

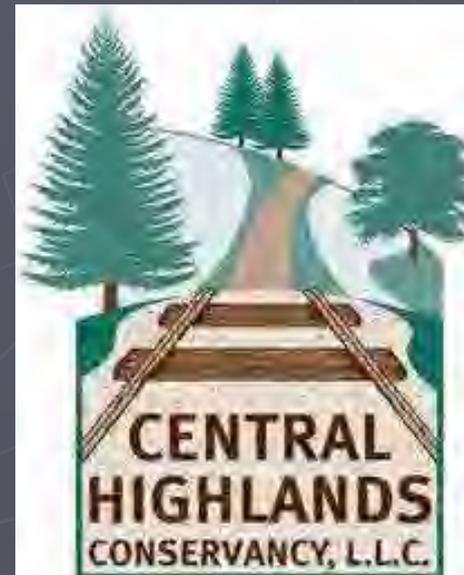
Massachusetts DCR Conference

November 14, 2015

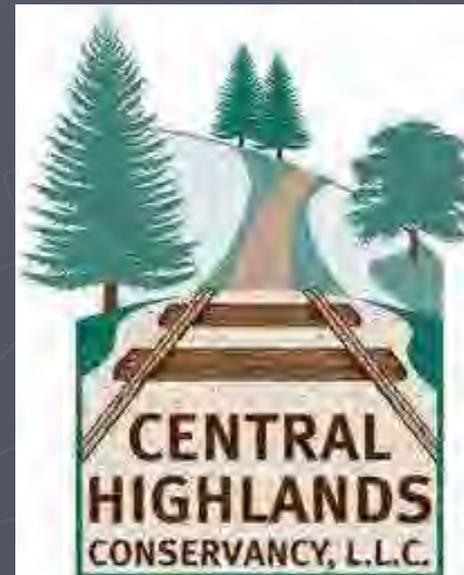
Sustainable Tourism



Actually four small firms. . .



And I'm gonna break your conventional wisdom this a.m.



Some of my favorite signs



Some of my favorite signs



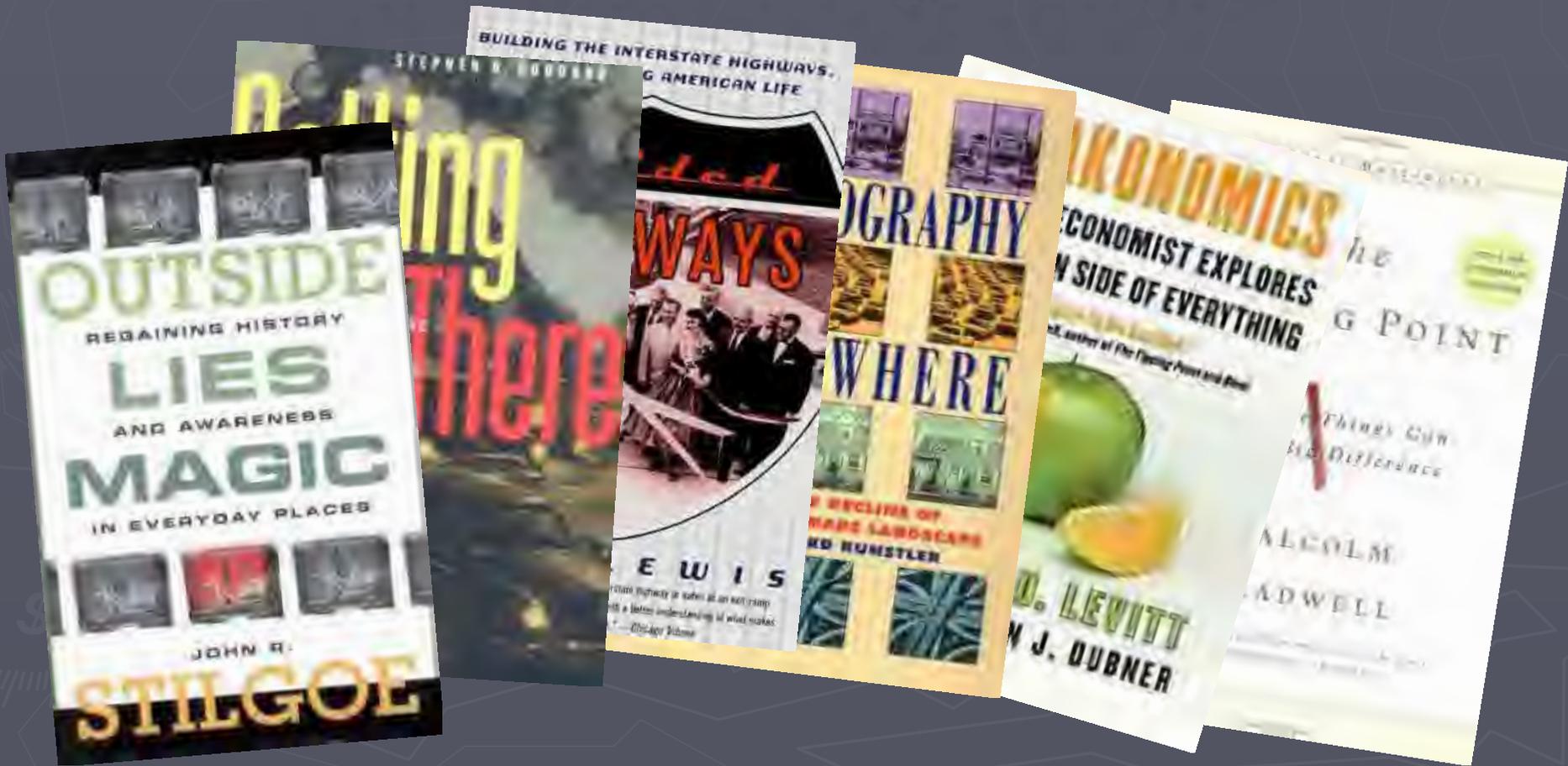
Realtors helping to build rail trails



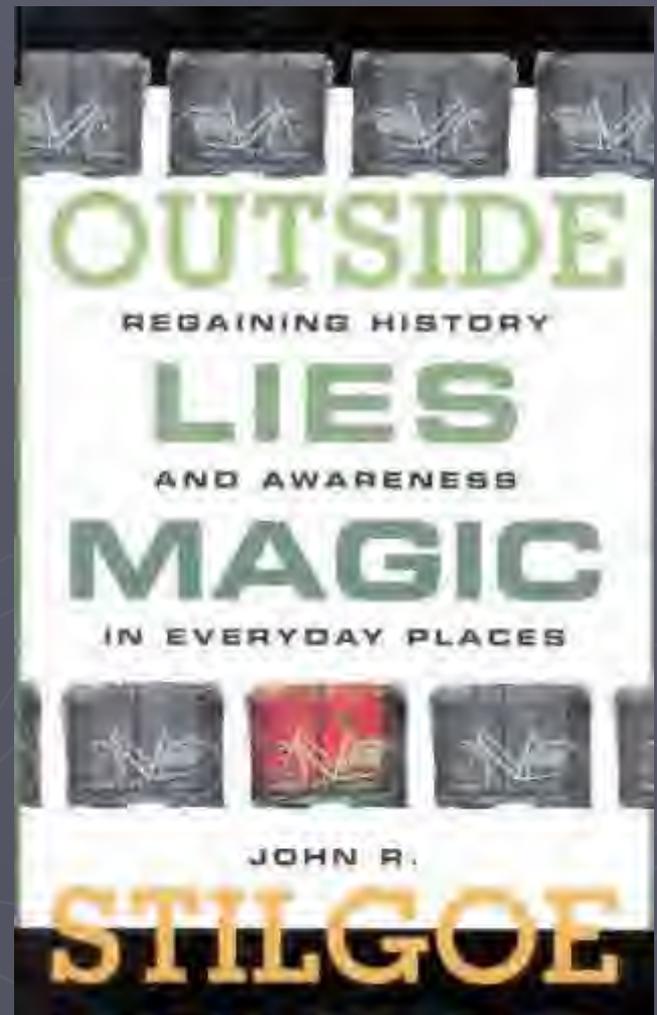
Some of my favorite signs



A READING LIST for those interested in how communities develop and how things work.

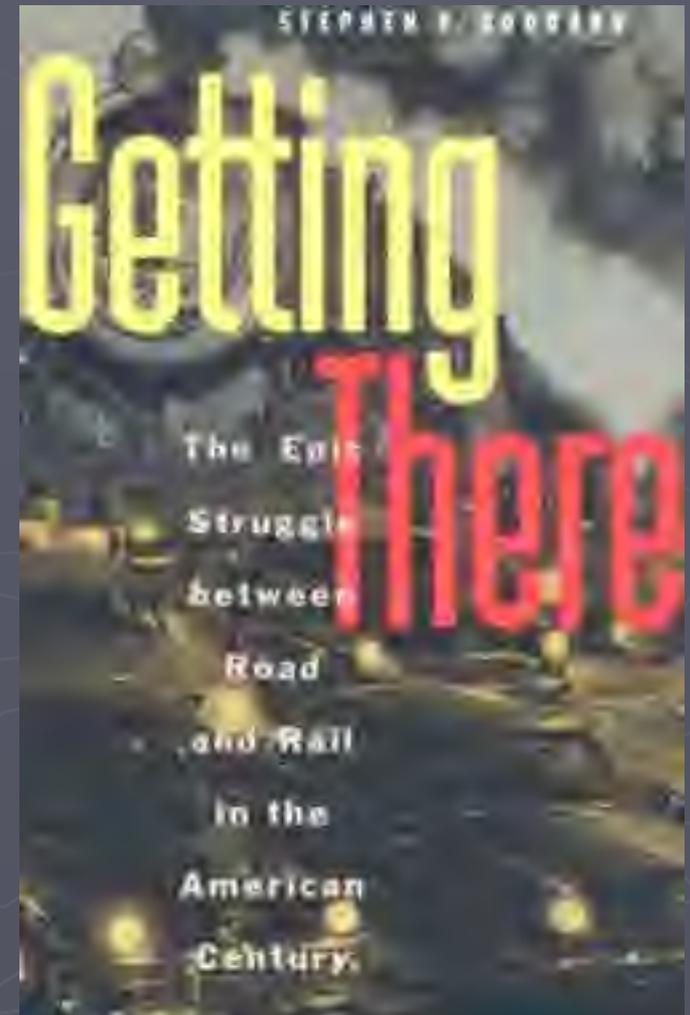


- ▶ Outside Lies Magic
- ▶ By John R. Stilgoe



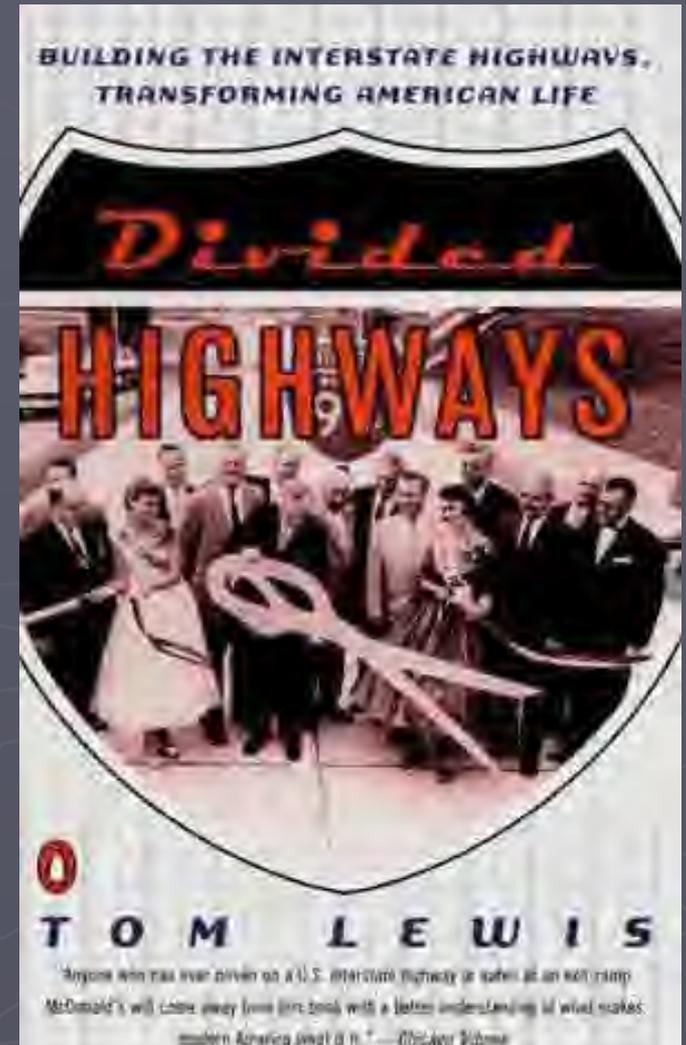
► Getting There

► Stephen B. Goddard

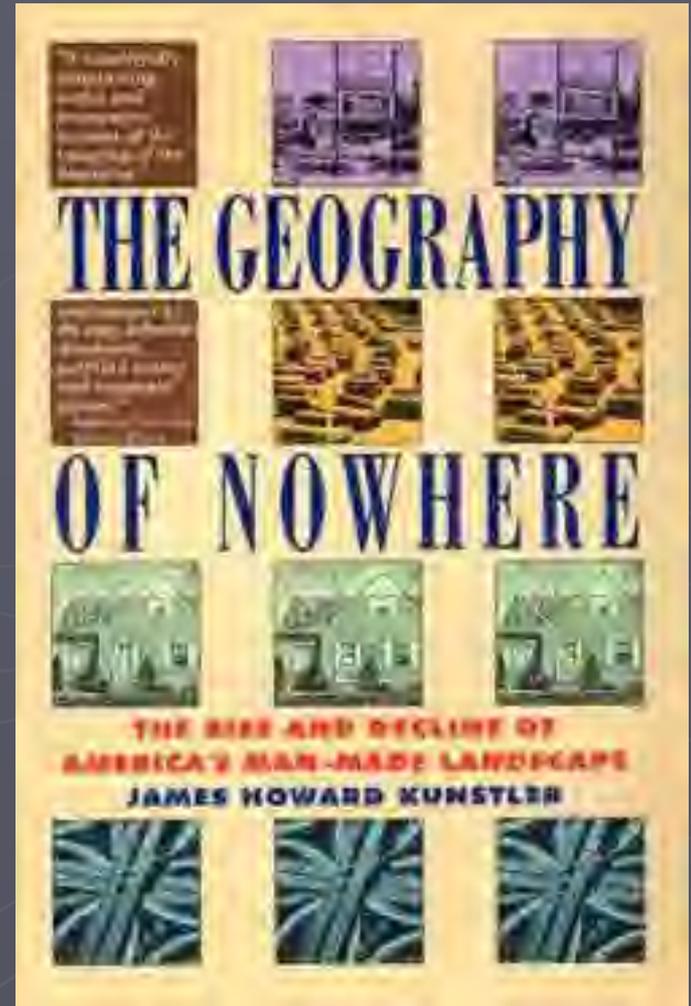


▶ Divided Highways

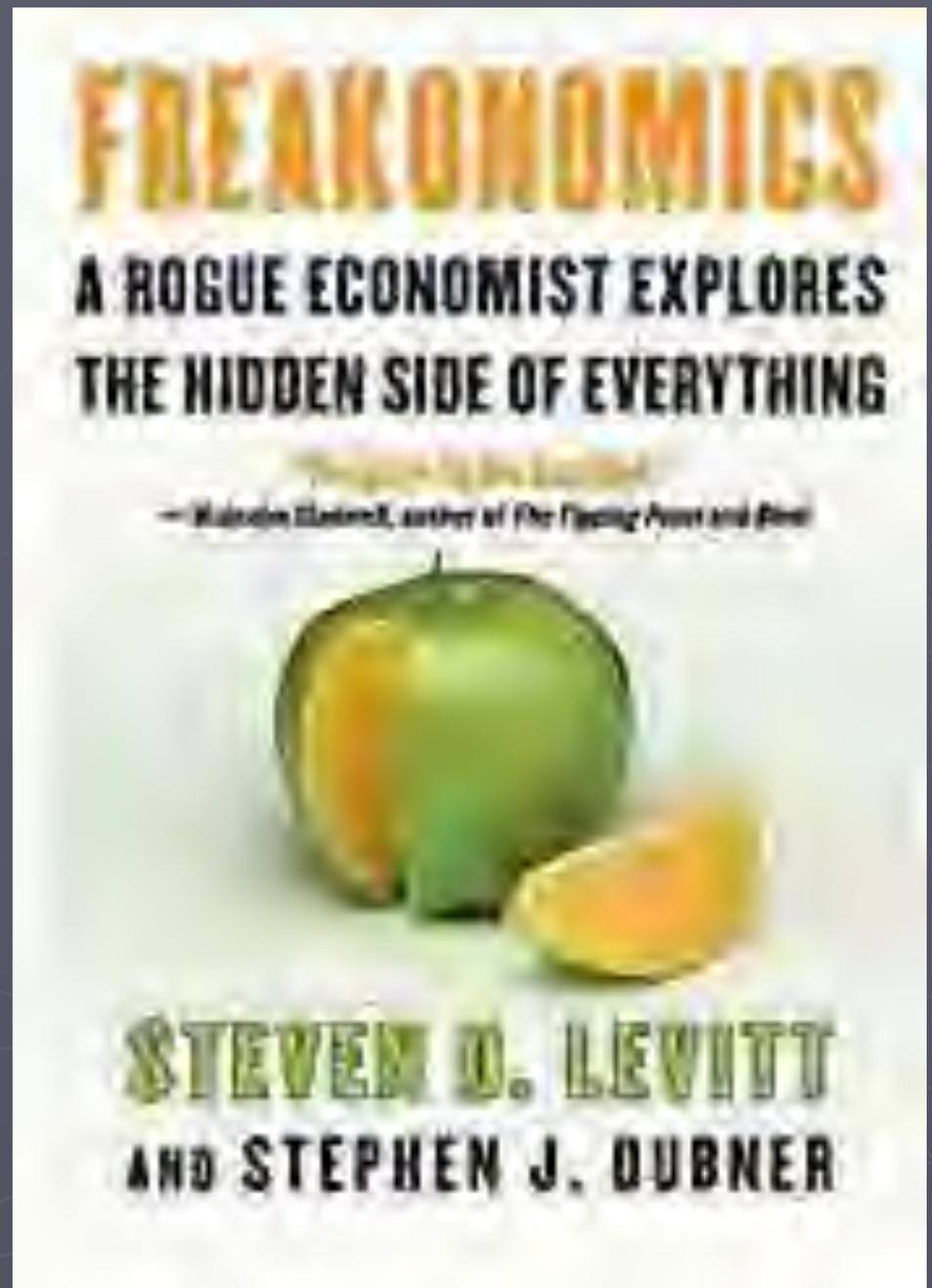
▶ By Tom Lewis



- ▶ Geography of Nowhere
- ▶ By James Howard Kunstler

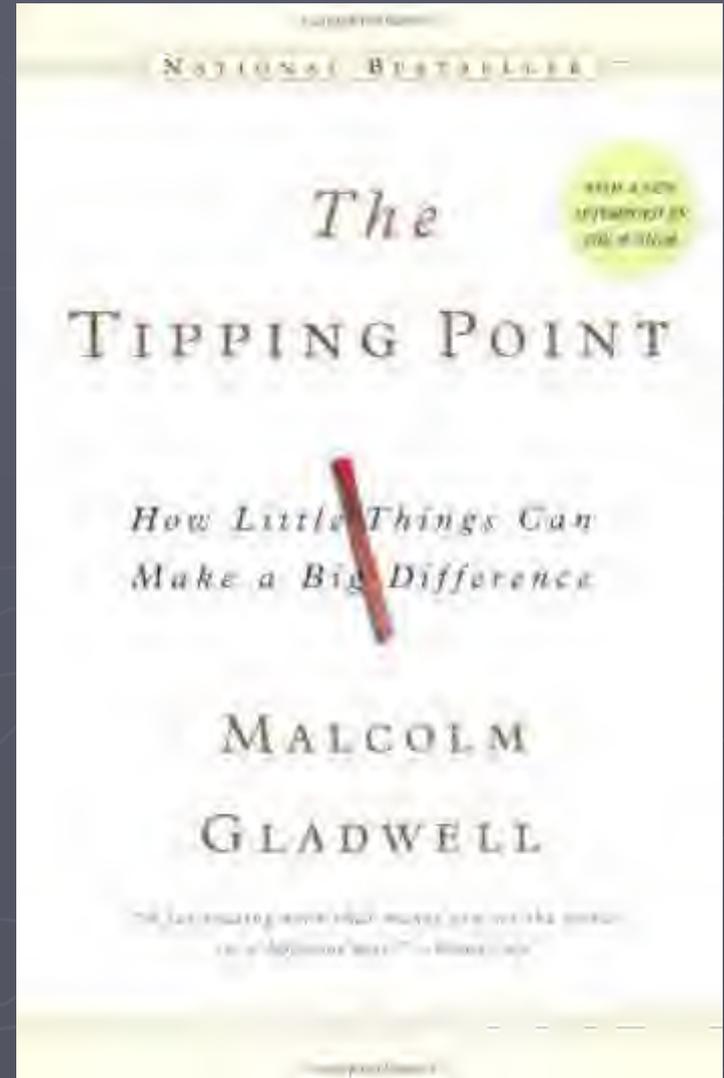


- ▶ A book about breaking conventional wisdom.



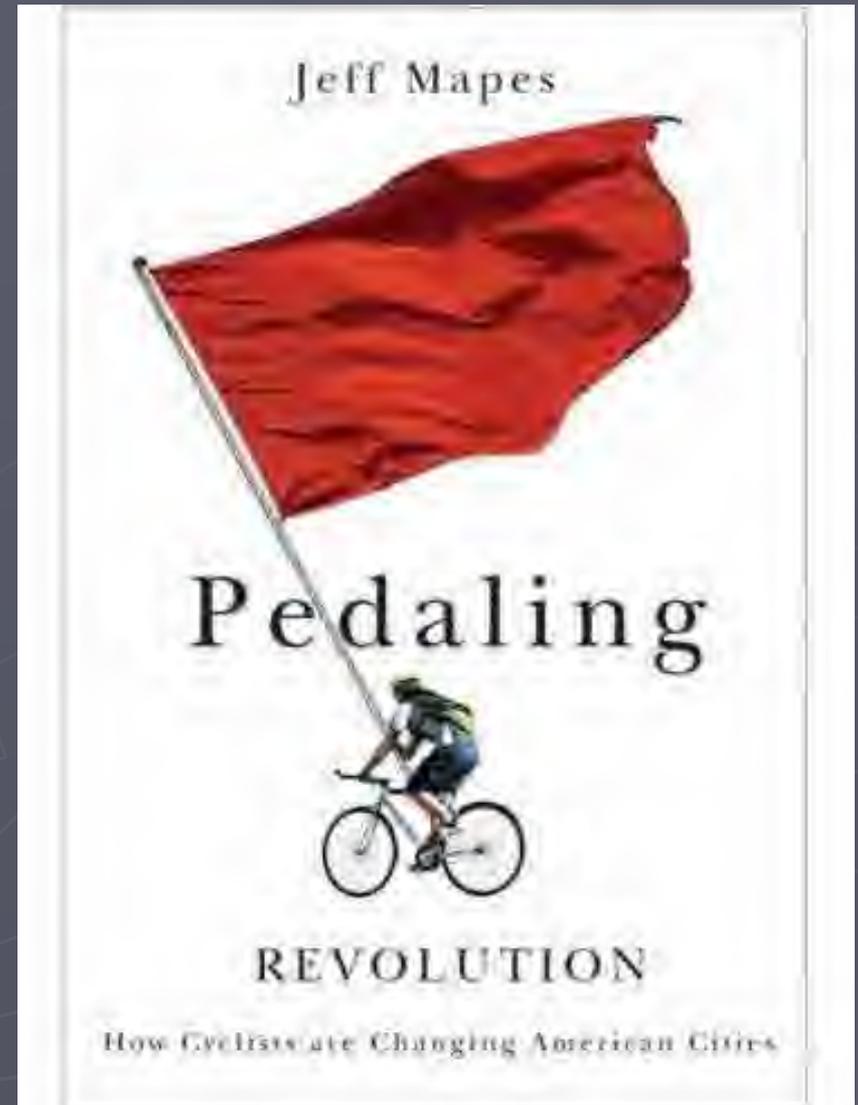
The Tipping Point

- ▶ How you don't need an army to make change. Only a small band of committed folks.

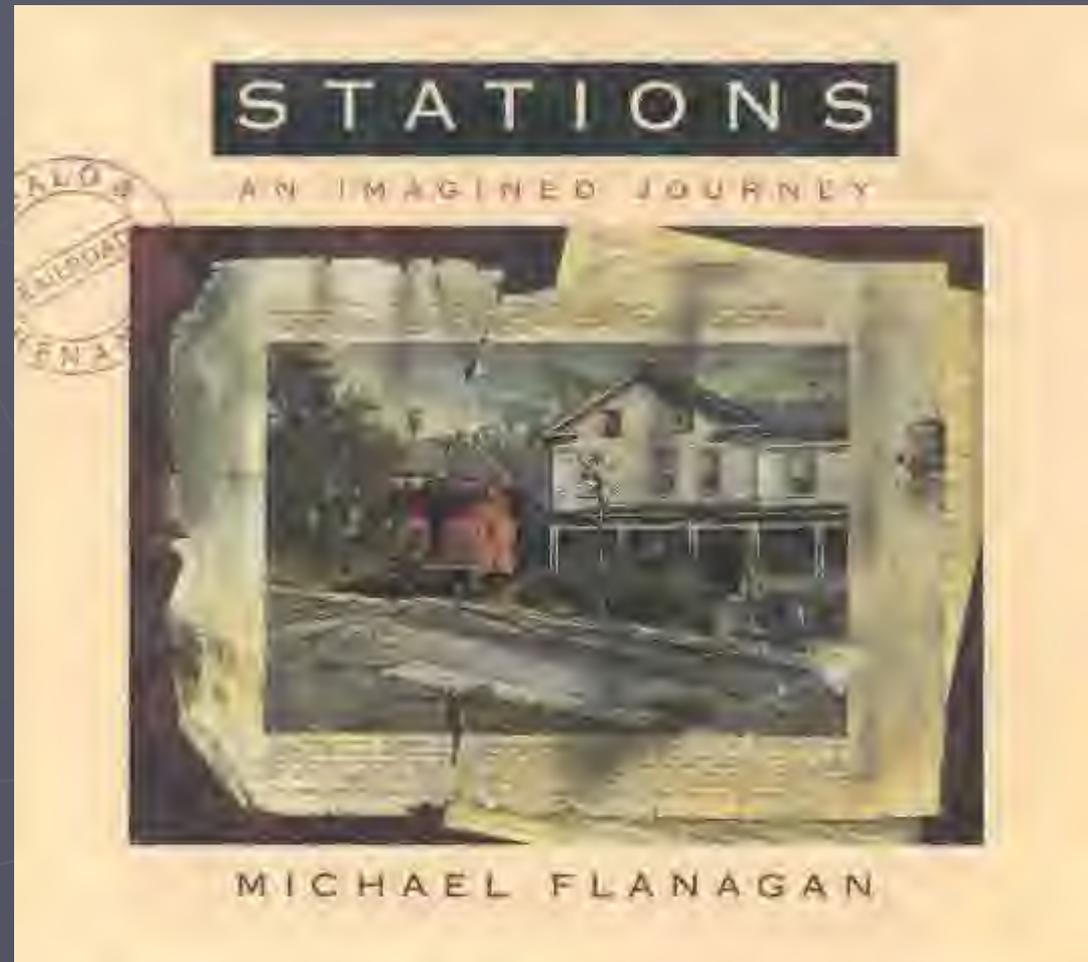


Pedaling Revolution

- ▶ How that change of bikes as transportation is coming to the U.S. right now.



- ▶ Trompe L'Oeil genre of paintings
- ▶ Pronounced "trump ploy" its literal meaning translates "to deceive the eye"
- ▶ Story of Americana lost
- ▶ Rusting railroad infrastructure set to paper



THE SHENANDOAH



[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely a caption or description of the building under construction.]

CITY STATION - SHENANDOAH

View from trailhead in High Bridge, New Jersey on the Columbia Rail-Trail



TO GET THIS LIST,
Email me at:

Craig@GreenwaySolutions.org

Rail Trails in New England

Over 200 projects within a 125 mile radius of Northampton MA.

This is the densest network of rail-trail development in U.S.



This is a dead RR.



This is a dead RR—
most likely owned by the MBTA



This is what happens when you convert it.

- ▶ Safe enough for mothers to walk their babies on.



And another mother's walking club.





Rail Trails in New England

Over 200 projects within a 125 mile radius of Northampton MA.

This is the densest network of rail-trail development in U.S.



Rail-Trails in so. New England







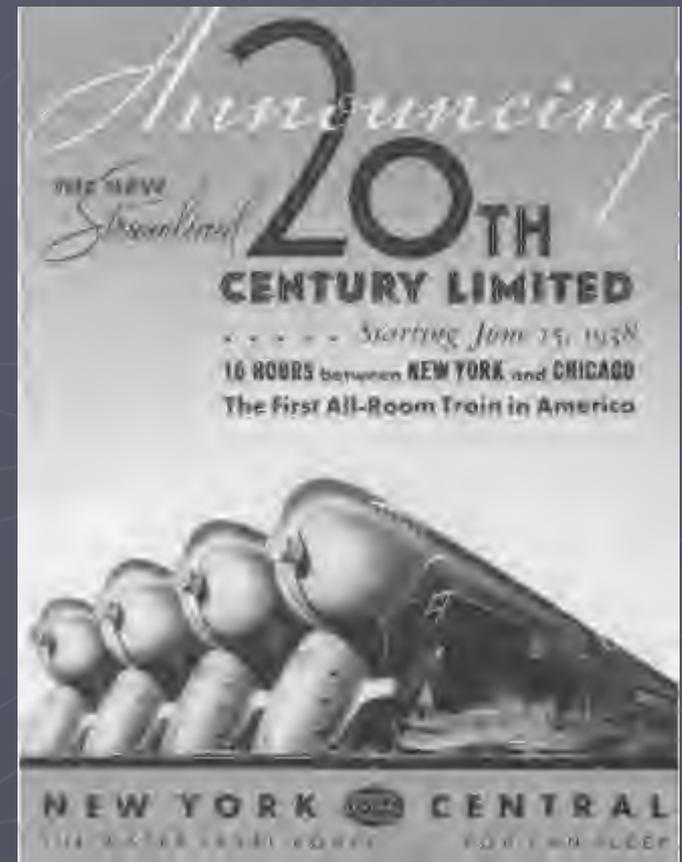




THE NEW YORK,
NEW HAVEN & HARTFORD RAILROAD
OPERATED AND CONTROLLED LINES.

Lets look at several of the longer, tourism themed trail projects underway that aren't too far from us.

- ▶ Virginia's Creeper Trail
- ▶ CT and Mass, New Haven and Northampton Canal Greenway
- ▶ Province of Quebec's Parc Lineaire [aka, Le P'tit Train du Nord]
- ▶ New York's Erie Canal Trail



And then we'll look at the one big rail trail project in Massachusetts

- ▶ **Mass Central Rail Trail**
—my pet project.



Virginia Creeper Trail

- ▶ Only 33 miles long, but has had a transformational impact on the communities along it.



Virginia Creeper Trail

- ▶ Largest concentration of bent timber bridges in the U.S.
- ▶ Highest point ever served by a scheduled RR in the east. 4,500'
- ▶ Damascus, VA is a "Trail-Town".



Virginia Creeper Trail

- ▶ And it is where O. Winston Link did his daytime photography



Virginia Creeper Trail



Virginia Creeper Trail



Virginia Creeper Trail



Virginia Creeper Trail



CT's Big Vision Project is the Farmington Canal Greenway

- ▶ **55 Miles in CT only**
- ▶ **80 miles from New Haven to Northampton, MA.**
- ▶ **45 Miles Now OPEN in CT.**
- ▶ **Connecticut will be 100% done in perhaps 2.5 years.**



On November 2003 a Bi-State Trail Seminar was held in Simsbury CT.

- ▶ Over 60 town officials, state reps, and tourism officials attended.
- ▶ Update from all communities along the trail.
- ▶ Speaker was from John Dimura of the NY State Canal Corporation, an arm of NYDOT.



On October 2014 a Bi-State Trail Seminar was held in Simsbury CT.

- ▶ Over 60 town officials, state reps, and tourism officials attended.
- ▶ Update from all communities along the trail.
- ▶ Speaker was Fran Gotcsik of PTNY – author of the recent study of the Erie Canal Trail







Le P'tit Train du Nord

- ▶ Northwest of Montreal in the Laurentian Mts.
- ▶ Most well thought out trail in North America for the marketing of long-distance bike tourists.
- ▶ 200 KM long.
- ▶ Not much English is spoken, but they do understand Visa and Debit.



Le P'tit Train du Nord



Le P'tit Train du Nord

- ▶ Most well thought out trail in North America for tourist marketing.



Le P'tit Train du Nord



Le P'tit Train du Nord



Le P'tit Train du Nord



Le P'tit Train du Nord



Le P'tit Train du Nord

► 200 KM long



NY's Big Vision Project is the Erie Canal Trail

- ▶ **400+ miles from Buffalo to Albany.**
- ▶ **65% complete.**
- ▶ **Won't be an asphalt strip across New York. Over 50% will be a compacted stone-dust.**
- ▶ **Does see over a million users a year.**
- ▶ **Former Governor Pataki's high profile project.**



Bed & Breakfasts along the trail







ERIE CANALWAY TRAIL

200
years of history

78%
of off-road
trail complete

360 miles of trail
between Buffalo
and Albany

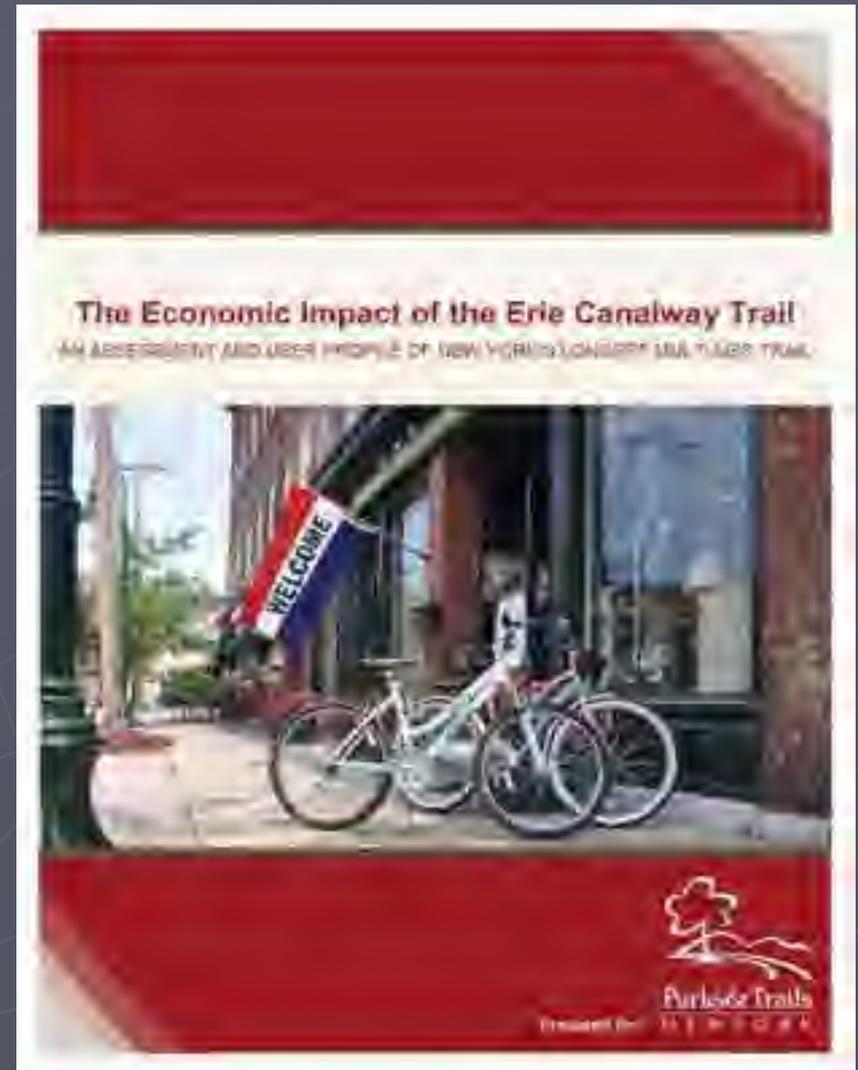
\$253 Million
in annual economic impact



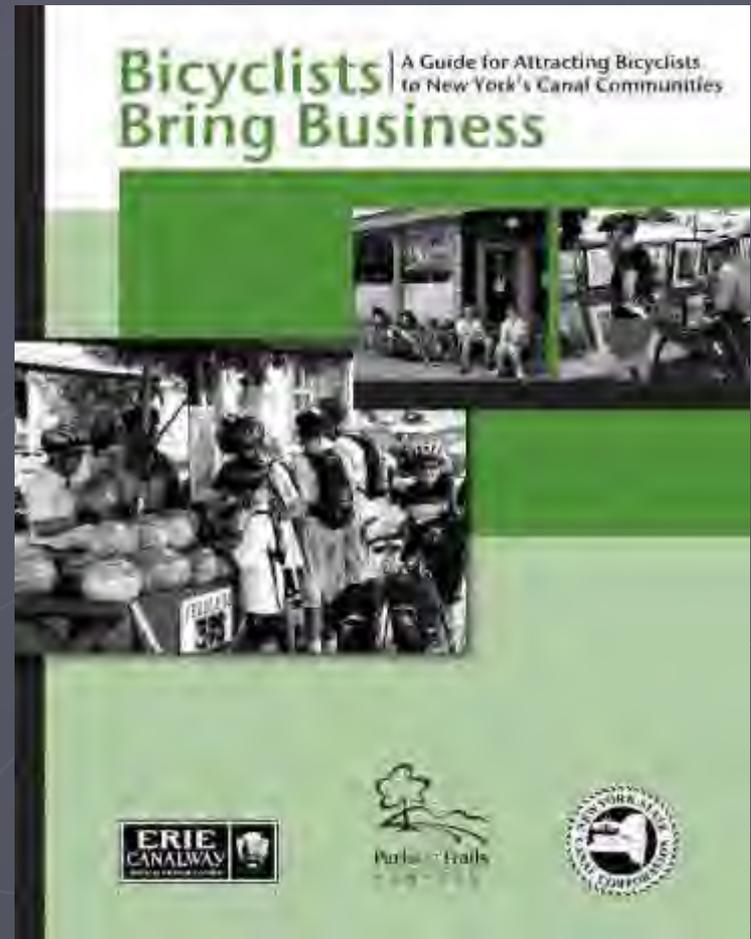
1.6 Million
annual visits

Economic Impact

- ▶ I have a dozen copies of the Executive Summaries here today.



Bicyclists Bring Business



bike tours



Parks & Trails
NEW YORK



visit canalway trail



Parks & Trails
NEW YORK



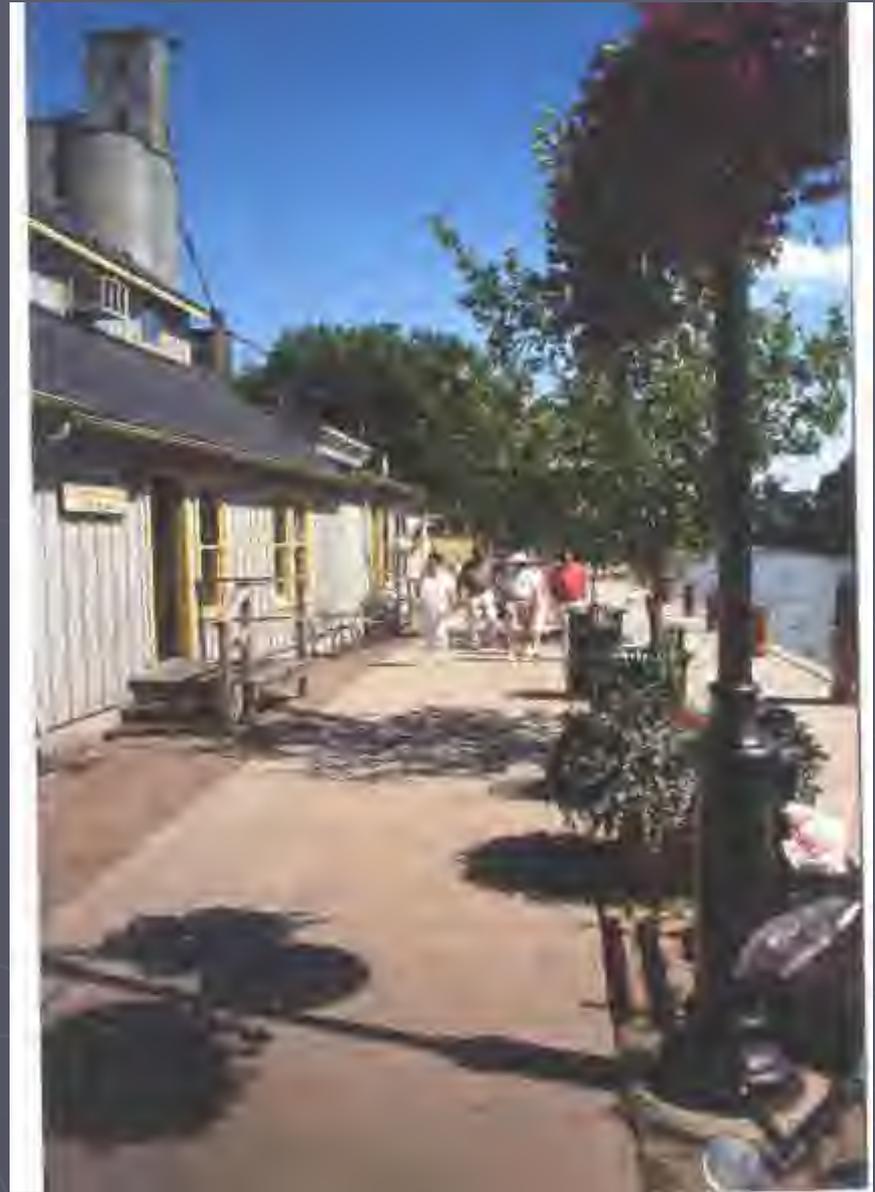
Order complete [Cycling Erie Guidebook](#)

8-day [Cycling Erie Canal bike tour](#)

CYCLING THE ERIE CANAL







Cycle the Erie Canal Rack Cards



Cycle the Erie Canal Rack Cards

HISTORY
BEAUTY
CHARM
CULTURE



Find it all along the
Erie Canalway Trail



Enjoy a leisurely afternoon ride or spend a week completing the entire 360 miles between Buffalo and Albany. Along the way, visit unique attractions in charming small towns; explore the living history of our nation's past; and marvel at the beautiful scenery. Visit the Cycle the Erie Canal website to find everything you need to start planning your trip!

www.CycletheErieCanal.com



29 Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207
518.484.1551



Funding provided
by a grant from
Empire State
Development

From 8/1/11 to 7/31/12, the website (www.cycletheeriecanal.com) will provide
and state of New York, State printing office, 2001 St.
Community Development Corporation, 1000
through its grants, job and workforce.

Cycle the Erie Canal Business Cards



Cycle the Erie Canal Business Cards

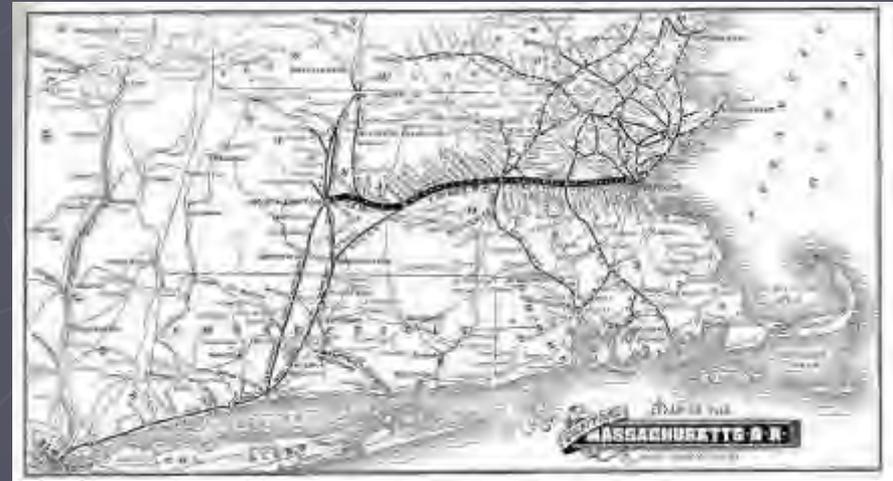
**ALREADY CYCLED THE
ERIE CANALWAY TRAIL?**

Share your photos and story and
register as an end-to-ender at:

www.CycletheErieCanal.com/rider

What is the Big 'Signature' Project in Massachusetts?

- ▶ Massachusetts has over 100 Rail-Trail projects underway.
- ▶ Virtually all are so short and or fragmented that **they don't make it onto the radar screen of the Governor.**
- ▶ The one exception is the Mass Central Rail Trail



Commonwealth Connections: A Greenway Vision for Massachusetts

Vermont

New Hampshire

New York

Connecticut

Rhode Island



WANTED!

100 MEN 100

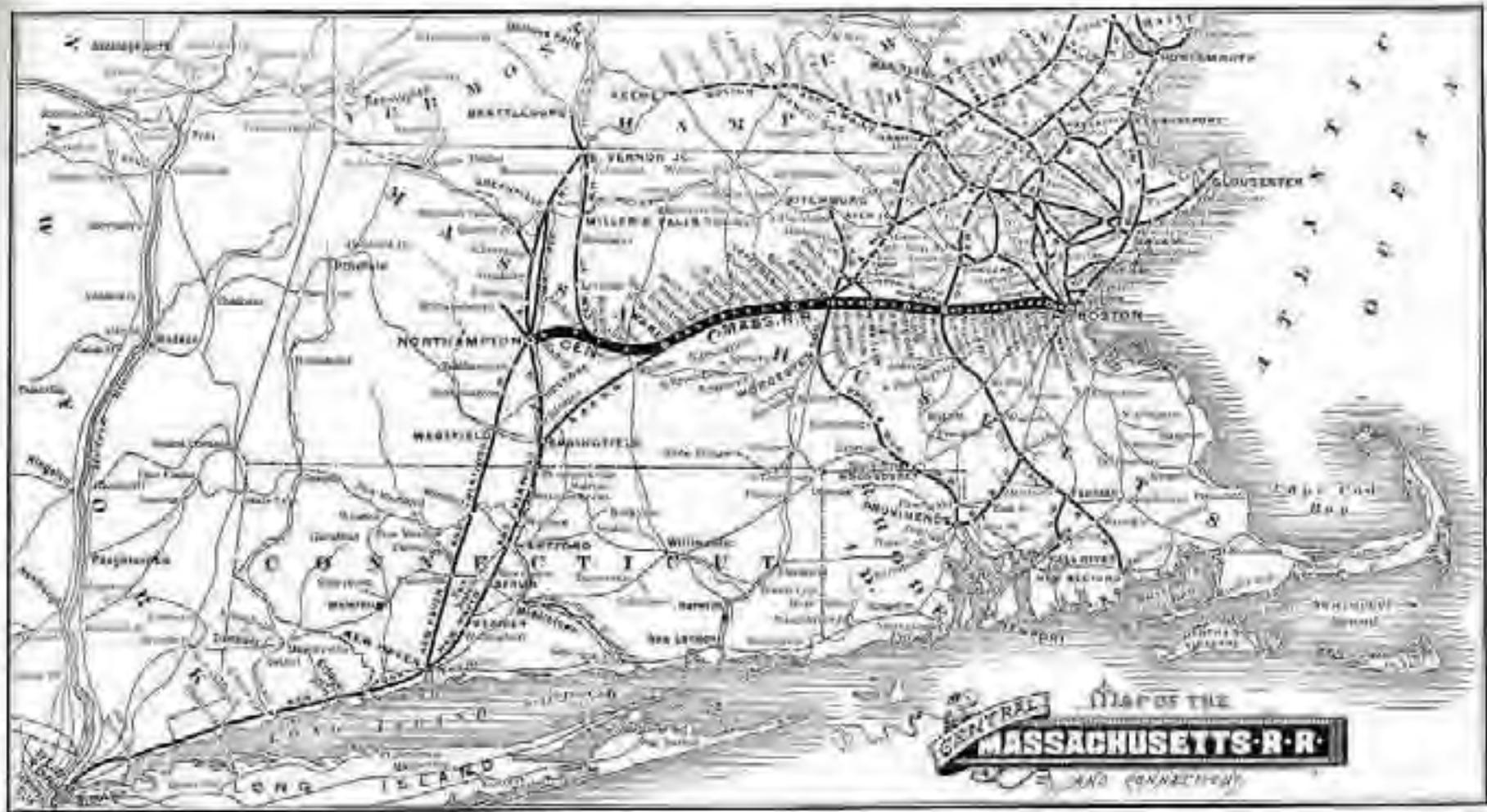
To work on the Massachusetts Central R. R.
in West Rutland. Steady Employment.

Wages, - \$1.75 per day.

RUTLAND, APRIL 27, 1872.

J. M. STONE & CO.

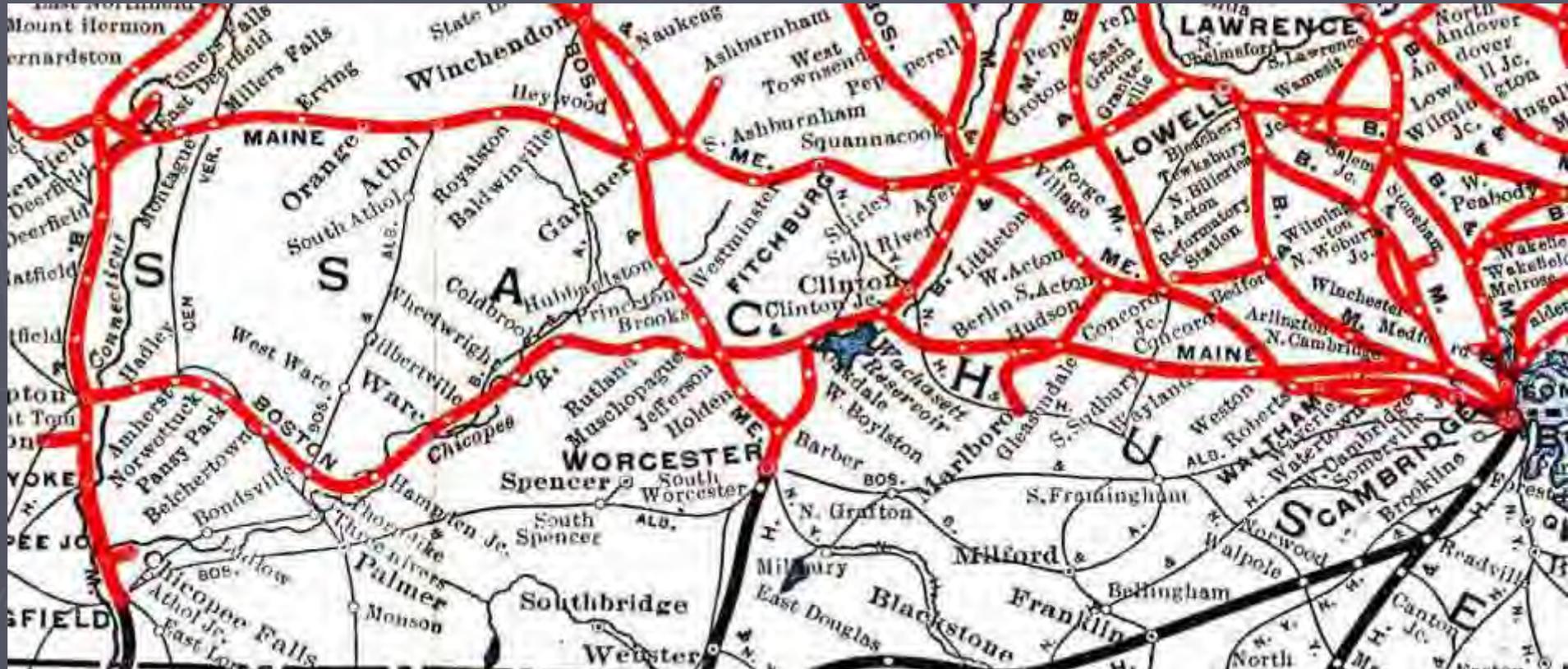
J. Henry Goddard, Printer, Gazette Office, Barre, Mass.



MAP OF THE
CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS R.R.
AND CONNECTIONS

The MassCentral Rail Trail

- ▶ 104 miles from Boston to Northampton



RR map circa 1940. 70%+ abandoned and slated to become trail

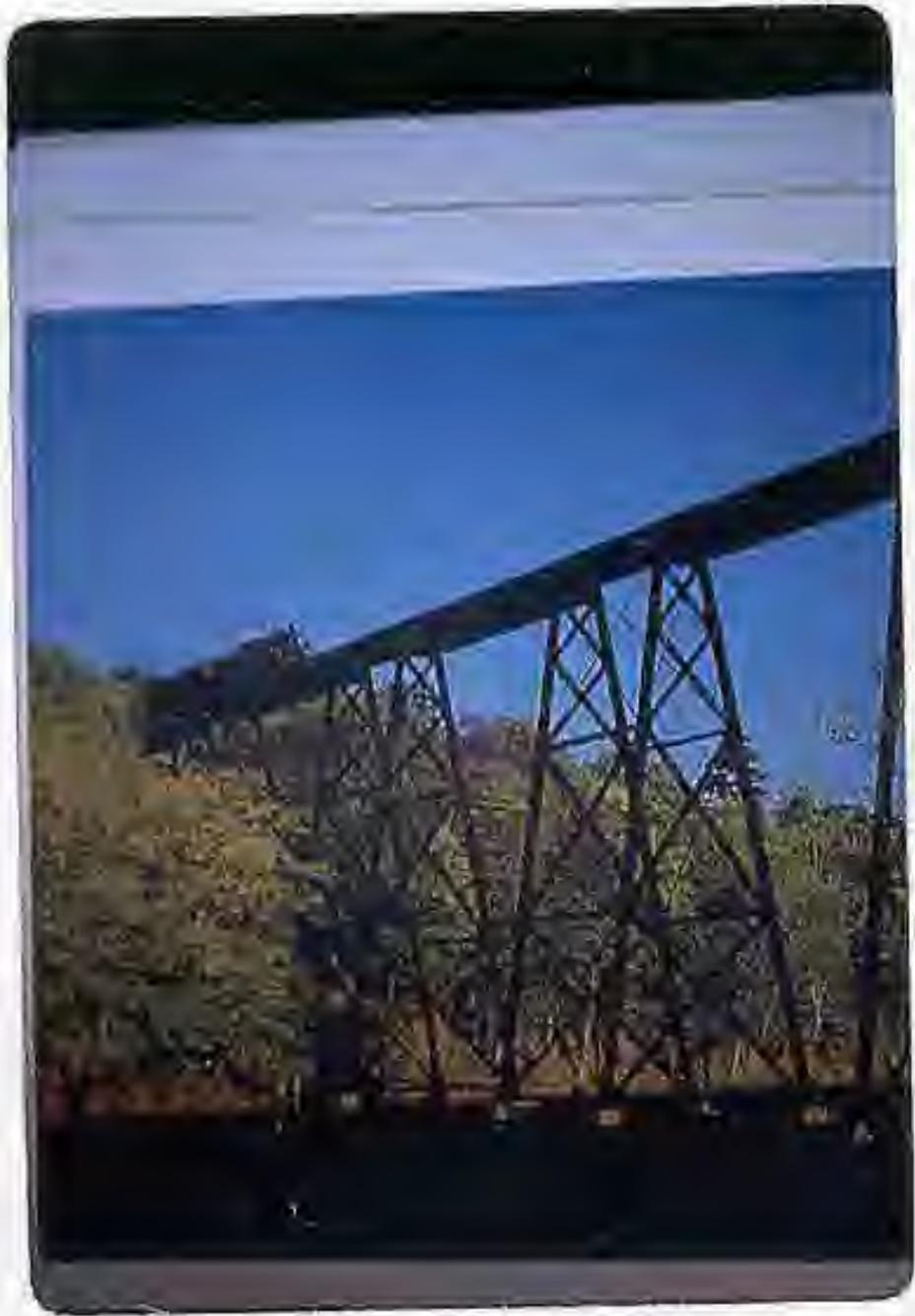


Archival scenes in Clinton



Passenger rail ran until 1958





Viaduct structure was torn down
in 1974-approximately.



Going, going, gone

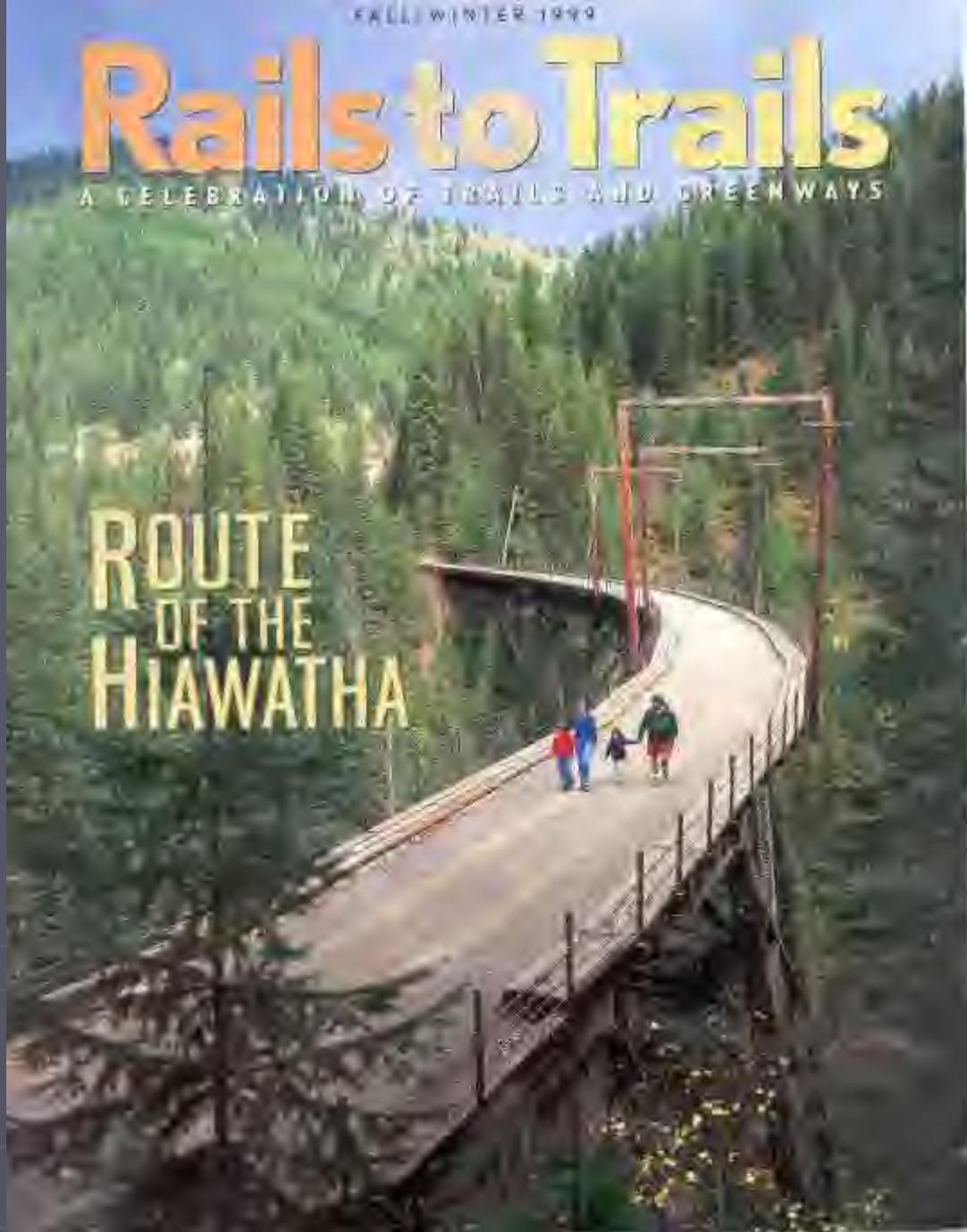


FALL/WINTER 1999

Rails to Trails

A CELEBRATION OF TRAILS AND GREENWAYS

ROUTE OF THE HIAWATHA





Photography by Ted W



Lining up like arrows in the river



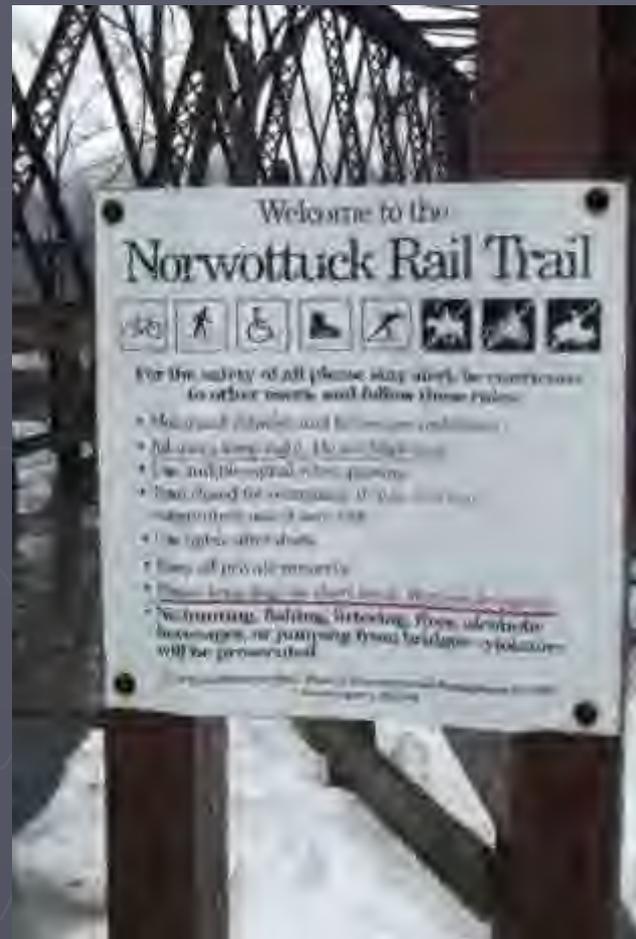
Forgotten by most people
of the 21st century



Yes, that
is the
*"light at
the end of
the
tunnel."*







Welcome to the

Norwottuck Rail Trail

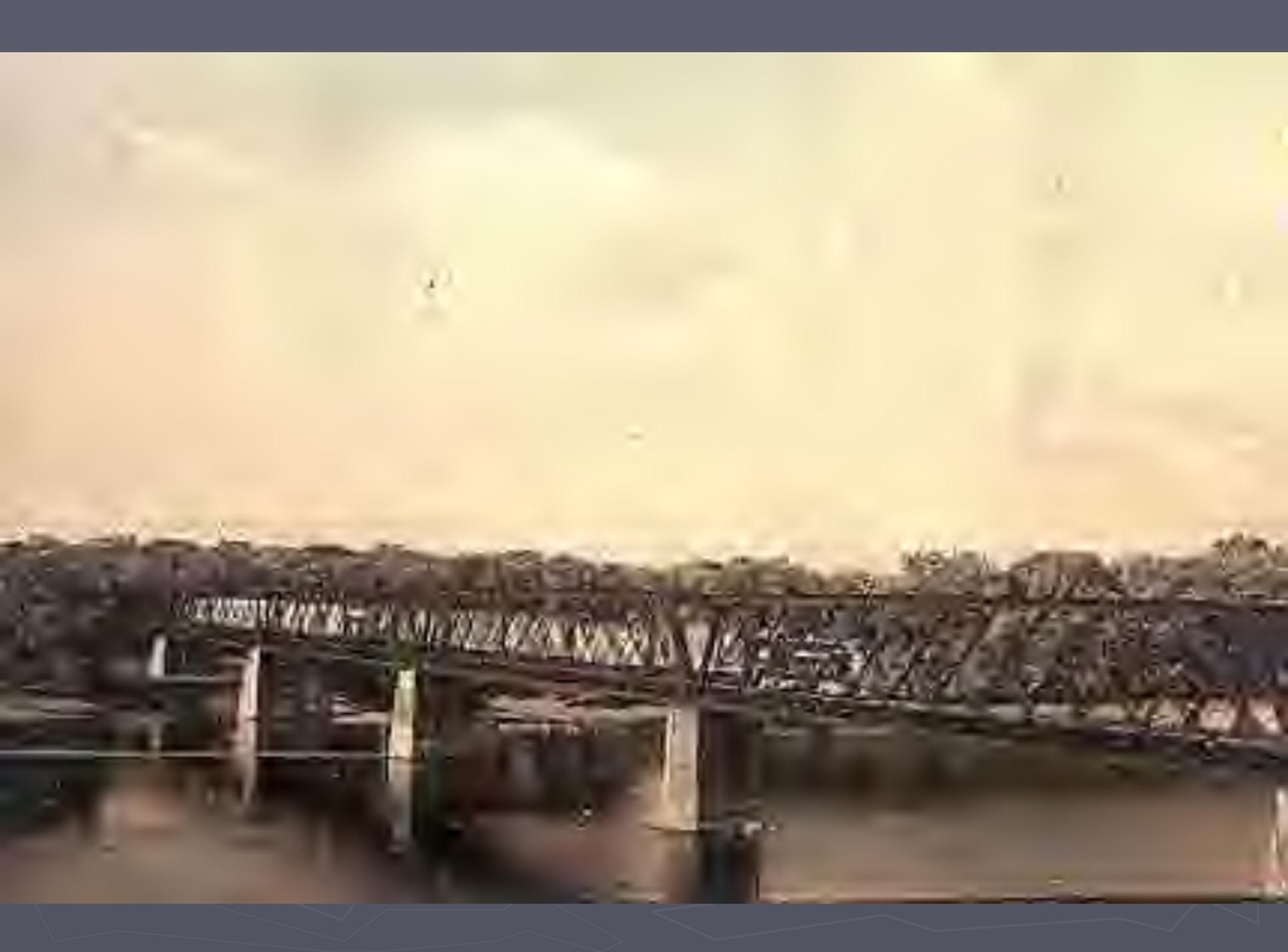


For the safety of all please stay alert, be courteous
to other users, and follow these rules:

- Maintain safety and courteous conditions
- Follow any temporary closures
- Use and respect other users
- Stay alert for vehicles. If you see one, yield the right of way.
- Use proper etiquette
- Use all available services
- Please keep dogs on short leashes. Aggressive dogs
- No hunting, fishing, hunting, fires, alcoholic beverages, or jumping from bridges - violators will be prosecuted.

© 2008 Norwottuck Rail Trail Association
All rights reserved.







MassCentral Rail Trail's Norwottuck Rail Trail segment.









Wachusett Greenways

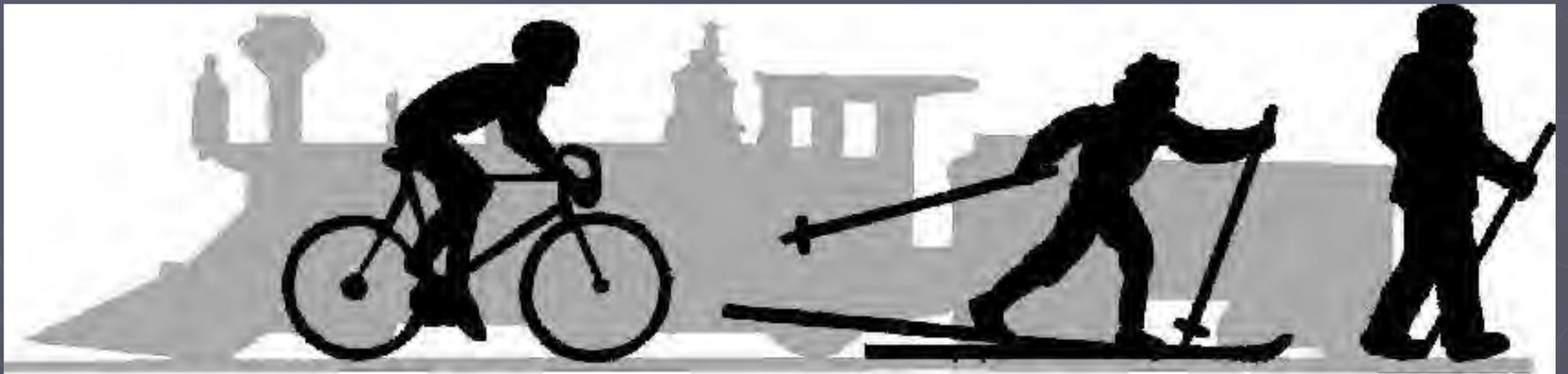










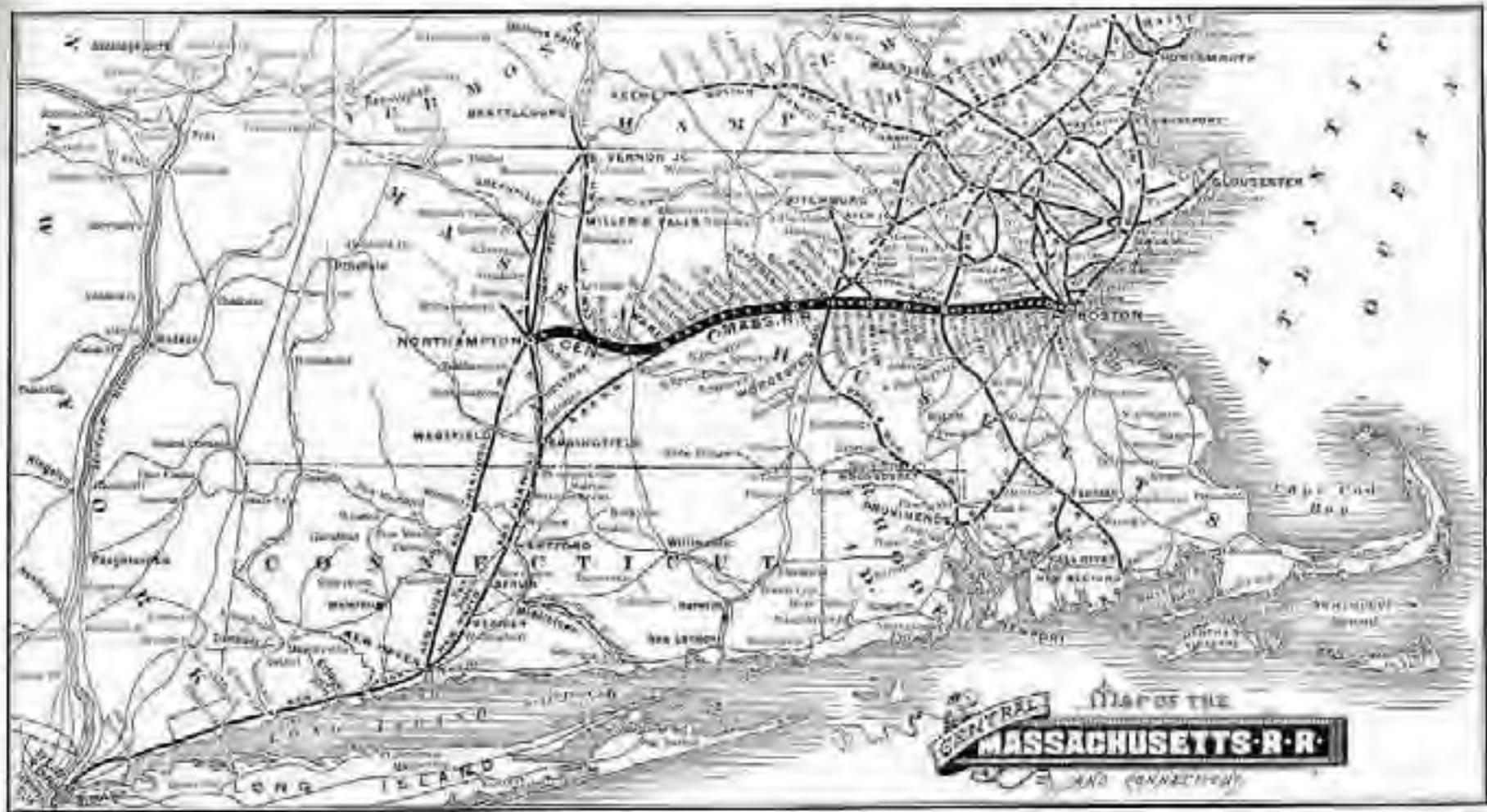


Mass Central Rail Trail

Visionary people and their inspiring stories

- ▶ Colleen Abrams,
Wachusett Greenways



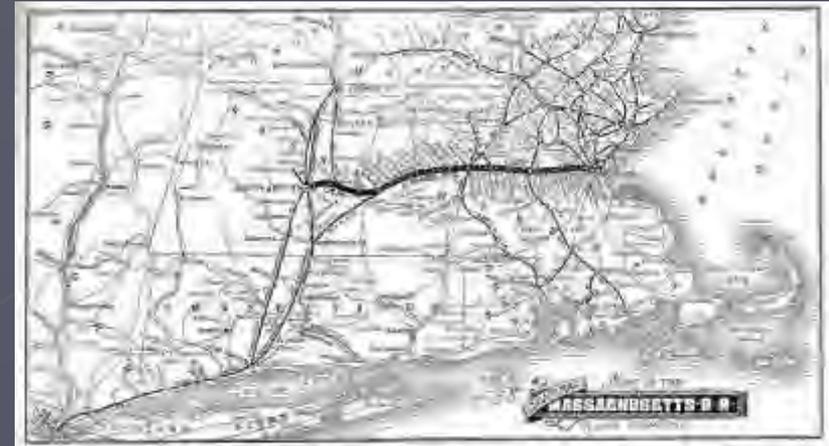


MAP OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS R.R.
AND CONNECTIONS

Golden Spike II

held at Bentley College, Waltham on
June 21, 2002

- ▶ Partners from 6 non-profits helped organize the rally.
- ▶ High level speakers from numerous transportation and environmental agencies.
- ▶ Presented a VISION!
- ▶ Biggest rail trail event ever held in Massachusetts—and possibly New England.

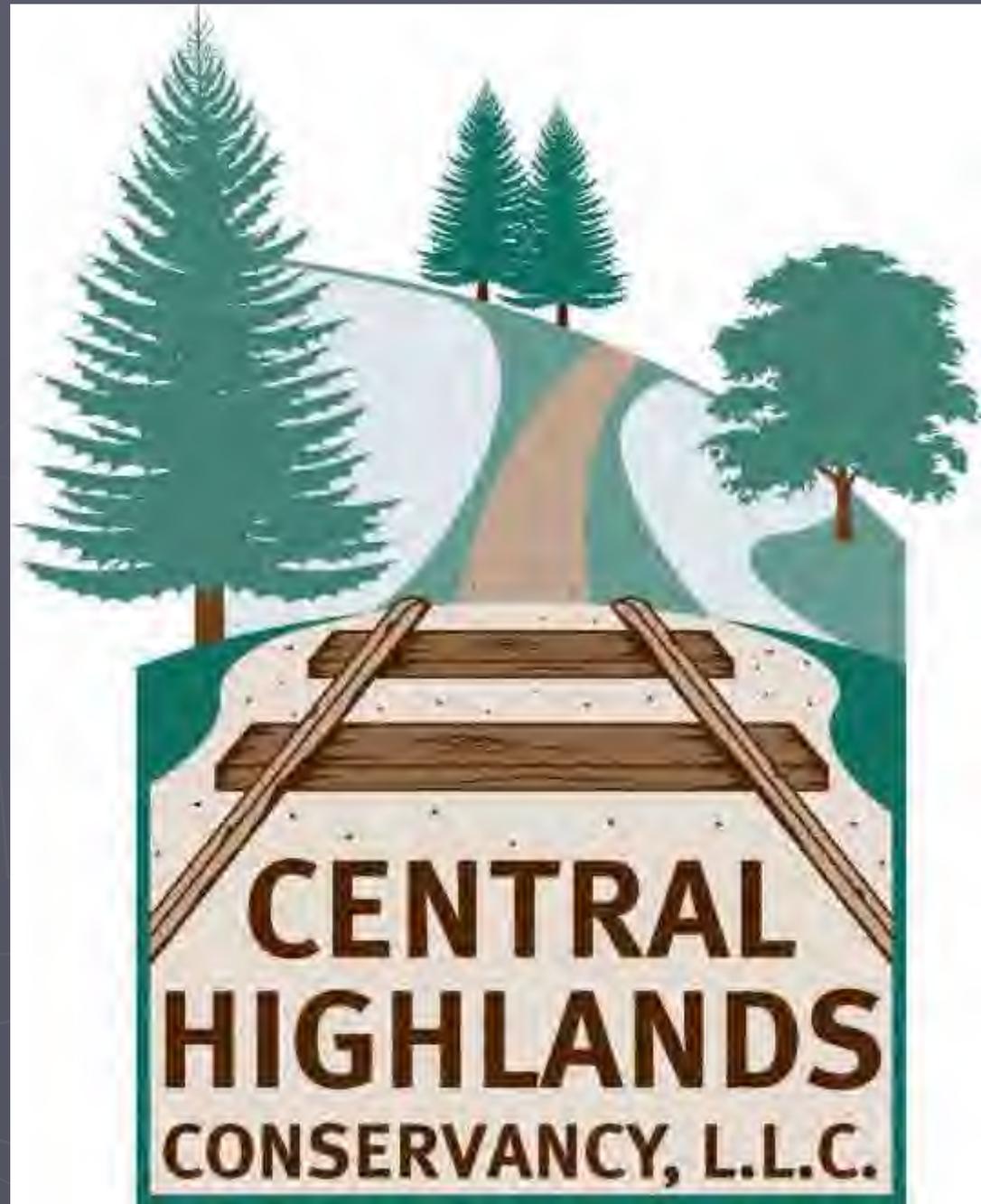




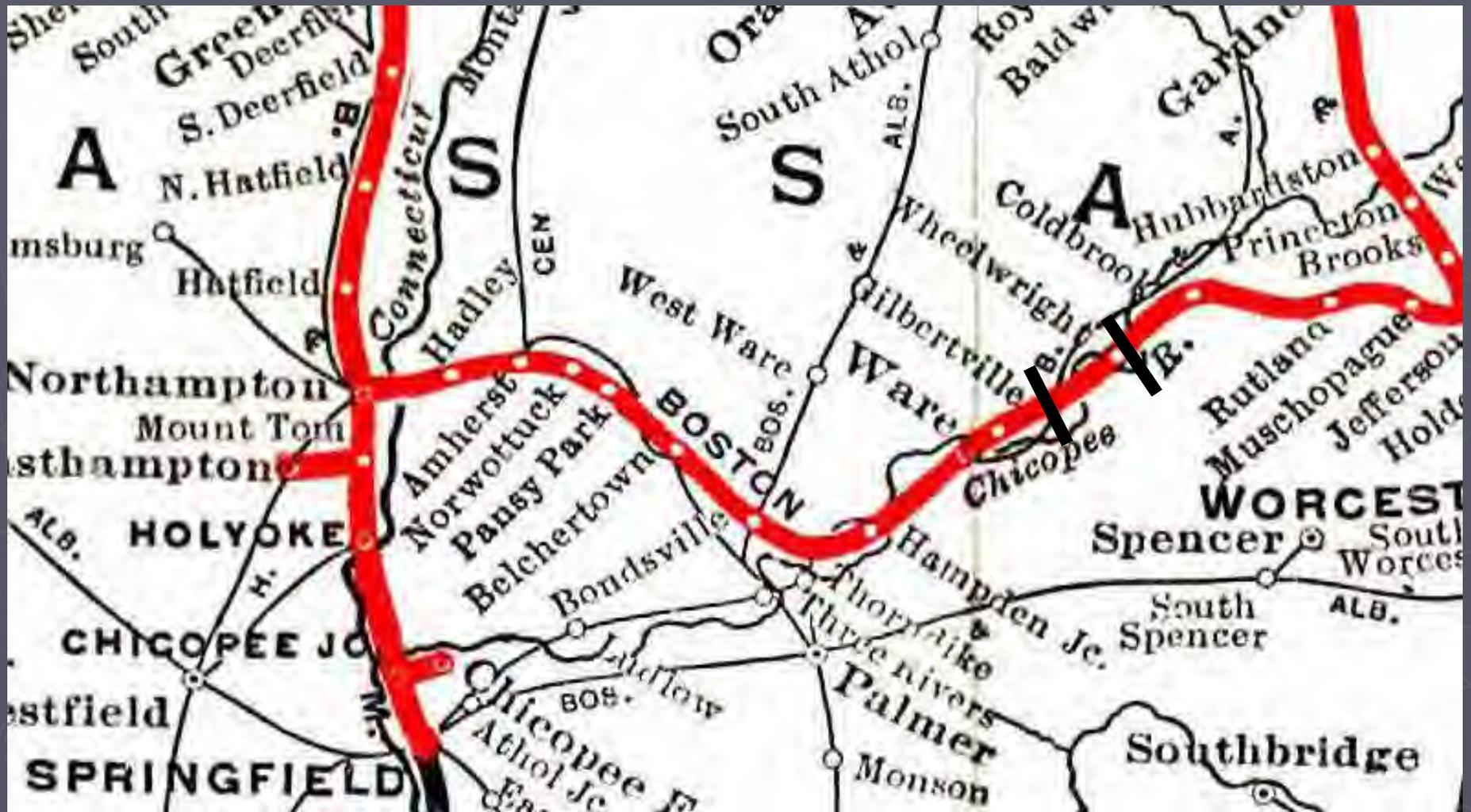




- ▶ We're only temporary
- ▶ We know how we're getting out—when we are getting in.
- ▶ Cost + Expenses.
- ▶ No mark up.



The MassCentral Rail Trail













RAILS-TO-TRAILS

EAST QUABBIN LAND TRUST

HEADQUARTERS ONE NEW BRIDGE RD. 100A

HOW TO OPERATE A B&B

- ▶ This will be about real B&Bs, not AirBnBs.
- ▶ #1 is you need a bullet-proof Guest Mgmt System. SuperInn.com is best
- ▶ 2 rooms = possible
- ▶ 3-4 rooms is better
- ▶ Expanded continental breakfasts vs full cooked breakfasts.
- ▶ **I'd be happy to talk to** people about setting up a place in their community.

The ultimate fixer-upper. This was taken two years before we knew **we'd be buying this house**





The ultimate fixer-upper.





06/25/2002

1st B&B in the region to market towards bicycle tourists.



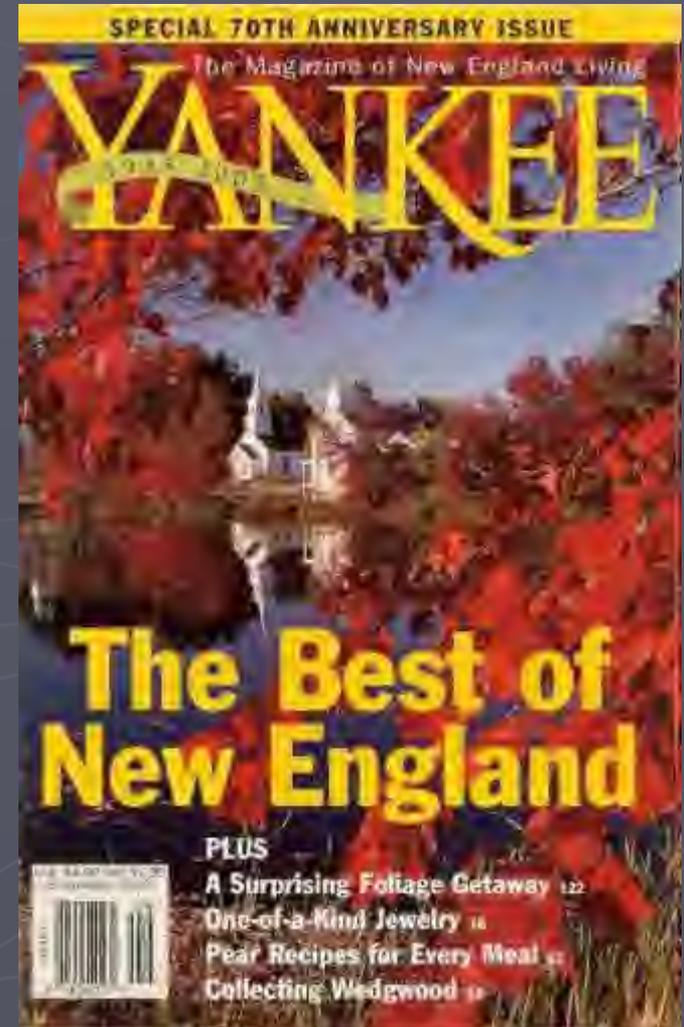
Recipient of Northampton's Historic Preservation Award.



Featured on HGTV's *Restore America*, and voted
Best in the Valley.



Also, Featured in *Yankee Magazine's*
"Best of New England" 70th Anniversary Issue.



Running a B&B in the 21st Century.

- ▶ 80% of the American adult population has dreamed of operating a B&B.
- ▶ More than two rooms allows you to quit a day-job.



Running a B&B in the 21st Century.

- ▶ We have a very sophisticated guest management system that makes this all possible. SuperInn.com
- ▶ I get 4-7 high-end real estate transactions a year from people who start off as B&B guests.
- ▶ This is 25% to 30% of my real estate business.



Fixed base touring vs. inn-to-inn touring

- ▶ Inn to Inn Touring is the vacation of the 21st Century.
- ▶ For families and the general public.



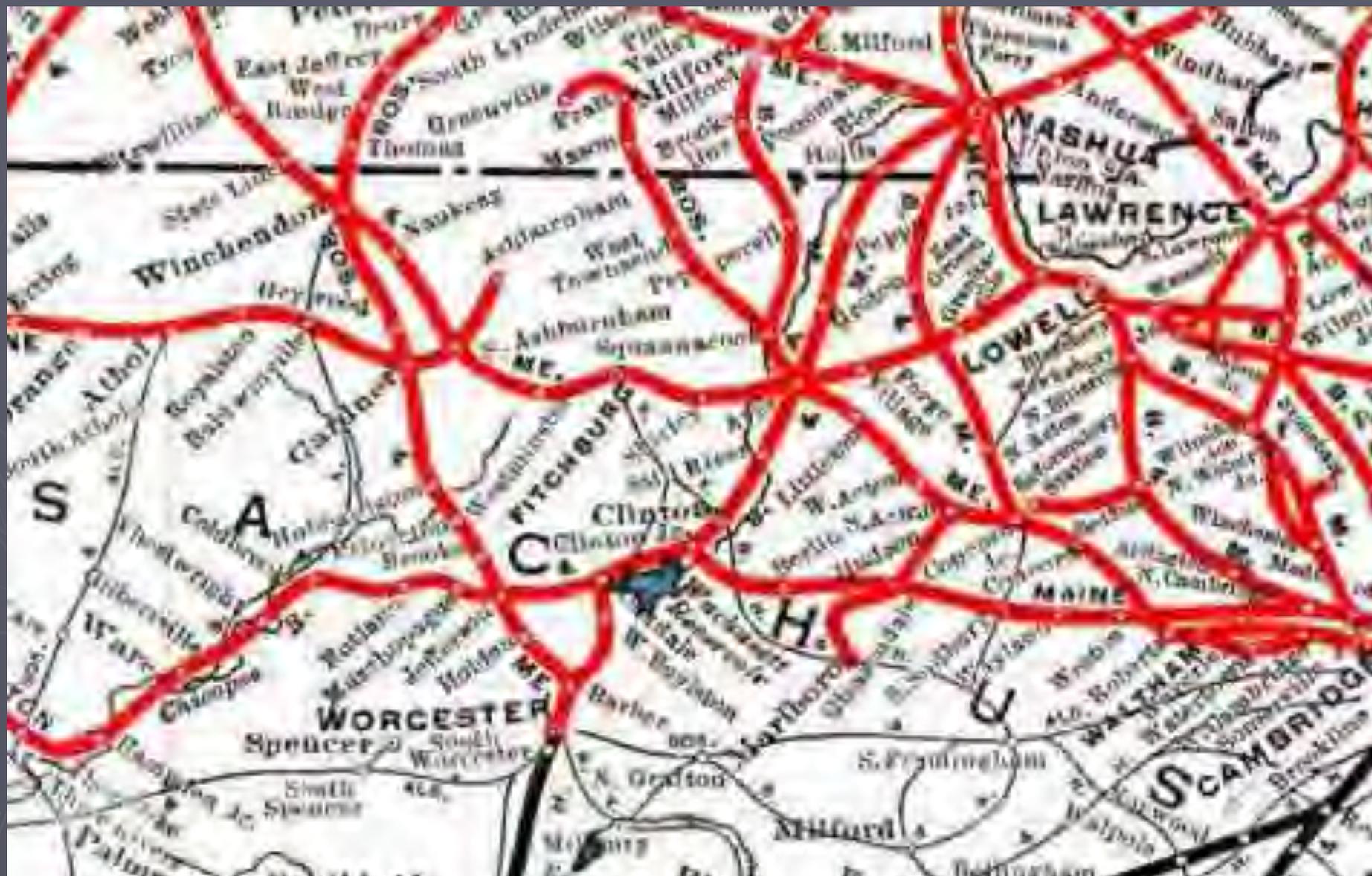
Fixed base touring vs. inn-to-inn touring



Which is best?

Fixed base	Inn to Inn
Best for the B&B operator	More of a lengthy vacation
We have about 20 bookings a year in this genre.	N-S corridor has rail option. Rail back to point A.
Two or three night stays.	Requires a sophisticated entity to run.
	Single night stays.





The End

