Concept Design	Social Media
Project Management	Book Design
Identity	Writing



# Summer 2024

The Quinnipiac River runs through central Connecticut, touching nine towns on its journey and impacting (and itself being shaped by) the history and culture of those living along it. Its name is roughly translated as *long water land*, a name given by Algonquin peoples who lived along its shores long before European settlement.

# CONCEPT

*Long Water Land* was a free community education and art-making series along the Quinnipiac River that we designed and implemented in Summer 2024.





## **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

We identified six sites along the river and partnered with local experts to provide historical, cultural, and ecological perspectives. After a brief introduction to each site, participants explored and sketched, then shared drawings and thoughts together as a group.

# The Quinnipiac River and its watershed (white).

The sites we selected spanned the length of the river, from its source in Plainville to where it enters the harbor in Fair Haven. Each told a different story.



*Site no. 2:* Form & Function Trumbull Park, Plainville

*Site no. 5:* Riverside Habitats Riverbound Farm Sanctuary 1881 Cheshire St, Cheshire

*Site no. 3:* Water Power Silversmith Industrial Park 355 Quinnipiac St, Wallingford

*Site no. 1:* Oasis, Abandoned Quinnipiac River State Park 10 Banton St, North Haven

*Site no. 4:* Indigenous Histories Quinnipiac Meadows Preserve 1040 Quinnipiac Ave, New Haven

*Site no. 6:* Maritime Community Quinnipiac River Park Front St, Fair Haven







# IDENTITY

The project's visual identity comes from the river itself, ever-changing throughout the span of hours, years, and centuries; shaped by environmental changes and manmade ones.





Long Water Land is a free community education and art-making series along the Quinnipiac River hosted by Ely Center, New Haven Sketchers, and other partners in Summer 2024.

Calendar and locations coming soon! Please visit our website and Instagram:

elycenter.org/long-water-land @ecoca\_nhv



### SOCIAL

We created the social media strategy, social and promotion calendar, and wrote the posts announcing the events through partner groups New Haven Sketchers and the Ely Center of Contemporary Art (*below and right*).



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#### SITE NO. 1: OASIS, ABANDONED

Saturday, June 15 3–5pm Quinnipiac River State Park 10 Banton St, North Haven

Check out an incredible floodplain forest and site of a former neighborhood, now evacuated due to increased flooding. CT River Advocates' Mary Mushinsky will tell the story. Join as we learn and draw together!

——Quinnipiac is roughly translated to "long water land," a name given by indigenous peoples who lived along the river long before European settlement. Later, the river became intrinsically tied to the history of new haven and many other towns in its watershed.

——After a brief talk we will explore the site and sketch, then share our drawings together as a group.

——No drawing experience necessary! We use sketching as a tool for observing, capturing, and reflecting on our surroundings.

——Some art supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring your own.

——Bring water and sun/weather/ bug protection. We will be next to a river, after all!





Social posts created for project partners Ely Center of Contemporary Art (left) and New Haven Sketchers (right).



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# TRUMBULL PARK, PLAINVILLE 11-1

**SAT JUNE 29** FORM &

with Save the Sound Trumbull Park, Linsley Dr, Plainville

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# 11AM—1PM





355 Quinnipiac St, Wallingford

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NO. 3

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**SUN JULY 14** 

with Quinnipiac Dawnland Museum 1040 Quinnipiac Ave, New Haven

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# 12-2PM INDIGENOUS HISTORIES



# **SUN JULY 21** 1-3PM RIVERSIDE HABITATS

with Riverbound Farm Sanctuary **1881** Cheshire St, Cheshire

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SAT JULY 27 MARITIME

with New Haven Bioregional Group and artist Nadine Nelson **Pierpont & Front St, New Haven** 

Details in caption V



# 11AM—1PM

# COMMUNITY

The project focused on building community, and observing, interacting with, and reflecting on our shared landscape through art-making.

































# BOOK

Finally, we created an anthology to commemorate the stories and work from this project. The book was given to all participants and partners, and available at a summer book fair.

#### *Site no.* 1: Oasis, Abandoned

Saturday June 15 Quinnipiac River State Park 10 Banton St, North Haven

The Banton Street neighborhood in North Haven evolved from summer cottages along the Quinnipiac River into an idyllic residential community of nearly 40 houses, complete with a hot dog stand and beach. But by the 1970s, development upstream in the watershed had started to cause devastating floods, eventually forcing residents to leave their homes. The state purchased the land and demolished the buildings to create Quinnipiac River State Park. Nature has since taken over, though some relics of the old village remain. Connecticut state representative Mary Mushinsky from River Advocates of South Central Connecticut told the story.











# *Site no. 5:* Riverside Habitats

Sunday July 21 Riverbound Farm Sanctuary 1881 Cheshire St, Cheshire

Rivers need healthy natural landscapes to truly thrive. This includes vegetated banks and surrounding wetlands and uplands. Vegetation protects water quality by filtering runoff and groundwater, and provides food and cover for wildlife. Riverbound Farm Sanctuary contains over 20 acres of forests, meadows, and wetlands along the Quinnipiac River in Cheshire. Audubon volunteer Eric Eichorn removes invasive plants and cultivates native plants, because many insect species only feed on natives. These insects then become food for birds and other animals. Invasive plants, inedible to most insects, break this critical link in the food chain.

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