

September 11, 2024

Catherine J. Marshall  
66 Partridge Hollow Road  
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

Mr. Tony Capon, Chair  
Ledyard Planning and Zoning Committee  
Ledyard Town Hall  
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339

Dear Mr. Capon:

I attended the September 3 meeting of the Ledyard Planning and Zoning Committee and I am following closely the building development which has been proposed for the former Sweet Hill Farm in Gales Ferry.

I am not a resident of the historic district, but I often walk in the village with my dog. We were enjoying the open space of Sweet Hill Farm a few months ago when we saw some activity—trucks and workmen—in what is pretty much the center of the property, so we walked over to investigate. When we got close enough to speak to one of the workers, I asked him what was going on. Here is my memory of the conversation:

Me: Hi, guys, what's happening?

Workman: Well, we're doing a percolation test. The person who owns the land wants to build here, but he won't be able to build anything in this area.

Me: Oh? Why is that?

Workman: The water table is too high.

As I stated in my last letter about this proposed project, it is clear to the most casual observer that that location is low ground and that much of the surrounding land is marshy. That entire area, and especially the most local residents and the entire ecosystem, will certainly be compromised by paving and building. This project is completely inappropriate for the Gales Ferry historic district. It will stick out like a sore thumb and I am appalled that it would even be considered. It seems that the residents of Gales Ferry are the poor stepchildren of the town of Ledyard, given the proposal resubmitted by Cashman for blasting and quarrying and the current Klewin scheme.

Very truly yours,



Catherine J. Marshall

CJM/