



A LEGACY OF NATURAL BEAUTY AND HISTORY

Sloan Gorge Preserve is one of many properties protected and maintained by the Woodstock Land Conservancy for the enjoyment of the public.

The Preserve was generously donated by **Allan Edward Sloan**, an artist and admirer of the Catskills and Hudson Valley. Known for his portraits and landscapes of the region, Sloan came to Woodstock in the 1920s, where he spent his lifetime involved in the arts. He donated Sloan Gorge Preserve to the Woodstock Land Conservancy shortly before his death in 1999. It was his desire that those who walk this land enjoy the wildlife and beauty that is so abundant in these woods.

Opened to the public in 2007, Sloan Gorge Preserve paved the way as the first public-access trail operated by the Woodstock Land Conservancy.

pictured above:
Overlook from Chestnut Hill Road
by Allan Edward Sloan

VISITING THE PRESERVE

Directions: From the center of Woodstock, take Rock City Road 0.6 mile, then turn right on Glasco Turnpike. Go 1.7 miles and then turn left on West Saugerties Road. After 1.1 miles, turn right on Goat Hill Road. Bear right at the corner again for 0.1 mile to Stoll Road. Turn left on Stoll Road. After 0.2 mile, look for the WLC kiosk on the left. Please park only in the Sloan Gorge parking lot.

Knowledge exchange: Please visit our website for more details about the Preserve and its unique features. In order to develop a more complete list of animal and plant species found here, we encourage you to keep a log of your sightings and share what you find!

MISSION

The Woodstock Land Conservancy is a non-profit organization committed to the protection and preservation of the open lands, forests, wetlands, scenic areas and historic sites in Woodstock and the surrounding area.

SUPPORT

When you support the Woodstock Land Conservancy, you help us conserve the open spaces and special places that make our area unique and keep our natural environment healthy. Your financial donations and volunteer efforts are vital to meeting our goals.



email: info@woodstocklandconservancy.org
call: 845-679-6481
visit: woodstocklandconservancy.org
mail: PO Box 864, Woodstock, NY 12498



VILLAGE GREEN REALTY

Underwritten by Laurie Ylvisaker,
Associate Real Estate Broker
Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty
11-13 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock, NY
845-901-6129

**WOODSTOCK
LAND CONSERVANCY**

welcomes you to



SLOAN GORGE PRESERVE



open daily from dawn to dusk



Published 01/17. Printed on recycled paper.
Brochure design by Anna Landwehr.
Photos by V. Luppino, S. Chorvas, and K. Duteil. All illustrations courtesy of Biodiversity Heritage Library. Map design by Terry Spies.

THE LANDSCAPE

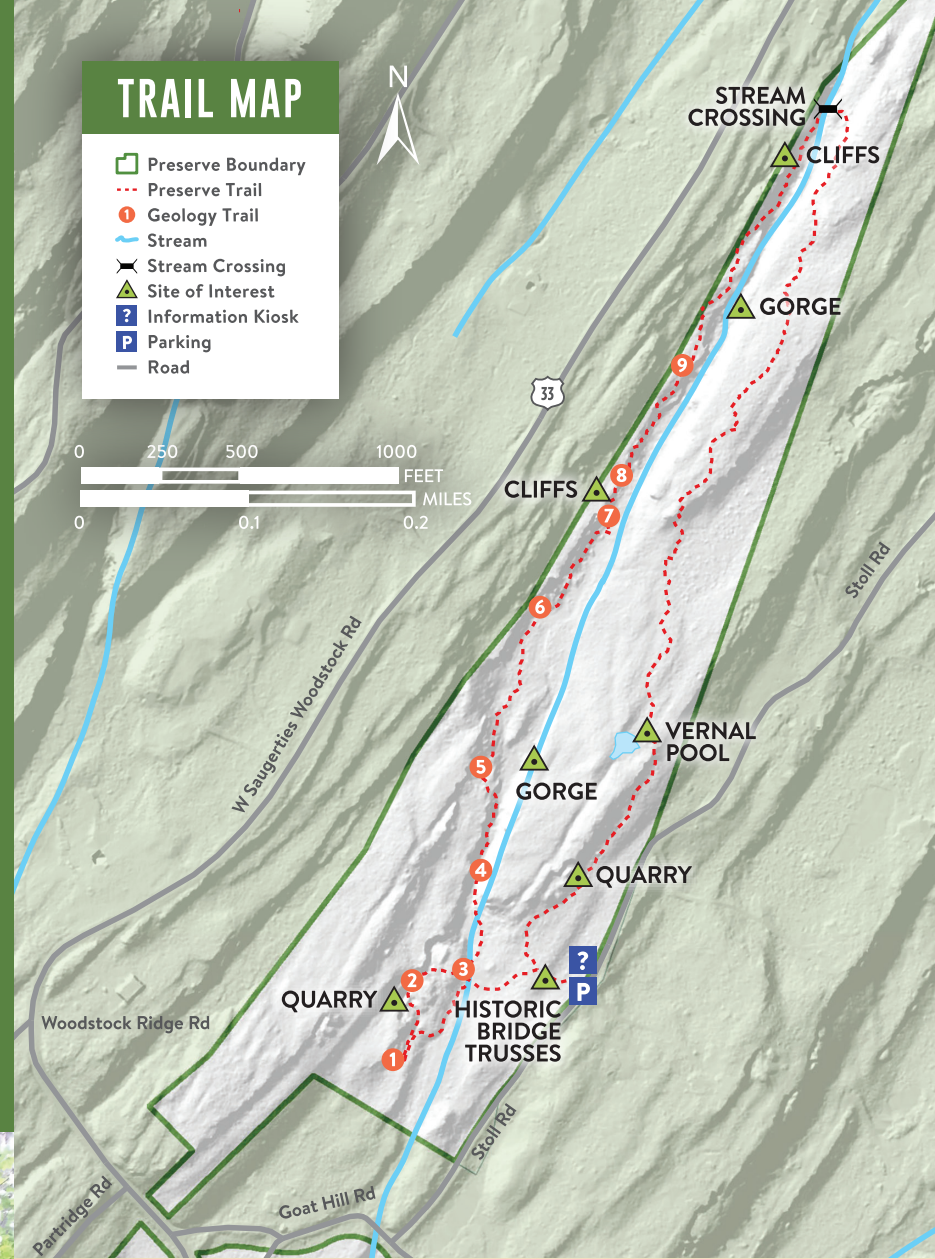
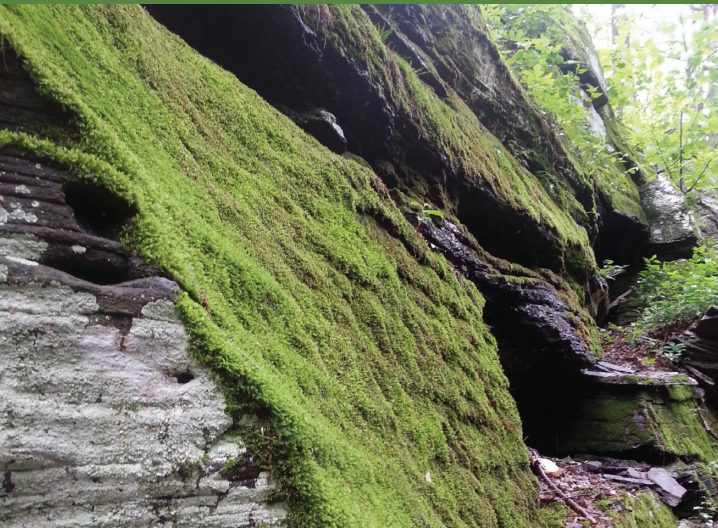
A picturesque canyon at the foot of the Catskill Mountains...

Sloan Gorge Preserve contains 88 acres of mixed hardwood/coniferous forests, vernal pools, a seasonal stream, as well as a fine cross-section of Catskill geology providing a record of three different chapters of the Earth's history. It is the home of bear, fox, deer, raccoon, possum, turkey and a wide variety of birds and woodland flora.

At the entrance are two half-hip, pony style trusses taken from a bridge which crossed Black Creek in Byron, NY, erected in 1887 and reputed to be one of the oldest wrought-iron bridges in New York. The trusses, built by Allan Sloan's wife's family's King Bridge Company, were donated by the Sloan Family to the Woodstock Land Conservancy.

The loop trail starting left leads to a bluestone quarry within which are evident signs of its active use during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The quarry also displays fine examples of Devonian strata and Mesozoic fractures. The trail continues along a picturesque stream (when flowing) through a dramatic gorge with rock formations created during the Ice Age. It then winds its way back through stands of hemlock, mountain laurel and blueberry bushes eventually passing a beautiful vernal pond, additional rock ledges and another rock quarry.

We hope you enjoy your visit to this special place.



RULES OF THE PRESERVE

Please help us protect the ecology of this fragile landscape

- Open daily from dawn to dusk
- Stay on marked trails
- Enter at your own risk: trails pass over loose quarry rock and seasonal streams
- No hunting or trapping
- No fires or overnight camping
- No use of motorized vehicles
- No mountain biking or horseback riding
- Dogs allowed on leash: please clean up after your pet and take it with you
- No collecting of plants, animals or any other specimens from this property without prior permission from the Conservancy
- Leave the Preserve as beautiful as you found it: carry out what you carry in

GEOLOGY TRAIL

The trail through the Gorge will take you through a very scenic slice of the greater Catskills region, a beautiful hike any time of the year. It will also take you for a journey into our region's geological history. You will be "visiting" an ancient delta complex bigger than that of the Mississippi. Along the same trail you will learn to recognize the evidence of a great episode of mountain building. This, the Acadian mountain building event,

created the northern Appalachians and rivaled the events of today's Himalayas. But, more than anything else you will find that Sloan Gorge records the history of the final moments of the Ice Age. In short, Sloan Gorge presents us with a summary of the geological history of the Catskills.

For more information and to follow the numbers on the Trail Map please take a "Field Guide to the Geology of the Sloan Gorge Preserve Nature Trail" by Robert Titus, PhD Department of Geology, Hartwick College.