

Arlan and Eleanor Jodrey's Tree Farm currently consists of four parcels of land. The total acreage in the American Tree Farm System is 236 acres.

The first parcel purchased by the Jodrey's was the sixty-acre woodlot located in Greenwood, Maine in 1963. As a result of the management on this woodlot they became certified Tree Farmers on July 27, 1967. The second parcel was a fifty-acre parcel in Albany, ME. The third parcel purchased was a thirty-three acre parcel in Waterford, ME in the early seventies. This lot had been completely devastated by the 1938 hurricane. The initial purchase price was exchanged for one dairy cow from Stanley B. Lord following the hurricane. The final parcel was acquired on February 1, 1994 when Elizabeth S. Lord and Stanley B. Lord transferred their land over to their daughter, Eleanor and Arlan Jodrey. Arlan was no stranger to this parcel since he had been closely involved with his father-in-law, Stanley B. Lord, on his woodlot (Certified Tree Farm #36 of Maine) for many years previous.

“Stanley B. Lord is well acquainted with the state slash laws. Maintains a permanent road system through the woodlot for fire protection as well as future logging. Has made salvage cuttings of diseased and windthrow trees whenever necessary. Employs close utilization of trees in cutting resulting in reduced fire hazard.”

Comments made by foresters, Richard Waldron and Sumner Burgess on July 1, 1953 Maine Tree Farm inspection record report.

The following is a brief history of Tree Farm #36 prior to the Jodrey's legal ownership in 1994. The Lord's purchased the Bethel Parcel in 1949 as a dairy farm. The farm was evenly split between 70 acres agricultural land and 70 acres woodland. The current woodland acreage is about 93 acres and the remaining fields and farm house were sold in 1958. Times were tough and they set out to do the best with what they had. They requested the assistance of the State Farm Forester, Sumner Burgess. He marked the woodlot for a selection harvest to remove pine and balsam fir. The Lord's then carried out the harvest between 1950 - 53 with horses and removed 94 MBF of Pine, 7 MBF of Balsam fir, and nearly 20 cords of pulpwood.

On January 5, 1954 the Lord's became certified Tree Farmers, Number #36 in Maine.

According to the first Tree Farm inspection records the Lord's cooperated with agricultural agencies in holding a woodland demonstration at their farm. Stanley B. Lord also served on the community committee of the Agricultural Conservation Program and stimulated interest with neighboring farmers in better conservation practices on their farms.

1959 John Deere 430 used for winter harvest by Stanley and Arlan in March of 1975.

Each parcel of the Tree Farm has been under a management plan for many years. The Greenwood and Bethel parcels had written management plans done in 1995 and the Waterford and Albany parcels had management plans written for them the following year. These plans were all cost shared through the Agricultural Conservation Program from the USDA Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service for Oxford County. The Jodrey's have been involved with this organization since the purchase of their parcel in Greenwood in 1963. The 1998 Ice Storm monies were used for partial scholarship funding towards the Certified Logging Professional course as well. All of the harvesting work is conducted by Arlan himself. The harvesting work is accomplished by using his 1976 Ranger 664B skidder and 1984 John Deere 350C tractor with winch and integral arch.

Arlan pushing up diseased tamarack during Winter 2002 harvest for sale as kraft pulpwood.

Even though Arlan has been cutting wood for many years he felt it would be a good idea to attend the privately owned Certified Logging Professional (CLP) program which provides the most current training and education for people involved in the Maine logging industry. They prepare candidates to work safely, productively, and in a manner that protects, enhances and sustains the forest in a one week long course. Arlan is the only State of Maine Legislator to successfully complete the classroom and field interview sections in the Conventional Logger category.

He is a firm believer in using personal protective equipment and strongly encourages others to attend the CLP program and conduct forest management activities in a safe and responsible manner. The Jodrey's have extended an open invitation to the CLP program for the use of their property for the field testing portion of the CLP program.

Here Arlan prepares to fell this tree after properly assessing the potential hazards.

Arlan has attended numerous other workshops to become a more informed landowner.

Some of the more notable workshops were:

- Predetermination of Independent Contractor status and Logging Aesthetics-1997
- LIFEFLIGHT OF MAINE – User / Ground Safety Course – 1998
- Mead Paper’s Forest Management Assistance Program Chainsaw Safety Workshop – 1998

Aesthetically the Jodrey’s Tree Farm looks like a manicured park. This has been the direct result of countless hours of removing hundreds of cords of

Well managed stand of Eastern White Pine.

hardwood firewood and poor quality softwood species for many years. The final result has been a well-distributed stand of high quality trees fully utilizing the site over much of the woodlot. Arlan has worked hard over the years to develop and maintain the necessary access needed to manage his woodlots. Since his ownership is not one contiguous parcel his road systems consists of several short gravel spur roads off of black top town roadways, with the longest portion being nearly a mile long.

Access road into the Bethel Woodlot.

Arlan has taken many steps to protect his access from erosion over the years. Most of the BMP’s installed on his property has been done with his John Deere 350C bulldozer. However, if need be he will use an excavator which he also can operate as well. Over the years the roads have had to be upgraded to meet the

Arlan crowning roadway and re-establishing one of the waterbars on the Albany woodlot.

current truck hauling capacities used today. This has meant surfacing roads with gravel in some cases, widening of other roads, and installing better drainage systems. All these efforts have enhanced the general

Properly located and installed culvert controlling spring runoff on the Bethel woodlot.

public’s experience of the already open land use policy the Jodrey’s have. Silviculturally, the Jodrey’s have followed the advice of professional foresters that have been associated with the Rumford Paper Mill for many years. They not only have listened to the forest management advice but have personally implemented them on their land and encouraged others to do the same on their land as well.

Extensive pruning has produced thousands of clear, high-quality white pine stems.

The Jodrey’s have fulfilled their primary goal of growing high quality white pine over much of their forests by working hard at getting back young white pine natural regeneration through artificial ground scarification with their homemade drag.

Homemade drag made from cletrac tractor lags welded in the front and free floating in the rear hoisted up to show design.

Although his current design is original the idea was taken from Chadbourne Tree Farm who manages over 25,000 acres primarily for white pine sawlog production. Nearly thirty-five acres have had this treatment applied to them.

Abundant white pine regeneration resulting from timely scarification following a seed year.

The Jodrey’s have done a small amount of planting over the years. Much of the land they own was at one time farmland and or cut over land which they purchased with low stocking levels. They have seen the result of natural regeneration through time and prefer to remain with species naturally native to Maine over much of their lots. Like many Tree Farmers Arlan and Eleanor realize that income from periodic harvesting is very important. Their daughter Becky was able to go to college because they were able to pay her way from income derived from timber harvesting.

Frasier fir plantation used primarily for local Christmas Tree sales by the grandchildren.

Tree Farmers pay taxes and don’t add to sprawl and timber harvesting has paid the annual tax bill for many years as well. When the Jodrey’s decided to add on to their home in 1975 they again looked to their woodlots for the raw materials needed for the addition. Their children have fond memories of seeing the logs get saw up and even helping in the building phase of the breezeway and garage.

Arlan pays close attention to market conditions for sale of firewood, pulpwood, and sawlogs so that he can capture the highest value and dollars for products he removes from the woodlots.

Thorough product utilization on a well organized landing on 2002 winter harvest.

Over the last couple of years Arlan has been concentrating his harvesting efforts in the areas which have had the least amount of work through the years to reduce competition in denser stands and remove at risk timber. This past winter he was able to take advantage of the demand for kraft softwood and has removed a couple hundred tons of diseased tamarack for pulpwood. He also fully thinned the remaining trees in this fifteen-acre area to promote a more vigorous and healthy stand. Constant weeding and thinning is the singular most important activity which the Jodrey's have done over time. They truly have reaped the benefit of periodic harvest entries to produce a vibrant, healthy, and fast growing forest.

Multiple use is another fundamental belief that has been exercised in numerous ways for many, many years. This belief is not only held for their timberlands but for all their land including their agricultural lands as well. For example, the field across from the Jodrey's residence wasn't always as attractive as it is today. In fact, the Jodrey's purchased three different parcels all in varying degrees of condition from February 1958 to March of 1979. Arlan spent many hours cutting timber that was salvageable smoothing in the previous owners topsoil removal ventures, removed thousands of stumps and ditching hundreds of feet for proper drainage with the direction of the SCS, and then seeded the entire field.

View from the Jodrey Residence of their twenty acre reclaimed field.

The beautiful field as seen today was finally completely constructed by the fall of 1979. Arlan has hayed the field himself since 1980 and sells the bales to local farmers and construction companies. The fields have also been used for many community activities such as snow machine riding and balloon launching. Arlan even received a special plaque from the 10th Special Forces Group and The Airborne 1st Special Forces as a special thanks for the use of the field as a training drop zone for many years. Perhaps the most unique aspect of the Jodrey's emphasis on multiple use is the long-term relationship they share with the prestigious Gould Academy, a college preparatory school in Bethel, Maine abutting the Jodrey's 93 acre Bethel woodlot. Since the

late 1950's Gould Academy has been given permission to use the Jodrey's woodlot as an extension of their school grounds for summer and winter athletic and educational purposes. Both Arlan and Eleanor are themselves graduates of Gould Academy. As alumni all the work they do on their land to benefit the Academy is done as an in kind contribution to their alma mater.

Rocks removed, from the skidder trail in the background, to provide a smooth surface for athletic training for Gould Academy.

Arlan has bulldozed thousands of feet of skidder trails across his woodlot to make them smoother and wider so they would be easier to navigate with the snow groomers and more functional for cross-country running and skiing.

Currently, Dick Taylor of Gould Academy and Arlan are reviewing a preliminary trail line for a proposed new trail so that he can take advantage of the diverse terrain conditions through the Jodrey's for additional training purposes. The use of the trail systems that encompass the Gould Academy lands as well as the Jodreys have brought many events to the Bethel region. Last year marked the tenth straight year that the Maine State Triathlon Classic used the extensive trail system for their event. Over 1240 people in 10 years have participated in this event.

2002 High School Maine State Class C cross-country Skiing Championship brought out 400 people to enjoy a managed forest.

The Class A 2002 High School Maine State cross-country skiing championship also brought another 400 people through the woodlot as well. Other events which have utilized the road and trail systems have been the Northeast Bill Koch League Championships with 400 people, 3 Maine Independent School Athletic Directors Championships with 210 people, Northeast Public School Championships with 300 people, and 3 New England Ski Association races with 900 people.

The Bethel Snow Twisters maintain Trail #14 across the Jodrey's ownership. This trail is an integral part of a larger system which provides the necessary access for snowmobiles to go from western Maine into New Hampshire.

Governor of Maine Angus King presenting the 2002 Outstanding Tree Farmer Award to the Jodrey's at the Agricultural Trade Show.

Angus King considers Arlan a very integral part of the Maine State Legislature, especially as it pertains to forestry issues and how they will affect Maine and private landowners property rights.

Arlan and Eleanor Jodrey (left) and Tom and Shelly Doak. Mr. Doak is the Director of the Maine Forest Service and Shelly is the Director of Maine Animal Health and Industry.

Large, over mature trees, primarily northern red oak, have been left to promote mast for the wildlife and he has planted ornamentals in some cases for songbirds and non-game species. The Jodrey's have been recognized in many ways through the years as you can tell by the sampling of articles and letters attached.

Three Generations of the Jodrey Family

The Jodrey's vision is to pass along their ownership to their children so that they can carry on the stewardship tradition on their watch and so on from generation to generation. Their son Mike has grown up with the benefits of the Family Tree Farm and now wants to put his newly acquired property into the American Tree Farm System as well.

Arlan and Eleanor Jodrey are proud to be representing Maine as the 2002 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the year. They never imagined that they would be recognized in such a fashion for just doing what was inherently right on their lands. Since the State of Maine is celebrating its 50th Anniversary of participating in the American Tree Farm System in 2002, this has made this award very special to them as well as throughout the state.

