A SPECIAL BULLETIN
AFTER THE BOND ACT
What We Stand to Lose in the Adirondack Park
Without New Land Protection Funds

THE INCOMPARABLE WHITNEY ESTATE: 51,000 forested acres and scores of undisturbed lakes, including the largest undeveloped Adirondack lake in private ownership. Discussions on preserving the area had just begun between the landowner and the State. If this natural masterpiece becomes available for purchase, can we afford to let it be sold off and developed?
We Cannot Let These Last Opportunities Pass

Defeat of the Environmental Quality Bond Act this past Election Day has left the State without funds to preserve some of the most spectacular lands in the Adirondack Park. The one-of-a-kind landscapes that grace these pages — and the opportunities they present for unparalleled public recreation — are now in grave danger of being lost to eager land speculators and developers.

What's needed now is a dedicated funding source for land protection, created by an act of the state legislature. Establishment of such a fund will insure that there is a reliable revenue stream for critical lands and waters as they become available for purchase.

Because of the park's unique mix of public, “forever wild” Forest Preserve and private property, the fate of the large private holdings — like Heurich, Whitney, and the more than one million acres of undeveloped timber company lands — will determine the future character of the entire Adirondack Park. A dedicated fund for land protection will help guarantee that the Adirondack Park of tomorrow is as wild, beautiful and peaceful as the park we love and enjoy today.

FOR SALE:
THE HEURICH ESTATE ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN

A current example of what we stand to lose is illustrated by the accompanying advertisement from the Wall Street Journal, which appeared just days after the bond act defeat. For sale is the magnificent Heurich Estate, a “rare property” that, for reasons described in the ad, has been a key public-acquisition priority. This exquisite natural area — so essential to the natural character of the Adirondacks — will be lost unless we act fast!

LAKE CHAMPLAIN, NEW YORK

This exclusive site is the largest privately owned undeveloped property remaining on Lake Champlain. One of the most spectacular estates in the Adirondack Park, this is a rare property of unsurpassed beauty which encompasses three miles of shoreline on the largest freshwater lake in the United States (outside of the Great Lakes). With over 2,200 acres of tillable land, forested foothills, and mountainside, there are no other properties available which can match this estate's dominance over Lake Champlain. Expansive lake frontage on two sides, and clear views of New York's Adirondack High Peaks and Vermont's Green Mountains, provide this property with unlimited and beautiful vistas.

Serious inquiries from principles only.

From the Wall Street Journal
LOST? Lower Raquette River. Final negotiations were near completion on 20,000 acres of International Paper Company land, including 22 miles of the magnificent Raquette River — now closed to canoeing, fishing, and camping.

While many of the natural treasures of the Adirondack Park are publicly protected, many of the crown jewels remain in private ownership. The break-up of these private holdings coupled with the lack of state funds for land protection have placed the future integrity of the park in serious jeopardy.

LOST? The Morgan Property on Lake George. Funds from the bond act would have insured permanent protection for this one mile stretch of shoreline on northern Lake George. Adjacent owners of an additional two miles of natural shoreline had also expressed an interest in selling.

LOST? Follensby Pond. All that was required to seal the deal on this once-in-a-lifetime public purchase were funds from the bond act. What do we tell our children when they ask: “Why didn’t you preserve this place when you had the chance?”

MORE
FATE UNKNOWN: Boreas Ponds. Owned by the Finch-Pruyn Paper Company, negotiations had been well underway for protection of these natural gems. Private sale and development of the area would permanently degrade the High Peaks Wilderness.

FATE UNKNOWN: OK Slip Falls and the Hudson River Gorge. These two outstanding, yet unprotected, features of the upper Hudson River could be sold – and developed – at any time.

Public Paradise or Developer's Dream? Preston Ponds. Pristine water bodies surrounded by the High Peaks Wilderness. It's only a question of when the current owner, a Texas holding company, will sell.

Only Through Legislative Action Today Can We Preserve These Priceless Natural Areas For Tomorrow