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OUR COMMON LAND

OCTAVIA HILL

- An important essay that was instrumental in arguing the case for public access to green spaces.
- A neglected work by one of the founders of the National Trust.
- The only standalone edition on the market.
- Beautifully produced and printed on premium papers.
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Today best remembered as one of the three original founders of the National Trust, Octavia Hill was a pioneering social reformer whose work saw education and housing conditions improved for London's poor, saved Hampstead Heath from the bulldozers, and went towards setting out legislation for public access to green spaces.

In this short essay, Hill sets out a clear, concise argument for public access to parks, and argues for the rights we now take for granted. *Our Common Land* is a forgotten part of our cultural history, and demonstrates exactly why the founders of the National Trust thought it was so important to preserve ancient buildings and estates for the public.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Octavia Hill (1838–1912) was an English social reformer who campaigned for the improvement of housing and access to public spaces. In this capacity she is widely credited with a leading role in preventing Hampstead Heath and Parliament Hill Fields from being built on. Along with Sir Robert Hunter and Hardwicke Rawnsley, in 1895 she cofounded the National Trust, which sought to preserve historically important or beautiful lands and buildings for the benefit of the nation.

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