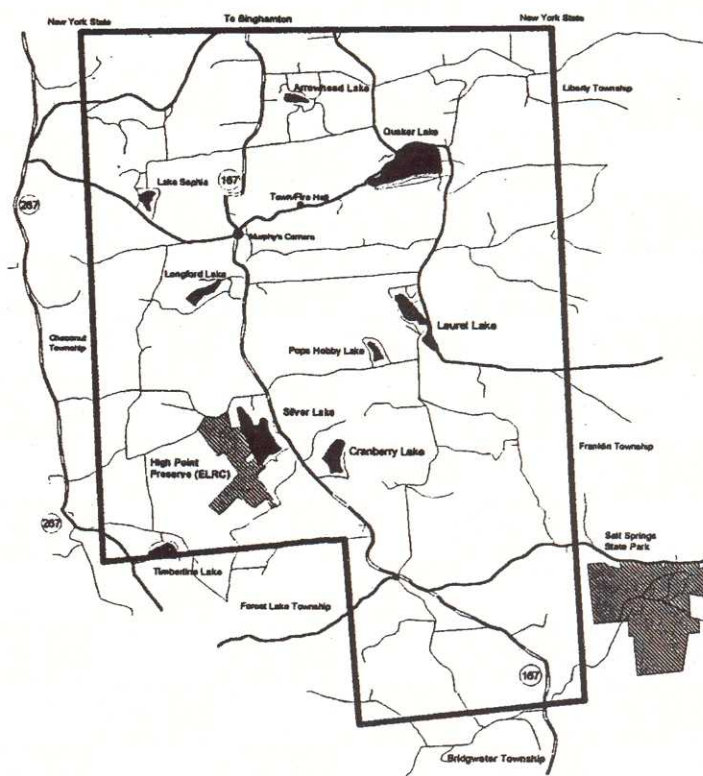


Conserving the Landscape Of Silver Lake Township:

A SURVEY OF LANDOWNERS



October 2001

HDRU Series No. 01- 12

Prepared by:

Nancy A. Connelly and Tommy L. Brown
Department of Natural Resources
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853-3001

:

Conserving the Landscape of Silver Lake Township:

A Survey of Landowners

by

Nancy A. Connelly and Tommy L. Brown

HDRU Series 01-12

October 2001

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the Susquehanna County Clerk's Office for providing us with the list of landowners in Silver Lake Township. We thank the Edward L. Rose Conservancy survey committee (Hedi Randall [chair], Kate Bouman, Patty Bloomer, Connie Barnes, and Keith Oberg) for their helpful comments on drafts of the mail questionnaire and report. We thank John Barney, Cornell University, for his help in sample acquisition and questionnaire cover design.

A special thanks to HDRU staff member, Karlene Smith, who implemented the survey and entered the data on computer. Margie Peech assisted with table preparation and report formatting.

Funding and support for this study was provided by the Edward L. Rose Conservancy and the Actus Foundation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Acknowledgments	i
List of Tables	iii
List of Figures	iii
Introduction	1
Methods	2
Results	2
Characteristics of Silver Lake Township landowners	3
Attitudes toward protection, growth, and land use planning	4
Special places in the Township and landscapes in need of protection	8
Possible methods for land protection	9
Awareness and image of Edward L. Rose Conservancy	11
Support for possible Conservancy projects	12
Discussion and Recommendations	14
Literature Cited	15
Appendix A: Mail Questionnaire	17
Appendix B: Listing of Special Places	25

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Silver Lake township landowner attitudes toward protection, growth, and land use planning—overall and by type of residency	5
2	The value landowners place on certain landscape features in 4 Silver Lake township and their perceived need for protection	9
3	Level of support among landowners for various methods of land protection	10
4	Willingness of landowners to consider possible land protection actions on their property	11
5	Support for possible Conservancy projects	13

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Type of residency of landowners in Silver Lake township	4

INTRODUCTION

Residents of Silver Lake Township have long valued the open space in the township for the multiple benefits it has provided. In the late-1980s the Edward L. Rose Conservancy was established “to preserve natural resources through land acquisition for water and soil conservation, wildlife sanctuary and refuge, and preservation of scenic beauty.” It was this group of individuals who wanted to learn more about what community members value in the township that provided the impetus for the survey analyzed in this report.

Cornell University’s Human Dimensions Research Unit (HDRU) was funded to conduct a survey to learn more about community members’ views on the environment in Silver Lake township. To accomplish this goal, HDRU surveyed all individual (noncorporate) landowners by mail in the spring of 2001. The specific objectives for the survey were as follows:

1. Identify important landscape features and/or places that community members would like to conserve and their level of support for methods to achieve conservation.
2. Assess the image of the Rose Conservancy among community members.
3. Assess community members’ views on land development versus preservation in Silver Lake township.
4. Collect background information about community members that might enhance our understanding of their responses to questions addressing Objectives 1-3.

METHODS

The population for this survey was all individual and family landowners in Silver Lake township. A current list of 1,453 owners of property in the township was obtained from the Susquehanna County Clerk's Office. Duplicate names, where an individual or family owned more than one parcel, were eliminated; resulting in a list of 1,145 names.

A mail questionnaire was developed by HDRU staff after a review of the literature on attitudes toward preservation versus development, and "sense of place" (Gourlay and Slee 1998, Kent 1993, Zube and Sheehan 1994). The questionnaire was reviewed several times by the Conservancy survey committee. Questions in the survey asked about land ownership, attitudes toward growth and development, features of the landscape needing preservation, knowledge and opinion of the Rose Conservancy, and support for a variety of conservation actions. For exact wording of the questions, see Appendix A.

Questionnaires were mailed to landowners in February, 2001. Up to three reminder letters were sent to nonrespondents over the course of the following month to try to encourage everyone's participation in the survey. Returned questionnaire data were entered into the computer by HDRU staff and analyzed using SPSS software (SPSS Inc. 1994).

RESULTS

Of the 1,145 questionnaires mailed, 36 were undeliverable and 766 completed questionnaires were returned. This resulted in an adjusted response rate of 69%. Because the

survey was sent to all landowners (not a sample of landowners) and most responded, the results will be treated as a census. Thus, statistical tests are inappropriate to determine the significance of differences among groups. Differences and similarities exist as reported. If we were to treat respondents as a sample of landowners and assume nonrespondents were similar to respondents, which is not always the case, then the 95% confidence level for percentage estimates would be within $\pm 2\%$.

Characteristics of Silver Lake Township Landowners

Half of the landowners in Silver Lake township owned 3 acres or less in the township and were more likely to be seasonal residents. The other half of the landowners owned between 4 and 500 acres of property and tended to be younger than owners of smaller parcels. Land tenure was highly variable, averaging 21 years and ranging from 1 to 97 years. Potentially the most distinguishing characteristic of landowners in terms of land use patterns was the amount of time per year they spent living in Silver Lake township. Just over half of the landowners lived year-round in the township (Figure 1). The remainder were split between seasonal residents and nonresidents (those owning land in the township, but who lived elsewhere). Seasonal residents and nonresidents have owned land in the township longer on average than year-round residents.

Respondents to the survey were mostly male (61%), but a sufficient number of women responded that we can make some comparisons based on gender. The average age of respondents was 56 years. About one-third were under 50; the plurality were between 50 and 65 (41%); and the remainder (26%) were 65 and older. These characteristics of respondents (gender and age) are not necessarily in the same

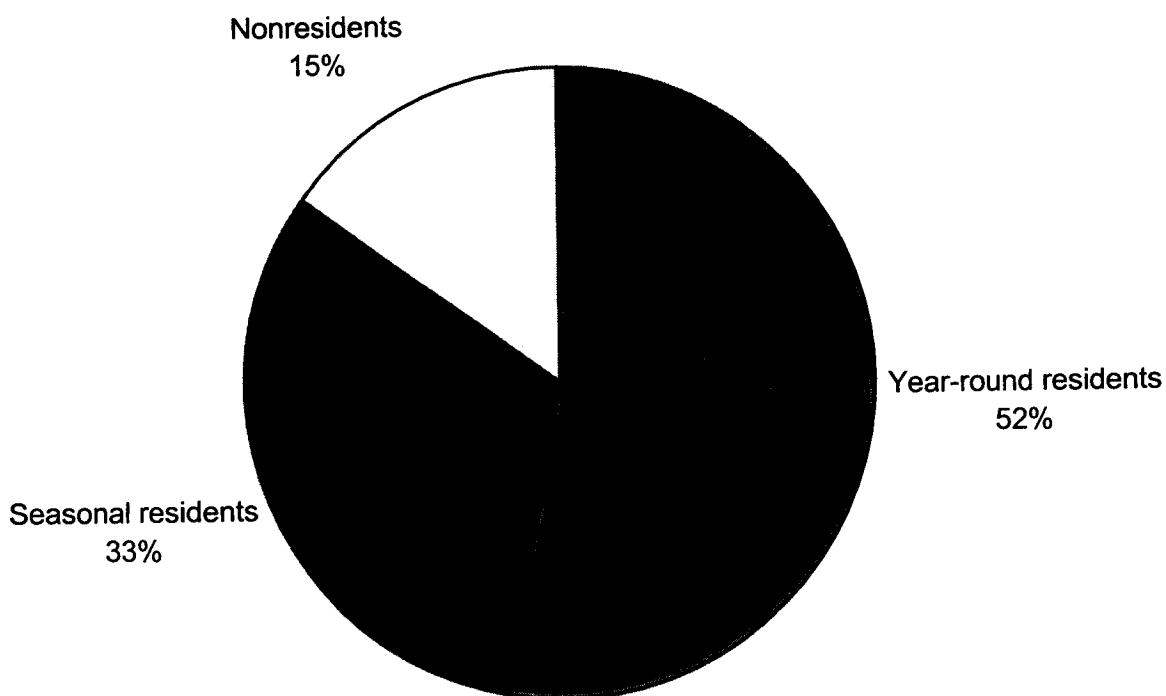


Figure 1. Type of residency of landowners in Silver Lake township.

proportion as the population of landowners in Silver Lake township because many properties are owned by more than one person and we did not specify any random way that the respondent to the survey should be chosen. However, the diversity of respondents gives us the opportunity to make comparisons based on gender and age.

Attitudes Toward Protection, Growth, and Land Use Planning

Almost all landowners in Silver Lake township agree that protection of water resources and water-related lands is very important (Table 1). Other statements measuring landowners' attitudes toward protection, such as "the rural character of the township should be maintained" and "farming should be maintained and supported here," were supported by the vast majority of landowners. Slightly fewer, but still a majority of

Table 1. Silver Lake township landowner attitudes toward protection, growth and land use planning—overall and by type of residency.

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Neutral</u> <u>Percent</u>	<u>Disagree</u>
<u>Attitudes Toward Protection</u>			
<i>Protection of water resources and water-related lands is very important</i>	92.7	3.2	4.1
Nonresidents	93.5	3.7	2.8
Seasonal residents	96.7	0.8	2.5
Year-round residents	90.8	4.1	5.1
<i>Land should be protected for plants and wildlife</i>	76.7	14.8	8.5
Nonresidents	71.4	20.0	8.6
Seasonal residents	86.1	10.2	3.7
Year-round residents	73.0	15.9	11.1
<i>Land should be set aside and protected from development</i>	72.1	15.7	12.2
Nonresidents	63.9	24.1	12.0
Seasonal residents	80.7	10.7	8.6
Year-round residents	70.0	15.9	14.1
<i>The rural character of the township should be maintained</i>	80.3	12.0	7.7
Nonresidents	75.2	16.5	8.3
Seasonal residents	84.0	9.4	6.6
Year-round residents	80.5	11.3	8.2
<i>Steps should be taken to control growth</i>	70.7	16.7	12.6
Nonresidents	59.2	26.9	13.9
Seasonal residents	77.0	15.9	7.1
Year-round residents	70.5	14.5	15.0
<i>Farming should be maintained and supported here</i>	81.7	13.4	4.9
Nonresidents	75.5	20.9	3.6
Seasonal residents	84.3	13.2	2.5
Year-round residents	82.4	10.6	7.0
<u>Attitudes Toward Growth</u>			
<i>This area can accommodate a lot more growth</i>	29.2	18.3	52.5
Nonresidents	35.1	26.9	38.0
Seasonal residents	27.9	16.7	55.4
Year-round residents	28.2	17.3	54.5
<i>Growth and development can be accommodated without negatively affecting the quality of life here</i>	40.2	17.4	42.4
Nonresidents	41.5	25.5	33.0
Seasonal residents	40.0	16.3	43.7
Year-round residents	39.9	16.0	44.1

Table 1. (cont.)

	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Disagree</u>
<u>Attitudes Toward Growth</u>		Percent	
<i>The rate of growth in Silver Lake township is too rapid</i>	27.4	46.1	26.5
Nonresidents	15.5	60.2	24.3
Seasonal residents	24.8	53.4	21.8
Year-round residents	32.9	37.3	29.8
<u>Attitudes Toward Land Use Planning</u>			
<i>There is adequate planning in this township to manage growth and development</i>	18.9	40.5	40.6
Nonresidents	17.5	60.2	22.3
Seasonal residents	14.8	40.2	45.0
Year-round residents	21.4	35.1	43.5
<i>The use of land should be determined only by the person who owns it</i>	39.3	17.9	42.8
Nonresidents	51.4	16.2	32.4
Seasonal residents	27.8	20.3	51.9
Year-round residents	42.2	16.7	41.1

landowners supported the statements “land should be set aside and protected from development” and “steps should be taken to control growth.”

Nonresidents were less likely to agree with these statements and more likely to be neutral than seasonal or year-round residents, especially regarding the statement “steps should be taken to control growth.” Seasonal residents were more likely than nonresidents or year-round residents to agree with the statement that “land should be protected for plants and wildlife.”

Female respondents were more likely than male respondents to agree with all of the statements favoring protection, with one exception. For the statement “farming should be maintained and supported here,” women were more likely to be neutral and men were

more likely to be positive.

Attitudes toward growth in the township were more split than the general agreement about protection seen above. Landowners were evenly divided between agreement and disagreement regarding the statement “growth and development can be accommodated without negatively affecting the quality of life here” (Table 1). Slightly over half felt the area cannot accommodate a lot more growth, but one-third felt it could. Men were more likely than women to feel that growth could be accommodated.

A plurality of landowners, especially nonresidents, were neutral about the statement “the rate of growth in Silver Lake township is too rapid.” The remainder were split between agreement and disagreement. Women were more likely to agree that growth is too rapid; men were more likely to disagree.

Few respondents felt there was adequate planning in the township to manage growth and development (Table 1); about 40% responded neutrally to the statement and 40% disagreed. Nonresidents were more likely to be neutral.

Landowners were split in their opinion about who should have control over how private land is used in the township. Forty percent of landowners felt the use of land should be determined only by the person who owns it (Table 1). Men were more likely to agree with this statement. Forty-three percent of all landowners and 52% of seasonal residents believed that others should have some say in land use.

Special Places in the Township and Landscapes in Need of Protection

About half of the respondents identified a special place or landscape view in the township that had special meaning for them. Quaker Lake and Laurel Lake were most frequently cited as being special places, but barns, intersections, farms, and creeks were all mentioned as places with special meaning to some in the township. Appendix B lists all of the special places or views mentioned by respondents. Typically what made these places special was a feeling of “coming home” that might involve family history/memories or the actual physical place. Other reasons respondents found certain places special included such things as the historical significance of the place, the abundance of wildlife, the view and the feelings of calm it evoked, and the fact that the land was undeveloped.

Respondents valued highly most landscape features we inquired about (Table 2). The feature valued most highly was forestland, followed by historic buildings and open fields. Dirt roads, also inquired about, had a more intermediate value. Landowners perceived a need for protection of these features in a similar order as how much they valued each feature.

Thirty-eight percent of respondents identified a specific site they felt was in need of immediate protection. Sites mentioned most frequently included Laurel Lake, Quaker Lake, Silver Lake, the Fox schoolhouse, Wilson’s Swamp, and the stone quarries. A number of people said they felt all waterbodies and wetlands were in need of immediate protection. Others felt the whole township was in need of immediate protection. Nonresidents were less likely to identify a place in need of protection (20% versus 38-47%).

Table 2. The value landowners place on certain landscape features in Silver Lake township and their perceived need for protection.

<u>Landscape Features</u>	<u>Valued</u>	<u>Need for Protection</u>
	Mean ^a	
Forestland	3.8	3.5
Historic buildings	3.5	3.4
Open fields	3.5	3.2
Stone walls	3.4	3.2
Marshy areas and wetlands	3.3	3.2
Old barns	3.2	3.0
Dirt roads	2.6	2.4

^aValue was measured on a 4-point scale, where 1=not at all valued to 4=very highly valued. Need for protection was measured on a 4-point scale, where 1=not at all in need of protection to 4=in need of protection to a great extent.

Possible Methods for Land Protection

Landowners strongly supported conservation activities like planting trees, picking up litter, and streamside protection as a way to protect landscapes in Silver Lake township (Table 3). Support also existed for land ownership by conservation groups, voluntary granting of conservation easements, and land use regulations. Support was strongest for these methods among seasonal residents and female respondents. Support was less among landowners with 4 or more acres of land in the township.

The method of land protection with the least support among landowners was acquisition by local government. Lack of support for this method was consistent across all types of landowners.

Many landowners were willing to consider possible land protection actions on their property (Table 4). For some, these actions were not possible to implement, but

Table 3. Level of support among landowners for various methods of land protection.

<u>Land Protection Methods</u>	<u>Level of Support</u>			
	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Landowners</u>	<u>Seasonal</u>	<u>Female</u>
		<u>with 4+ acres</u>		
		<u>Mean^a</u>	<u>residents</u>	<u>respondents</u>
Conservation activities like planting trees, picking up litter, streamside protection	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8
Land ownership by conservation groups	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.0
Voluntary granting of conservation easements	2.8	2.6	3.1	3.0
Land use regulations	2.7	2.5	3.0	2.9
Land acquisition by local government	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.1

^aLevel of support was measured on a 4-point scale, where 1=not at all supported and 4=strongly supported.

almost two-fifths of landowners were willing to consider developing a management plan for conservation. Fewer were willing to allow a hiking trail to be developed on their property or set aside part of their land in a conservation easement, yet these percentages represent over 100 respondents who were willing to consider these actions. About 40 respondents were willing to consider donating all or a portion of their land to a conservation group.

One-quarter to one-half of the landowners with larger properties (4+ acres) were willing to consider one or more of the top three land protection options presented

Table 4. Willingness of landowners to consider possible land protection actions on their property.

<u>Possible Land Protection Actions</u>	<u>Willingness to Consider on Current Property</u>		<u>Not possible on property</u>	<u>Landowners with 4+ acres % saying yes</u>
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u> Percent		
Developing a management plan for conservation	38.3	31.8	29.9	48.1
Allowing a hiking trail to be developed on your property	21.8	38.2	40.0	31.1
Setting aside all or a portion of your land in a conservation easement	16.4	39.5	44.1	25.1
Donating all or a portion of your land to a conservation group	5.6	58.0	36.4	6.8

(Table 4). This is encouraging for conservation advocates because these are the properties where protection might have the greatest benefit. Younger respondents (those aged 50 or less) were more willing to consider these actions.

Awareness and Image of Edward L. Rose Conservancy

Just over half (53%) of all respondents had heard of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy prior to receiving the survey. A full 70% of year-round residents had heard of the Conservancy; 43% of seasonal residents and 15% of nonresidents were aware of the Conservancy. Half of those aware of the Conservancy said they were somewhat familiar with the organization; the other half indicated they were moderately or very

familiar. Seasonal residents were most likely to be very familiar; year-round residents were more likely to be only somewhat familiar.

The majority of respondents viewed the efforts of the Conservancy in a positive light (61%), 21% had a mixed reaction, 4% were negative, and 14% had no opinion. Those who indicated they were very familiar with the organization and seasonal residents were more likely to view it in a positive light. The primary reasons given by respondents for their positive view of the Conservancy included its emphasis on preservation of natural resources, protection of land from development, and its efforts at Salt Springs park. Knowing undeveloped land exists is reassuring to some.

Those with a mixed reaction to the Conservancy expressed positive feelings toward maintaining undeveloped land, but wanted access for hunting on that land. Some also were concerned about the loss of tax revenue from Conservancy land, thus placing more of a burden on homeowners, but at the same time they saw the benefit of conserving land. Those few respondents who viewed the Conservancy in a negative light felt the group was closed, did not really represent the community, and disagreed with their policy requiring paid membership to gain access to Conservancy lands.

Support for Possible Conservancy Projects

Landowners were very supportive of most projects the Conservancy might consider undertaking (Table 5). Those projects with the highest levels of support included environmental education programs and preservation/designation of historic sites. Other projects with high average support included hiking trails, and walking/biking trails along the roadside. These projects were more strongly supported by seasonal residents

Table 5. Support for possible Conservancy projects.

<u>Possible Conservancy Projects</u>	<u>Level of Support</u>			
	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Landowners with 4+ Acres</u>	<u>Seasonal Residents</u>	<u>Female Respondents</u>
		<u>Mean^a</u>		
Environmental education programs	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4
Preservation/designation of historic sites	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5
Hiking trails for nonmotorized use	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.4
Walking trails along the roadside	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.3
Biking trails along the roadside	2.9	2.8	3.2	3.1
Trails for off-road motorized use	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.2

^aLevel of support was measured on a 4-point scale, where 1=not at all supported and 4=strongly supported.

and female respondents. The projects were less strongly supported by landowners with 4 or more acres of property. The project receiving the least support was development of trails for off-road motorized use.

Almost half (48%) of the landowners said they would like to see town trails connected to a larger network of trails in the county. This was particularly true among younger (under age 50) respondents. Most of the remaining respondents were not sure about this idea (38%); few were opposed (14%).

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of this survey should be very useful to those interested in town planning and further development of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy. The results showed that general agreement exists among landowners in the town regarding the desirability and need for natural resource protection, especially water and water-related resources. However, landowners were more split on their views of growth and development within the town. Can it be done without affecting the quality of life that currently exists? Half said yes, half said no. Few felt there was adequate planning in the township now to manage growth and development.

The type of residency, year-round or seasonal, seems to be an important indicator of attitudes toward land protection, growth and development, and land use planning. Those trying to initiate/implement town plans need to be cognizant of these differences and make sure that both types of residents are involved in planning discussions. Nonresidents have less of a connection or stake in the township and thus understandably were more likely to be neutral or have no opinion when answering survey questions.

Landowners supported the use of various methods to conserve and protect land in the township. Some were willing to consider specific conservation actions on their property. Approximately one-quarter to one-half of landowners with larger acreages were willing to consider some action, indicating opportunities do exist for increasing the amount of land under some type of conservation management or easement. However, this should be tempered with the finding that larger landowners were not as supportive of land protection methods in general, nor

activities the Conservancy might engage in that affected land use.

Prior to this survey only about half of the landowners in the township were aware of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy. Now everyone should be aware that the Conservancy sponsored a survey of town landowners, but further communication efforts are needed as only half of those who were aware previously said they were moderately or very familiar with the Conservancy. Increasing knowledge of the organization and its goals is potentially very important in light of the finding that those who were very familiar with the organization were more likely to view the group in a positive light. Also, efforts to correct misinformation about the group and its tax status might change the views of some of those who had a mixed reaction to the Conservancy. Activities that were strongly supported by most landowners (e.g., environmental education programs, preservation/designation of historic sites) might be excellent venues for increasing people's knowledge of the Conservancy and its goals.

Many landowners supported the idea of connecting town trails to a larger network of trails in the county, but many were also unsure about the idea. Again, communication about the idea is key for building likely support.

LITERATURE CITED

Gourlay, D., and B. Slee. 1998. Public preferences for landscape features: a case study of two Scottish environmentally sensitive areas. *J. of Rural Studies* 14:249-263.

Kent, R. L. 1993. Determining scenic quality along highways: a cognitive approach.

Landscape and Urban Planning 27:29-45.

SPSS Inc. 1994. SPSS 6.1 syntax reference guide. SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL.

Zube, E. H., and M. R. Sheehan. 1994. Desert riparian areas: landscape perceptions and attitudes. Environmental Management 18:413-421.

APPENDIX A:

Mail Questionnaire

**CONSERVING THE LANDSCAPE OF
SILVER LAKE TOWNSHIP:
A SURVEY OF LANDOWNERS**

Research conducted by the
Human Dimensions Research Unit
in the Department of Natural Resources
Cornell University

The purpose of this survey is to learn more about your views on the environment in Silver Lake township. What parts of the environment do you think are important to the community and should be protected? This information will help the community and the Edward L. Rose Conservancy decide how best to proceed with their conservation efforts.

You were specifically chosen to participate in this survey because you own land in Silver Lake township. Please complete this questionnaire at your earliest convenience, seal it, and drop it in any mailbox (no envelope is needed); return postage has been provided. Your responses will remain confidential and will never be associated with your name. The questionnaire has an identification number so your name can be crossed off our list when you return it. Your prompt response will keep us from bothering you with unnecessary reminder letters.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



Printed on recycled paper

1. How many years have you owned property in Silver Lake township?

_____ years

2. How many months of the year do you live in Silver Lake township?

_____ months

3. How many acres of land do you own in Silver Lake township?

_____ acres

4. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements as they refer to Silver Lake township. (Please circle one number for each item.)

	Strongly Disagree		Neutral		Strongly Agree
a. Growth and development can be accommodated without negatively affecting the quality of life here.	1	2	3	4	5
b. This area can accommodate a lot more growth.	1	2	3	4	5
c. Farming should be maintained and supported here.	1	2	3	4	5
d. Steps should be taken to control growth.	1	2	3	4	5
e. Protection of water resources and water-related lands is very important.	1	2	3	4	5
f. There is adequate planning in this township to manage growth and development.	1	2	3	4	5
g. The use of land should be determined only by the person who owns it.	1	2	3	4	5
h. Land should be protected for plants and wildlife.	1	2	3	4	5
i. Land should be set aside and protected from development.	1	2	3	4	5
j. The rate of growth in Silver Lake township is too rapid.	1	2	3	4	5
k. The rural character of the township should be maintained.	1	2	3	4	5

5. Below are listed some features of the landscape in Silver Lake township. How much do you value each of these features? (Circle one number for each feature.)

	<u>Not at</u> <u>All</u>			<u>Very</u> <u>Highly</u>
a. Forestland	1	2	3	4
b. Open fields	1	2	3	4
c. Marshy areas and wetlands	1	2	3	4
d. Dirt roads	1	2	3	4
e. Stone walls	1	2	3	4
f. Old barns	1	2	3	4
g. Historic buildings	1	2	3	4

6. To what extent do you think each of these features needs protection? (Circle one number for each feature.)

	<u>Not at</u> <u>All</u>			<u>Great</u> <u>Extent</u>
a. Forestland	1	2	3	4
b. Open fields	1	2	3	4
c. Marshy areas and wetlands	1	2	3	4
d. Dirt roads	1	2	3	4
e. Stone walls	1	2	3	4
f. Old barns	1	2	3	4
g. Historic buildings	1	2	3	4

7. Is there a particular site or area of Silver Lake township that you think needs protection immediately?

_____ No

_____ Yes --> Please describe its location: _____

8. People often develop strong feelings about certain outdoor places or views that have special meaning and importance to them. Sometimes such views have special meaning because it reminds them of "coming home." The place may be particularly beautiful, have historical importance, or it may be important for any number of personal reasons. Please take a minute to think about Silver Lake township and determine if there is a place or view with special personal meaning and importance to you. *Please describe the location and if possible put an "X" on the front cover map to indicate its location, then tell us the reasons the place or view is special to you.*

Location: _____

Reasons for importance: _____

9. A variety of methods can be used to protect the features and places important to us. How strongly do you support the use of each of the following conservation practices in Silver Lake township? (Circle one number for each practice.)

	Not at <u>All</u>			Strongly <u>Support</u>
a. Conservation activities like planting trees, picking up litter, streamside protection	1	2	3	4
b. Land ownership by conservation groups	1	2	3	4
c. Voluntary granting of conservation easements (a legal agreement that permanently limits a property's use to protect its conservation values)	1	2	3	4
d. Land acquisition by local government	1	2	3	4
e. Land use regulations	1	2	3	4

10. Would you be willing to consider any of the following on land you own in Silver Lake township?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not possible on my property</u>
a. Setting aside all or a portion of your land in a conservation easement	_____	_____	_____
b. Donating all or a portion of your land to a conservation group	_____	_____	_____
c. Allowing a hiking trail to be developed on your property	_____	_____	_____
d. Developing a management plan for conservation	_____	_____	_____

11. The Edward L. Rose Conservancy is an organization whose goal is to assist in the preservation of open spaces and to encourage responsible development of land. It is a not-for-profit organization with over 200 members.

Before receiving this questionnaire had you ever heard of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy?

_____ No (SKIP TO QUESTION 15)

_____ Yes

12. How familiar are you with the Edward L. Rose Conservancy?

_____ Very familiar

_____ Moderately familiar

_____ Somewhat familiar

13. Do you view the efforts of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy in: (Check one.)

_____ A positive light

_____ A negative light

_____ A mixed reaction

_____ No opinion

14. Is there a specific issue or action that has shaped your view of the Edward L. Rose Conservancy? If so, please describe:

15. Below is a list of projects with which the Conservancy might become involved. How strongly would you support each of these projects taking place in Silver Lake township? (Circle one number for each project.)

	Not at All			Strongly Support
a. Walking trails along the roadside	1	2	3	4
b. Biking trails along the roadside	1	2	3	4
c. Hiking trails for nonmotorized use	1	2	3	4
d. Trails for off-road motorized use	1	2	3	4
e. Environmental education programs	1	2	3	4
f. Preservation/designation of historic sites	1	2	3	4
g. Other (please specify: _____)	1	2	3	4

16. Would you like to see town trails connected to a larger network of trails in the county?

_____ No
 _____ Yes
 _____ Not sure

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(Remember all information you provide is kept strictly confidential and is never associated with your name.)

17. In what year were you born? 19____

18. Are you male or female? _____ Male _____ Female

Please use the space below for any comments you wish to make.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT!

To return this questionnaire, simply seal it (postage has been provided) and drop it in the nearest mailbox.

APPENDIX B:

Listing of Special Places

Appendix B. Listing of special places.

<u>Special outdoor places or views</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>
Quaker Lake	73
Laurel Lake	40
All of the township	23
Silver Lake	17
Arrowhead Lake	15
All the lakes	14
Cranberry Lake	12
Respondent's property	11
Old School House / Fox School	10
Pop's Hobby Lake	10
Wilson's Swamp / Marshland by bridge on Quaker Lake Rd.	9
St. Augustine Church area	8
Route 167	8
Longford Lake	7
Barney's (road/farmhouse/field/farmland) at Quaker Lake	6
Murphy's Farm	6
Silver Lake Presbyterian Church	6
Quarries	6
Brackney Inn	<5
Rose Conservancy land / High Point Preserve	<5
Lake Sophia	<5
Gus's Place at Laurel Lake	<5
Crowley Rd.	<5
Old carriage route along Stateline Rd. from Hawleyton to 267	<5
Quaker Lake Rd.off of Hawleyton Rd.	<5
Lake Timberline	<5
Indian Mountain	<5
Murphy's Corners	<5
Quinn Rd.	<5
Hill's Farmhouse and Evans' home	<5
Lone Tree by Quaker Lake	<5
Land behind township building / highway dept. at Silver Lake	<5
Kirchmeier's farm	<5
Watersheds / Water Supplies	<5
Silver Springs on Quinn Rd.	<5
Brackney, PA	<5
Reuben Everitt's barn	<5
Heavey Rd. area	<5
Wilkes-Barre Turnpike	<5
Kennedy Rd. off Route 167	<5
Stone Walls	<5
View from Ryan Rd. off Quinn Rd.	<5

Special outdoor places or viewsNumber of Responses

Silver Lake firehouse field days area	45
Silver Lake Rod & Gun club	45
Lyons Rd.	45
Col. Brackney old stone dam	45
Northeast corner of township	45
Area between Longford Lake and Murphy's Corners	45
Woods Behind Camp Susquehannock	45
Forest land all over	45
Between Silver and Laurel Lakes / Pop's Hobby Lake Rd.	45
Part of Old Hadaway Farm	45
Wetlands at Factory Bridge	45
Old Henry Farm / Walley-Gahagan Farm	45
Top of Woodland Rd.	45
Looking west over Choconut Creek Valley	45
Road to Salt Springs State Park	45
Mahoney Rd. / Bouman area	45
Outlook above Lake Marge	45
Property between Longford and Silver Lake	45
Brady property / beach	45
Wild Cat Hill	45
Russell Rd.	45
Dark Hollow Rd.	45
Choconut Creek and feeder streams	45
Monahan Farm	45
Brown Rd.	45
McCormick / Grass Rd.	45
Richmond Hill Schoolhouse	45
Main Association dock at Quaker Lake	45