



# Little Compton Landscapes

Newsletter of The Sakonnet Preservation Association

Winter 2018

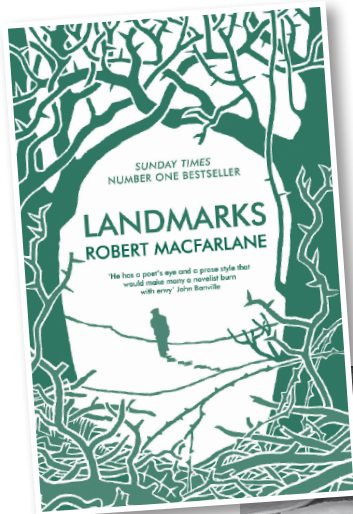
## Call It By Its Name – *Reflections on Landmarks* by Robert Macfarlane

One day in early January I woke up and looked out the window. There, rising off the ocean, was a wall of steam which looked about twenty feet tall. I'd seen mist on ponds, fog on rivers, but never anything like this. What was it? "Beautiful," was the best I could do.

A couple of weeks later a group of us walked by a stream in one of Sakonnet Preservation's properties. There, spinning in a curve in the stream bed, were dinner plate sized circles of ice. What were they? None of us could do better than "Amazing!"

Robert Macfarlane can help. His book *Landmarks* is a wonderful, wide-ranging celebration of "the power of language . . . to shape our sense of place," inspiring us to get out there, look closely, and name what we see. It also encourages us to get help from others, by reading about place and species and language, and simply by asking people who know more than we do.

Macfarlane is focused on Britain. He explores the language of its landscape in separate chapters, each inspired and informed by the work of one person, usually a writer, devoted to a specific aspect of the natural world. At the end of each chapter is a glossary of terms which Macfarlane and his colleagues have compiled, mostly regional dialect words, because this is a book about the language of place. "A word-hoard of the astonishing lexis for landscape," he calls it.



This book is a passionate love letter to language, landscape, literature and enchantment. Macfarlane's generous, curious and learned approach urges us toward the wonder of re-engaging with nature through physical and linguistic connection. "Language does not just register experience," he writes, "it produces it."



*Ice pancakes in Adamsville Brook near Gray's Mill Pond.*

In an effort to expand my own language of place, I asked around for help with my word queries. Abigail Brooks, our esteemed president, told me what I'd seen on the ocean was "sea smoke." Mary-Kate Kane, our Stewardship Director, told me the twirling plates in the stream were "ice pancakes."

In *Landmarks* Robert Macfarlane has created a written landscape of language, myth, weather, comradeship, and history. It's a good place to visit.

– Michal Brownell, SPA Board Member



## Sakonnet Preservation Association

### Officers

Abigail Brooks, *President*  
Sheila Mackintosh, *Vice-President*  
Bill Theriault, *Treasurer*  
Jack Angell, *Secretary*

### Directors

Ann Beardsley  
Michal Brownell  
John Cook  
Craig Curtis  
Nan Haffenreffer  
Warren Jagger  
Don McNaughton  
Judy Melanson  
Perky Nellissen  
David Palumb  
Heather Steers  
Charlie Whipple

### Part-time Staff

Holly Lippert  
*Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper*  
Kathy Klees Clarendon  
*Director of Development  
& Communications*  
Mary-Kate Kane  
*Director of Stewardship*

### Editors

Raya Goff  
Janet Jagger



Sound Finances  
Ethical Conduct  
Responsible Governance  
Lasting Stewardship

## Little Compton Landscapes

### *President's Letter*

*Part of the fun of acquiring new properties is the treasure hunt to learn about their history, biology, beauty, and uses.*

The beauty part has been most striking this winter as Stewardship Director Mary-Kate Kane, several board members and I have visited our latest acquisitions: the Gray's Mill Pond Property in Adamsville and our easement on the Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust's Mosher Bog Lot on Long Highway. What the deep cold in early January provided was easy access to very wet properties and a taste of the impacts of freezing, thawing and flooding.

The flooding that took the Adamsville Brook and Gray's Mill Pond over their banks showed the frightening power of water, yet also its dramatic beauty in the ice formations suspended from overhanging trees and in eddies of a neighbor's stream. We await the return of roosting egrets in the spring.



On our first visit stepping onto the Mosher quaking bog, we were able to see through ice to the mosses, air bubbles and ice formations below the surface. Exposed mosses had turned russet and pale yellow-green while the moss beneath the ice remained vivid green. We found cranberries on purple-leaved stems, and a fluff of cotton grass still on its stem despite the winter winds. The colorful shapes of sweet pepperbush and blueberry on the western portion of the bog gave way to oak, holly and beech as the land rises into forest. A return visit following snowfall revealed much animal use of the bog, with neat footprints tracing their activity. We know of no other property like this one in Little Compton. We plan to provide guided visits in the future.



We sincerely thank our members, and the Guild and Mosher families, for making it possible to conserve these two spectacular properties last year. Full speed ahead in 2018!

– Abigail Brooks

## Kudos to Able Engineering



Recent flooding at Gray's Mill Pond and Adamsville Brook.

Little Compton's own Able Engineering received a first place award from the RI Society of Professional Land Surveyors for its perimeter survey of our Gray's Mill Pond property. Don Medeiros generously donated the cash award from that prize, along with this message:

*"Please use the donation to help with the stewardship of this property. As a resident of Little Compton, I appreciate the opportunity to thank SPA staff and volunteers for their efforts in preserving the heritage of this special town. I take great satisfaction knowing that as a surveyor I have played a role in preserving well over a thousand acres of land in Tiverton and Little Compton."*

**Thank you Don and Able Engineering!**

## A Note About Our Quaking Bog Acquisition

*"Just writing to express my delight in reading about your preservation of the Mosher property. I have always worried about the development of this lot."*

*Aside from being a parcel that is sensitive environmentally, it is also a spot where a lot of game crosses Long Highway from the old Fort Church property. I recently watched a fisher cat cross there. Wildlife can then easily gravitate westward to the large swamp/wooded area between Long Highway and Burchard Avenue. My congratulations on this important acquisition."*

TACK EDDY, FORMER SPA BOARD MEMBER



**Sakonnet Preservation Association**

P.O. Box 945, Little Compton, RI 02837

Phone/Fax: 401.635.8800

*Yes, I would like to join or renew my membership.*

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

\_\_\_ Individual \$25

\_\_\_ Family \$35

\_\_\_ Sustaining \$100

\_\_\_ Patron \$250

\_\_\_ Sponsor \$500

\_\_\_ Benefactor \$1,000+

*Become a Sustainer:* \_\_\_ \$5 \_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 per mo.

Checks payable to SPA or \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ M/C \_\_\_ AMX

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*We will gratefully acknowledge all supporters in our newsletter, unless you would prefer to remain anonymous.*

\_\_\_ I/We prefer to remain anonymous.

Please print name(s) below as you would like to be acknowledged.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Please send periodic email updates of SPA programs and activities. We will not share your information with anyone.

If you are interested in making a gift of appreciated stock or would like to discuss your estate plans, please call 401.635.8800. [www.sakonnetpreservation.org](http://www.sakonnetpreservation.org)

## OTHER WAYS TO HELP!

### Lees Market Receipts

Send us your receipts, or drop them at the office – we'd love to say hi! The good folks at Lees will donate 1% of your spending to SPA.



Start your Amazon shopping at Amazon Smile, and .5% of your eligible

purchase goes to SPA. Go to [Smile.Amazon.com/ch/23-7225987](http://Smile.Amazon.com/ch/23-7225987), or type in Sakonnet Preservation Association when prompted.



## 2017 Member List – *We Couldn't Do It Without You!*

*We have always prided ourselves on being a grassroots organization — founded and sustained by Little Compton people for the benefit of everyone in this beautiful little town.*

*We thank everyone who is able to support us, and count ourselves incredibly lucky for the generous members listed in this report.*

Peter & Mary Lee Aldrich	Randolph Byers, Jr.	Nina & Christopher Evison	Susan Hooker & Alan Stewart
Robert Almeida DDS	Jim & Lee Campbell	Frank J. Faltus	Walter & Betsy Horak
Patricia J. Almy	Lora & Philip Casey	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Fappiano	Ward & Kathy Hough
Mrs. Aubin Ames	Mark Chafee	Barbara E. Fargo	Gurdon & Kathy Wattles
Cushing Anderson & Susan Kazanas	Samuel N. Chase	Gabe & Carolyn Faria	The Hudner Family
Jack & Lea Angell	Pam Church	John & Sandy Farr	Richard Humphrey
Anonymous (4)	Mr. & Mrs. David Clarendon	James & Karen Tung	Bill & Sue Hutson
Mr. & Mrs. David Archibald	Kathy & Chris Clarendon	Richard D. Field	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher C. Ingraham
Cherry Arnold & Peter Goldberg	Rip Tompkins & Fran Clark	Marjorie Findlay & Geoff Freeman	Warren & Janet Jagger
Jerry & Livi Arnold	Nancy Clark	Michael & Karen Fiorile	Paisley Kelling
Nate & Berta Atwater	Warren K. Clark	Richard & Marty Fisher	Barrett & Jackie Jennings
Joe Azrack & Abigail Congdon	John Chester Cleaver	Anne & James Fordyce	Steve & Claire Johnson
Margot Balboni	Tom Clemow	Leslie Fox	Bill & Nancy Jordan
Sue & Kit Barrow	Jerry & Carol Cohen	Robert Frank & Jeanne Adams	Joseph & Rowain Kalichstein
Paul Bazzoni	Janet & Bill Coleman	Mimi & Peter Freeman	Mimi & John Karlsson
Carol Beach & Tara Bradley	Josie Richmond & Tom Arkins	Lavinia Gadsden	Harriet & Paul Kazarian
Cathy Beard & John Davidson	John & Phoebe Cook	Robert & Susan Galford	Dick & Anne Keigher
Ann Beardsley & Jim McGlynn	Alison Cooper-Mullin	Mrs. Edith Gardner	Elizabeth Kelly
Judy & Bob Behn	John M. Cornish	Sarah Osborn Gardner	Cameron King
Arthur Berndt	Susan & Robert Cotter	Howard & Susan Garsh	Tom & Lynn Knudsen
Holly & Gerry Billings	Jim & Ellie Craver	The Gavis Family	Dirk & Sue Kramers
Barbara S. Bissinger	Betsy & Jim Crawford	Carol & Stephen Geremia	Adeline Gwynne Kurz
Fred Bissinger	Keith Crudgington & John McCole	Bob & Raya Goff	Agnes Langdon
Fred & Muriel Bodington	Craig & Lynne Curtis	Philip & Lawre Goodnow	James Lawrence
Capt. & Mrs. R.C. Bogle	Laura Cutler	William & Paulette Gray	Michael & Aileen Lederman
Wendy & Christopher Born	David & Sharon Cutts	Ginny Greenwood	Robert Lenzner
Dorothy & Robert Brayley	Gordon Cutts	Albert & Joan Gregory	Edward Levine & Isabella Porter
Dara & Dan Brewster	Kevin M. Daley	Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Gregory	Arthur Lewis
Fred & Helen Bridge	Judith & Murray Danforth	Charles & Joanne Gregory	Constance Lima
Arthur Broadus	Ken Demers & Andrea Mueller	Ralph & Calla Guild	Stephen & Sharon Linder
Abigail Brooks & Nick Long	Catherine Denckla	Roger Guillemette	Marjorie & John Lint
Doug & Bonnie Brout	Patrick & Kris Donovan	John Gwynne & Mikel Folcarelli	Peter & Kay Lisle
Greta Brown	Andrew Driver	Nicholas Hadley	Richard & Janet Lisle
James & Kendall Brown	Corinne Driver	Adolf & Lisa Haffenreffer	Bart & Bar Littlefield
Scott Brown Family	Beverley C. Duer	Nan Haffenreffer & Larry Anderson	Carolyn & James Lock
Bart & Michal Brownell	Edward Duffield	Dr. & Mrs. Joseph H. Hagen	Jane Lorch
Nicole Browning & Steve Rifkin	Constance R. DuHamel	Virginia Ann Haire	Peter & Gail Lozier
Wayne & Eileen Browning	Lucie Y. DuHamel	Cele Halsey	Susan Snow Lukesh
Marty & Carole Buffman	Nancy B. Easman	Stephen & Toni Ham	James "Shay" Lynch
Bevan & Paul Buffum	Stetson W. Eddy	John & Ginger Harkey	Margaret & Ian MacDonald
Nate Buffum	Judy Edershein & Nicole Danforth	James P. Hartley	Doug & Lora Macfall
Peter & Marilou Buffum	Beverley Edwards	Janine Harvey	Holly Mackintosh & Rob Sidloski
Tuck & Jane Buffum	Lillian E. Edwards	Timothy Harwood	Sheila & Bill Mackintosh
Fred & Joan Buhrendorf	Joy Elvin	Sally Havens	Mrs. William Makepeace
Elizabeth W. Bullock & Stephen M. Jordan	Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Emerson	Hans & Darka Hawrysz	Leslie Malone
Gilles & Leslie Burgat	Susan C. Emery	Gilbert Hedstrom	Timothy & Patricia Maloney
Marion Burke	Jean & Fred Ensley	The Hegeman-Janove Family	Geoff & Margaret Manning
Chris & Suzie Burns	David Palumb & Peter Erichsen	Alan & Marilyn Hoffman	John & Diana Marshall

Gary Mataronas  
Joel Maxwell  
Jeanne & Tom McAllister  
Heather & Jeffrey McCarthy  
Nancy & Peter McDowell  
Chip McLaughlin & Keith Maynard  
Don & Alison McNaughton  
Richard & Rachel Medeiros  
Judy Melanson  
James & Maureen Mellowes  
Patricia & Richard Menoche  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard R. Merriman, Jr.  
Katharine Merriman  
Ambassador J. William Middendorf  
Elizabeth P. Millikin  
Jane Moffett  
Libby & Raoul Moore  
Scott & Marion Morrison  
Peter Morse & Kathleen VanGordon  
Albin & Eileen Moser  
Charlie & Julie Mosher  
Robert J. Pethick & Barbara J. Mungall  
Walter & Louise Munroe  
Louis G. Murphy, Jr.  
David & Marion Mussafer  
Janet Myrin  
Terry Nathan & Marilyn Kanter  
Perky Nellissen  
Nancy B. Nightingale  
Madeline Noble  
Stephen & Lucy O'Connor  
Stephen Oleskey & Judith Tick  
Tim & Janice Olson  
Donald & Ellen O'Neill  
Dorothy H. Osborn  
Charles Page  
Lucia Palmer  
Barbara Passmore  
Barbara Pauls  
Alan & Victoria Peacock  
Liz Peckham & Skip Paul  
Eric & Jane Philippi  
Bonnie & Margery Phinney  
Donna Pilkington  
Lease Plimpton  
Linda Pololi & Athanasius Anagnostou  
Franklin H. Pond  
Jana Porter & Peter Fossel  
Charles & Marcia Pratt  
George Purmont & Duane Peckham  
David & Leslie Puth  
Ken Ramsay & Karen Edwards  
Mary & Chris Rawson  
Bob & Alden Read  
James Redding & Catherine Hemerlein  
Clare Renasco  
Hadley & Jeannette Reynolds

Robert & Rhea Brooks  
Rallis Conover Family  
Jane T. Roberts  
Jack & Sarah Robinson  
Clay Rockefeller & Many Rubinstein  
Gardner & Pamela Rogers  
Max Rosen & Jeanne Ackman  
David & Cathy Rosenberg  
Richard & Ann Rudick  
Earl & Susan Samson  
Trip & Allyson Samson  
Christopher S. Sargent  
James & Beth Schiff  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schmuts  
Mrs. Patricia Schneider  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schofield  
George & Theresa Seidel  
Herb Shander & Bente Hoegsberg  
Suzanne Mills Shaw  
Chris & Mara Shore  
Bennett Simon & Roberta Apfel  
Gary & Ann Simon  
Sarah Simonds & Michael Keaveney  
Whitney Simonds  
Richard & Mary Small  
Caldwell Smith & Alice Benedict  
Paul & Diane Souza  
John & Sandi Sparks  
Rev. Rebecca Spencer  
Pat & Steve Stanton  
Jon & Betsy Stapleton  
Heather & Michael Steers  
Brenda & Greg Stone  
Carol D. M. Strasburger  
Paul & Mary Suttell  
Geoffrey Swaebe  
Helen & Harry Switzer  
Patricia Sylvester  
Elizabeth Morgan & Simon Talbot  
Hope & Lewis Taylor  
Susan Hall Mygatt  
Bill & Sue Theriault  
John & Mary Thielscher  
Judith Tick & Stephen Olesky  
Anne Tillinghast & Win Hall  
Fred & Betty Torphy  
Joseph & Phyllis Tracy  
Frances & Peter Trafton  
Carol Lynn Trocki  
Barbara Trowbridge  
Heidi Truscott  
Pauline Truslow  
Sheila Tumilty & Laurence Coch  
Sidney Tynan  
Alexander & Jane Hawes  
Charles and Nancy Dunn  
Noel & Phyllis Field

Robert & Kate Chartener  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Venusti  
Marie A. Viens  
Geoffrey & Noelle Vitt  
Bob & Ann von der Lippe  
David & Ellen Wagner  
Coll Walker  
Mary Gordon & Luke Wallin  
Joni Walser & Andy Church  
Christine Ward & Matt Ziminsky  
Ralph Watson  
Helen Richmond Webb  
Louise & David Wechsler  
Rosalind Weir  
Charles A. Whipple & Randi von Steinwehr  
Sarah Chartener Whitehead  
Mrs. William (Douglas) Whitmarsh  
Paul Wilber  
Deborah E. Wiley  
Carter & Allison Wilkie  
Frank & Mary Ellen Wojciechowski  
Caleb & Alesandra Woodhouse  
Hilary, Elizabeth & Helen Woodhouse  
Roger & Noreen Wordell  
Ted Wojciechowski & Mary Ellen Flinn  
Sonja Yates  
Nina P. Young  
Deborah & Richard Zawulich

***SPA is honored to have received gifts in memory of:***

Elizabeth "Libby" Forbes Fuller Davis  
Jenny Buffum Chase

***In Appreciation for:***

Mr. Joe Azrack & Ms. Abigail Congdon  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cotter  
Dr. Judith Edersheim & Dr. Nicole Danforth  
Mr. & Mrs. William Kohli  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Mackintosh  
Mr. & Mrs. David Mussafer  
Ms. Dorothy Osborn  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Sherer

***Companies, Foundations & Organizations:***

Able Engineering, Inc.  
AmazonSmile  
Briggs Beach, Inc.  
The Carter Fund-Rhode Island Foundation  
The Guild Family Foundation, Inc.  
The Haffenreffer Family Fund-Rhode Island Foundation  
Lees Market Community Partners program  
Sakonnet Lobster Co.  
RI General Assembly, Senator Louis DiPalma

*Names listed recognize supporters in calendar year 2017.  
If your name is listed incorrectly, omitted, or you wish to remain anonymous,  
please accept our apologies and notify Kathy Klees Clarendon  
at [kclarendon@sakonnetpreservation.org](mailto:kclarendon@sakonnetpreservation.org) or call (401)635-8800.*

## Check out our new Website! SakonnetPreservation.org



### Same address, but fascinating new features:

- Interactive Map – see properties, photos and more
- Learn about educational events, meet our Board and staff
- Sign up for our emails and follow us on social media

**Visit us online or in person. We welcome your feedback!**

## SPA 2018 Movie Presentations

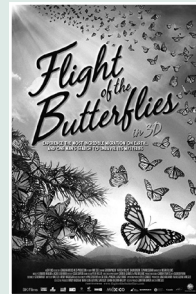


**Saturday, March 24, 2018  
7pm – LC Community Center**

### **Forest Man**

The story of Jadav Payeng, an Indian man who single-handedly planted nearly 1400 acres of forest to save his island, Majuli.

**along with...**



### **Flight of the Butterflies**

A film of hundreds of millions of monarchs in their remote overwintering sanctuaries and along their migratory routes from Canada and across the U.S. to Mexico.

**Make plans to join us!**

Postal Customer

sakonnetpreservation.org

401.635.8800

For Information:

The Sakonnet  
Preservation Association,  
a non-profit land trust,  
is dedicated to preserving  
the rural character  
and natural resources  
of Little Compton  
for the lasting benefit  
of the Community.

Our Mission



Sakonnet Preservation Association

P. O. Box 945  
Little Compton, RI 02837-0945

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Little Compton, RI  
Permit No. 48