

Cheshire Land Trust Prospect Ridge Properties

Cheshire's western border with Bethany and Prospect is defined by Prospect Ridge, a northsouth trending basalt ridgeline that marks a portion of the boundary between Connecticut's Central Valley and Western Highlands. To early settlers, the Ridge was known as the "Blew Hills", and on some early maps it appears as the "Devil's Backbone".

The Ridge rises from 400 to 650 feet and runs in a northerly direction from Mount Sanford (elev. 800') at the Cheshire/Hamden/Bethany town line and abruptly descends in the area of the Notch at West Main St. A geologic extension of Prospect Ridge rises again at Peck Mountain, forming a rocky spine that extends into Southington and beyond.

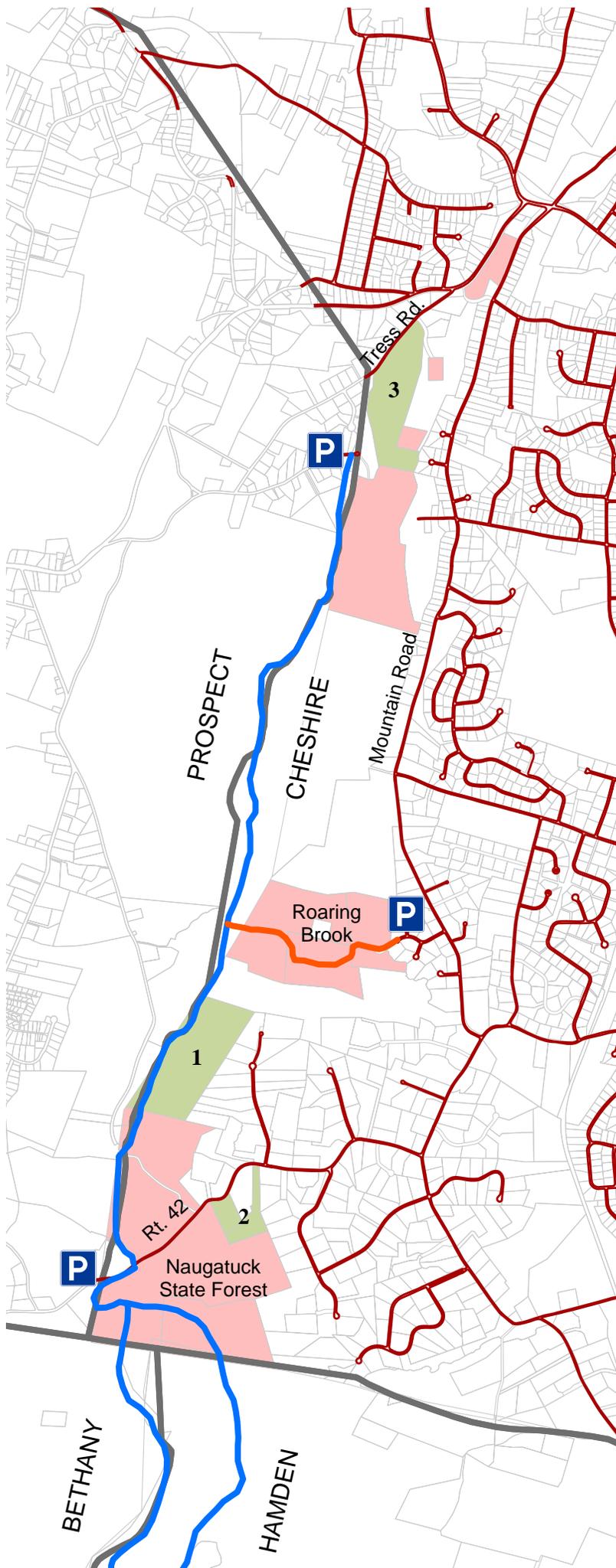
CLT's first acquisition was along Prospect Ridge, by way of a gift from Helen Russell of 40 acres of mountainous forested property she bequeathed to the Trust in 1970 (#1). This was followed by the Trust's strong support for the town's acquisition of Roaring Brook Falls in 1978. In 1979 CLT member Linda Carmichael donated Nettleton's Ravine (#2), a 14-acre property characterized by a deep ravine with rain forestlike flora and fauna populations. This fragile environment is under careful protection of the trust and public access is limited. The final piece of CLT ridge property is the 24 acre Thomas Pool Memorial (#3) donated by Percy Goodsell in 1981. This property is off the Blue Trail and features rocky outcrops, steep slopes and beautiful views of Cheshire and the Hanging Hills of Meriden.

The Quinnipiac Blue Trail runs from the end of Cornwall Avenue in Prospect south into Hamden.

An orange trail runs from the end of Roaring Brook Road by Roaring Brook Falls, and meets up with the Blue Trail.

CLT properties are shown in green.

Other protected properties are shown in pink.



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