mill and nail works in 1820. The final shop, Newcombs Mill, operated until 1900. Some traces of these early industries remain, including a kiln foundation, the granite blocks of the mill race and shards of red Bradford pottery.

Since dedicating the Preserve in 1996, the Open Space Committee has widened the access road and created a parking area; marked trails and created a map for hikers; placed catwalks over the Spring Brook; and built bridges across the sluiceway that directed the Jones River to the mills.

**Compliments of Register of Deeds, John R. Buckley, Jr. and
Susan Aprill, Archivist
Kingston Public Library, Local History Room**