



Extensive inventories were made of vegetation and wildlife.

Alice Evans continued the project into the next phase by documenting all the site information in a comprehensive book, *Site Study for Sparhawk School*. Site components are overlaid on thumbnail base maps. Photographs document particular assets of the landscape and show how they are used in the school's curriculum. The study is designed to make the information easily accessible so that the students, parents and teachers can use it for further site research and design.

The Sparhawk School is a nontraditional school devoted to the cultivation of independent thinking, the protection of children's natural joy and ease in learning, and the preservation of their sense of creativity, curiosity, and self-esteem. The Farm School property is the children's classroom. COG was asked to sponsor a study which would provide the school with a site analysis and recommendations for long-range planning.

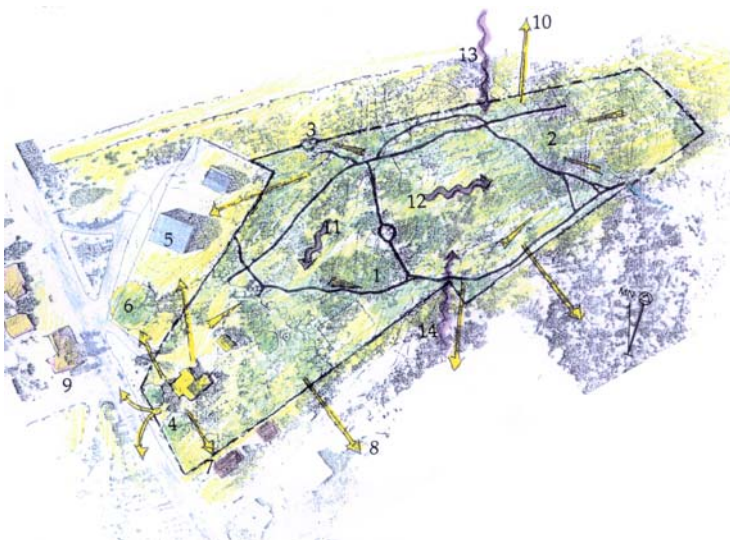
Two designers worked with school personnel in the initial phase of this project, helping them to determine a list of desired changes and amendments. Extensive site information was gathered: history, topography, soil, water, climate, circulation, traffic, and parking.

This study book went far beyond the expectations of the school. It is a remarkably thorough and beautiful book, a teaching tool and primer for active and continuing community design process. The landscape with its opportunities for both formal and informal learning is basic to the school's philosophy, and this study will help the school provide the children with rich opportunities for their first hand experiences of the world.

The designer used the site assessment and study book as an



informal internship to further her interest in children and how they learn and play. She has been hired subsequently to work on site design and development, and is working as part of a team of parents, teachers and students.



Client: Sparhawk School  
Amesbury, MA

Designers  
Initial phase: Ann Townsend  
Alice Evans

Study book: Alice Evans

Completion: February, 1999