

CARPENTER PARK HISTORY

This fifty acre park was given to the town in 1964 by the late Charles N. Batchelder, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carpenter, for whom the park is named.

It consists of twenty acres on the north side of Bear Hill Road consisting of two large pine groves and a large field bordering Route 28 and thirty acres on the south side of the highway consisting of a wooded area and an area which could be used as an addition to the Pineground Cemetery when the need arises, and a small plot bordering the Suncook River north of Corliss home. \$300 was voted in 1965 for improving and developing the park and work progressed. The small field next to Bear Hill Road for parking and an entrance area was cleared and the trees in the natural bowl area were thinned. The 4-H club contributed in the weeding and thinning work and the Neighborhood Youth Corps under the Community Action Program worked at the park during the summer of 1968.

The town conservation commission voted in 1966 to overseer the work done on the park. A memorial sign was installed at the junction of Route 28 and Bear Hill Road and the park opened to Old Home Day festivities in 1968.

The park has seen significant upgrades over the last 20 years. Improvements included a pavilion, basketball court snack shack and a playground. The town was awarded a Land Water Conservation Grant in 2014 and a perimeter trail was constructed around the park. The upper soccer field was expanded to allow for an additional playing field. In fall of 2015 work began on the new community building which was completed in 2017. This building has a new snack shack in one half and storage for Parks & Rec equipment on the other half. The second floor provides storage for the CYA and allow an area to call baseball games.

Horseshoe pits, Fire Pit, Natural Playground and an amphitheater were added in 2017.