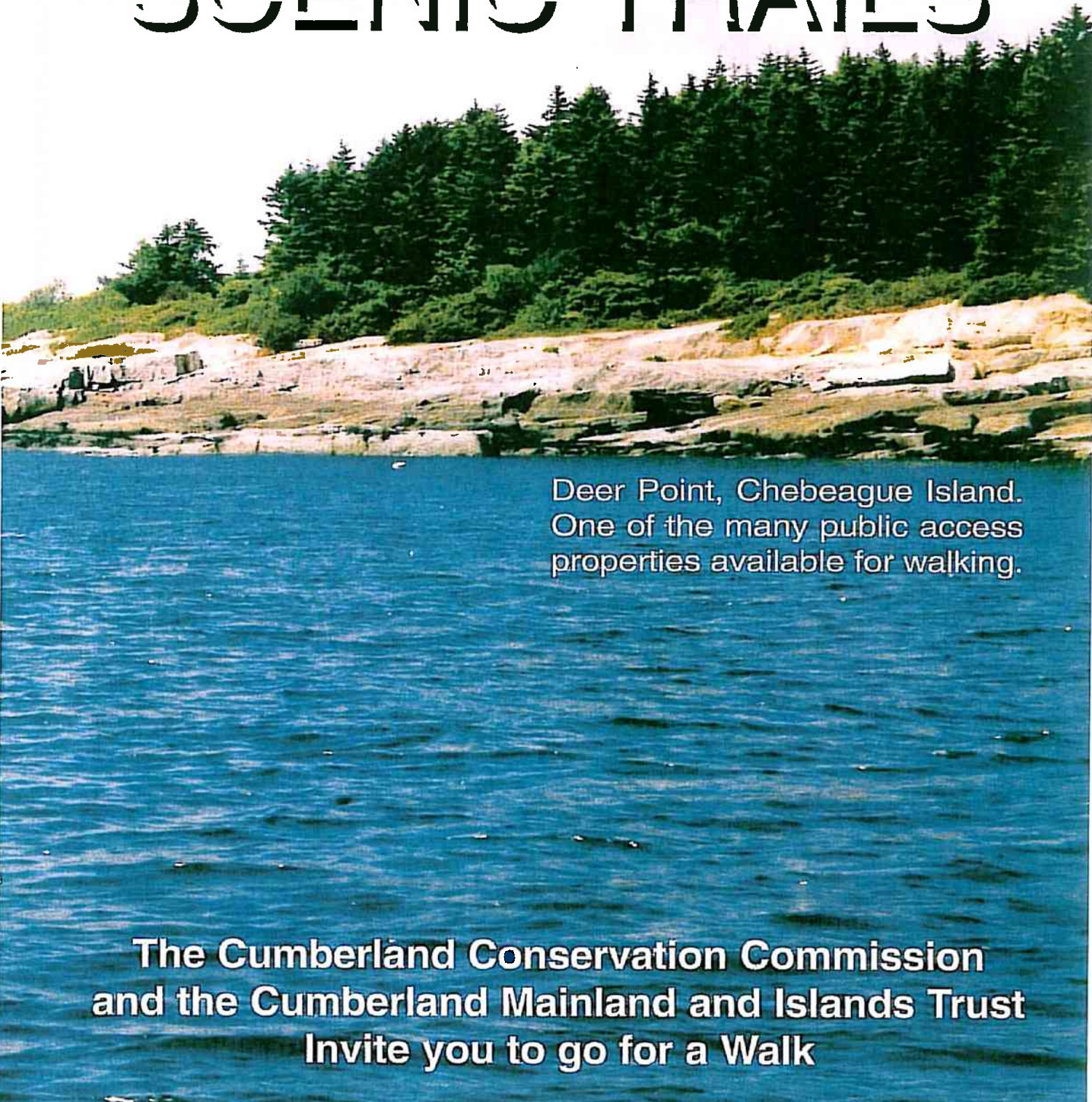


EXPLORE CUMBERLAND'S SCENIC TRAILS



Deer Point, Chebeague Island.
One of the many public access
properties available for walking.

**The Cumberland Conservation Commission
and the Cumberland Mainland and Islands Trust
Invite you to go for a Walk**

EXPLORE CUMBERLAND

Cumberland residents and visitors are welcome to take advantage of the wealth of publicly accessible properties offering nature and hiking trails, scenic vistas, as well as recreational and educational opportunities. Whether you enjoy active outdoor recreation or a leisurely walk in the park, you will find a variety of settings throughout mainland Cumberland and on Chebeague Island.

The Town of Cumberland owns some of these properties and some are owned by the Cumberland Mainland & Islands Trust (CMIT). Others are privately owned with CMIT or the Town holding a conservation easement.

This guide provides maps and descriptions of many of these properties that have trails or other attractions. Locations, parking, trail length features, trail degree of difficulty and time to traverse, as well as any special information about the property, are also included.

Explore Cumberland is a collaborative effort of the Cumberland Conservation Commission (ConCom) and CMIT. The ConCom is a Town governmental body appointed by the Town Council. CMIT is a private non-profit corporation seeking to protect unique parcels within the town of Cumberland. Although these two bodies are separate and independent, they have many goals in common and this joint effort is a natural outcome of their desire to provide passive recreational opportunities to Cumberland residents.

Comments and/or questions concerning this guide and/or the properties described are welcome. Either sponsoring organization may be contacted at:

Chairman
Conservation Commission
290 Tuttle Road
Cumberland Center, ME 04021

or

Trail Committee
Cumberland Mainland and Islands Trust
P. O. Box 25
Chebeague Island, ME 04017

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TRAIL USE "ETIQUETTE"

All the properties in this guide have been made accessible for us to enjoy because the Town of Cumberland, the Cumberland Mainland & Islands Trust and individual landowners believe public access to beautiful, natural open spaces is important and worthwhile. Special responsibilities accompany the privilege of enjoying these places. This pamphlet is meant to serve as a guide to public open space within the Town of Cumberland. Please use common sense when visiting these properties. In addition, the following guidelines apply to all the properties listed in this guide, except where noted.

- Many of these trails cross private property: the landowners have given permission to use the trails. Please respect their privacy by being courteous good neighbors.
- Trails may be used during daylight hours only.
- Please stay on designated trails to minimize impacts to these properties.
- If you bring something with you, please take it when you leave. By the same token, please leave plants and wildlife undisturbed for others to enjoy.
- Dogs must be kept under the control of their owners at all times and owners must clean up after their dogs.
- Overnight camping and fires are prohibited on all properties.
- Hunting is prohibited on most properties, however, visitors should exercise caution when visiting trails during hunting season.
- Easily removed debris from the woods should be removed from the trails to help keep them passable. Please report any downed trees or other problems directly to the Town of Cumberland Conservation Commission or to the Cumberland Mainland and Islands Trust.
- Motorized vehicles are prohibited on most properties. Check the specific property description in this booklet.

SUMMARY TABLE OF SCENIC TRAILS

PROPERTY	PG. NO.	LOCATION	OWNER	SIZE (Acres)	TRAIL LENGTH	PARKING	SPECIAL FEATURES
Bruce Hill	6	Western Cumb. (access via Henry Rd. N. Yarmouth)	FAA, Easement to CMIT	76 (19 in N. Yarmouth)	2 trails, each 1 mi. RT	On access road	Nice, isolated wooded trails. Connection to vast snowmobile trail system.
Chandlers Cove	8	Chebeague South End	Town	8	0.3 mile RT	Chandler field, next to beach	Sand beach. Appropriate for walking, swimming, or sunbathing.
Deer Point	10	Chebeague Southern Tip	Private, Easement to CMIT	11	1.5 mile RT	On South Road	Spectacular views of outer Casco Bay.
Homestead	12	Western Cumberland off Valley Road	Town	19	3/4 mile RT	On Homestead Lane	Easy walking, woodchip surface trail. Some hills.
Idlewood	18	Range Road	Private, Easement to Town	50	1 mile RT	Side of Range Road	Easily traversed, slightly hilly trail. Open to snowmobile use. Dry most of the year.
Payson	20	Route 88	Private, Easement to CMIT	104	1 mile RT	2 cars at south end of property	Level, easily traversed, well marked trail through forest.
Rock Ridge	22	Harris Road	CMIT	39	1 mile loop	3-car parking area	Diverse forest, variety of wildlife.
Town Forest	24	Tuttle Road	Town	75	1.5 mile loop	Parking at Town Hall	Self-guided nature trail. Guide booklets available at kiosk at trail entrance.
Twin Brook	26	Tuttle Road	Town	240	multiple trails, totaling 3 miles	Parking lot on grounds	Wooded and open fields. Some trails handicap accessible.

BRUCE HILL

Bruce Hill is a 76-acre parcel in Cumberland and North Yarmouth. This parcel was purchased by the Federal Aviation Administration in 1994 for the purpose of constructing a 77-foot tall airport surveillance radar tower to service the Portland Jetport. In 1995, the FAA awarded a conservation easement on 57 acres to CMIT. North Yarmouth Land Trust holds an easement on the remaining 19 acres.

How to get there:

Take Route 9 (Main Street) to Route 115 in North Yarmouth. From the fork at Walnut Hill follow Route 115, 0.6 miles and take Henry Road on the left. Follow Henry Road to the top of the hill and continue straight ahead on a dirt road. Park on the right side of the road below the gate entrance to the property.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: two trails, approximately 1 mile each, round trip

Walking time: 25 minutes each, round trip

From the parking area, proceed up the road toward the radar tower. Even though vehicles are prohibited beyond the metal gate, you can proceed up the road to the fenced area surrounding the tower and circle to the left, or easterly, side. Presently, there are two trails on Bruce Hill along the easterly side of the radar tower. The first trail leads to an abandoned county road that is enjoyed year round by hikers, runners, horseback riders, skiers and snowmobilers. The terrain is relatively level and easily traversed although it can be wet and muddy in late winter and spring. The power lines that bisect the property connect Bruce Hill to a vast trail system used primarily by snowmobilers in the winter. To access the second trail, continue on the far side of the tower to the west. The terrain starts off smoothly but becomes more uneven, obstructed in places by sticks and rocks, descending steeply where parts of the trail are deeply eroded.

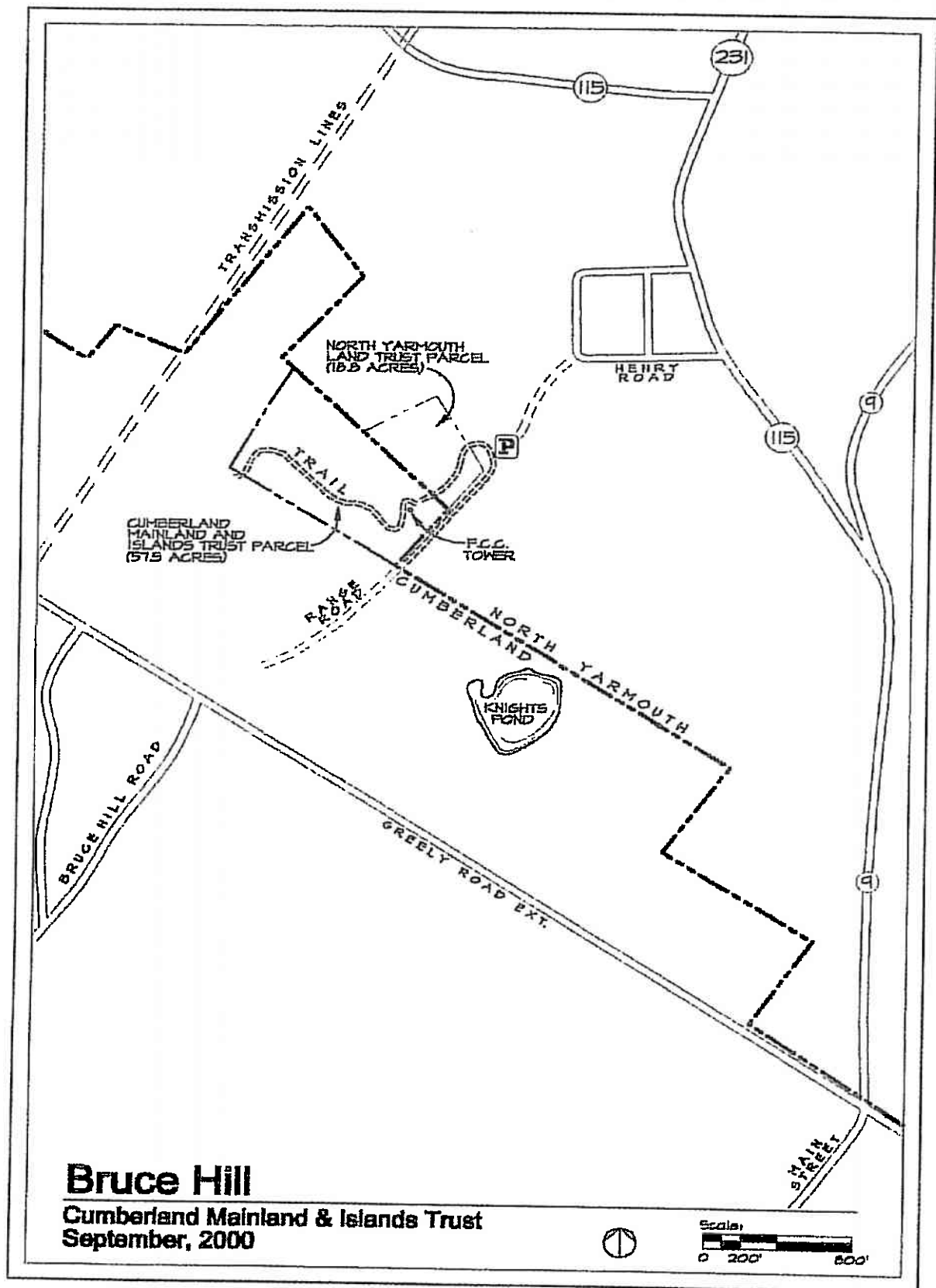
What to see:

Although Bruce Hill is heavily forested, the cleared area surrounding the radar tower and the power lines that pass through the property provide striking views. This large, undisturbed forest is home to many kinds of wildlife: the observant hiker is likely to see (or at least see signs of) deer, raccoons, wild turkeys and other birds.

Special information:

Permitted activities include wildlife study and low-impact recreational uses such as hiking, walking, running, picnicking and skiing. Activities prohibited by the easement include consumption of alcoholic beverages, littering, building fires, hunting with firearms and interfering with the radar tower. Poison ivy is prevalent so staying on the trail is advised.





CHANDLERS COVE

Chandlers Cove is an 8-acre parcel of land with 350 feet of ocean frontage, owned by the Town of Cumberland, at the southwest end of Chebeague Island. The sandy beach is a favorite destination for Chebeague residents on hot summer afternoons. There is usually a cooling southwest breeze in the afternoon, the slope toward the water is very gradual even at high tide and the ocean bottom is sandy. Chandlers Cove field has been the location of Fourth of July community picnics for many years.

The owners of this beautiful property wanted their land to be enjoyed by the public forever so they facilitated the purchase by the Town of Cumberland in 1986.

How to get there:

The road to Chandlers Cove is off South Road. There is parking available. A short path, with some rustic steps, leads to the beach. Watch out for poison ivy!

What to see and do:

Looking at the ocean with the land behind you, the Casco Bay Lines ferry wharf is on the left with Ricker's Head on the right. Farther in the distance is Long Island (left) and Little Chebeague Island (right). As you walk along the beach looking south, you see Deer Point and the open ocean.

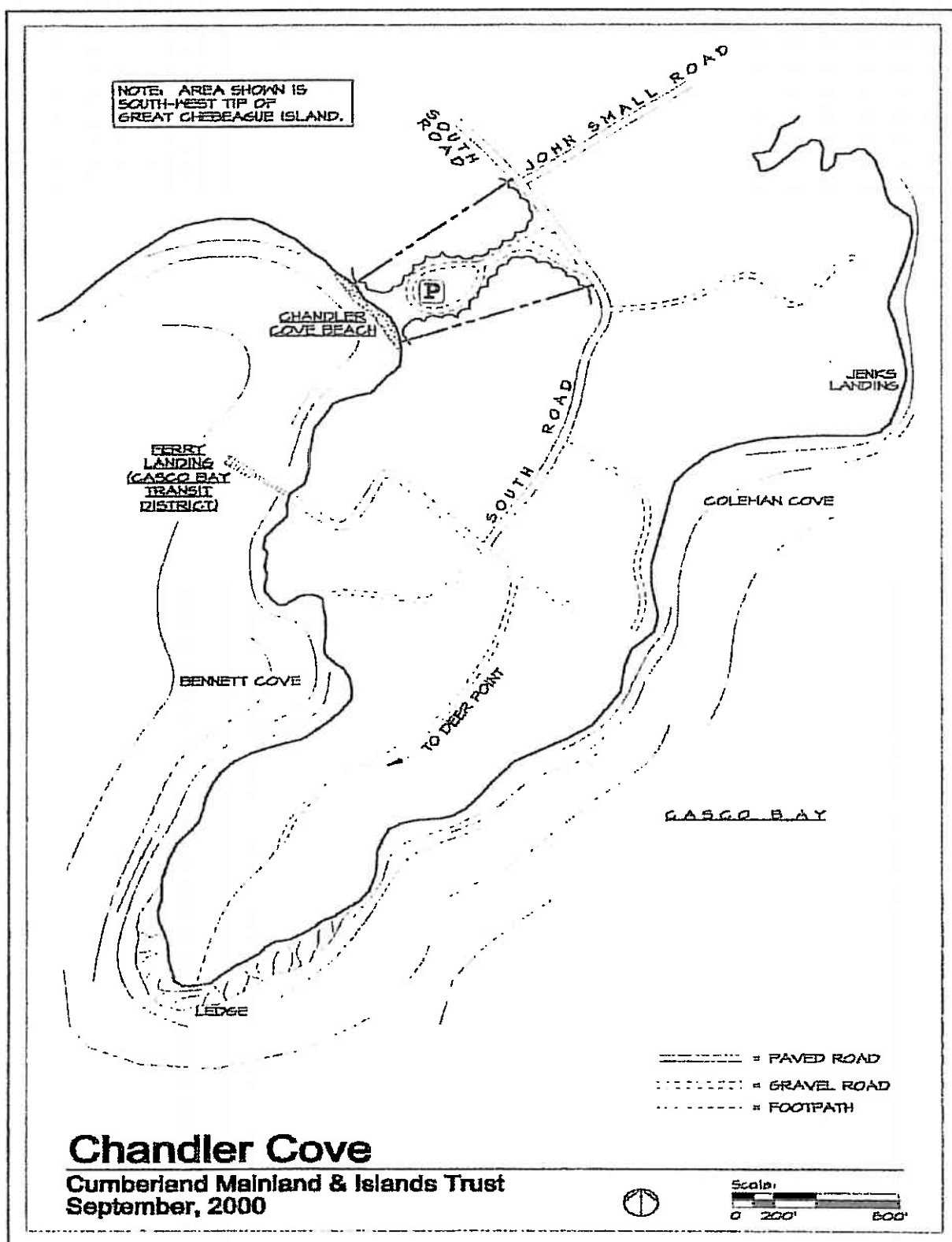
At low tide look for small holes in the sand: clams about eight inches or so below the surface might make these.

You may investigate these holes but you must have a digging permit to keep any clams.



Special information:

The original claimants of this property were the indigenous people, the Native Americans of Maine. We know they were the first summer residents of Chebeague and may have stayed longer into the fall. Since the earliest grants and deeds in 1650, the property changed hands several times before the First Church of Boston sold it to Zachariah Chandler in 1746. It was a small portion of his total purchase: the whole southwest half of Chebeague Island, which he then divided among himself and his brothers.



DEER POINT

Deer Point, the southwestern tip of Chebeague, is unique for an island in inner Casco Bay. Here the ocean swells roll in from the south uninterrupted, the forest extends to ledges bordered by bayberry and juniper. The uneven terrain of the forest floor, covered by generations of decaying vegetation, nourishes the rich undergrowth of ferns and infant spruces. When you rest on the sun-warmed rocks, listening to waves washing the ledges and breathing the air scented by salt spray, you are surrounded by the essence of the Maine coast. These two very special acres will remain "forever wild" thanks to a conservation easement granted to CMIT by the owner.

How to get there:

There is no parking area on the easement, however you may park on the side of South Road at the four-way intersection. Public access is allowed by a trail easement that traverses private property. Please remember you are walking or biking through your neighbors' backyards.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: approximately 1 ¼ miles, round-trip

Walking time: 40 minutes or more, round trip

The walk to the end of Deer Point might be strenuous for some people. The first half of the trail is slightly uphill, leveling off about halfway, continuing downhill the rest of the way. Bear left at the last utility pole on the right and follow the steeper, narrower path downhill to the Point. The terrain is quite uneven here.



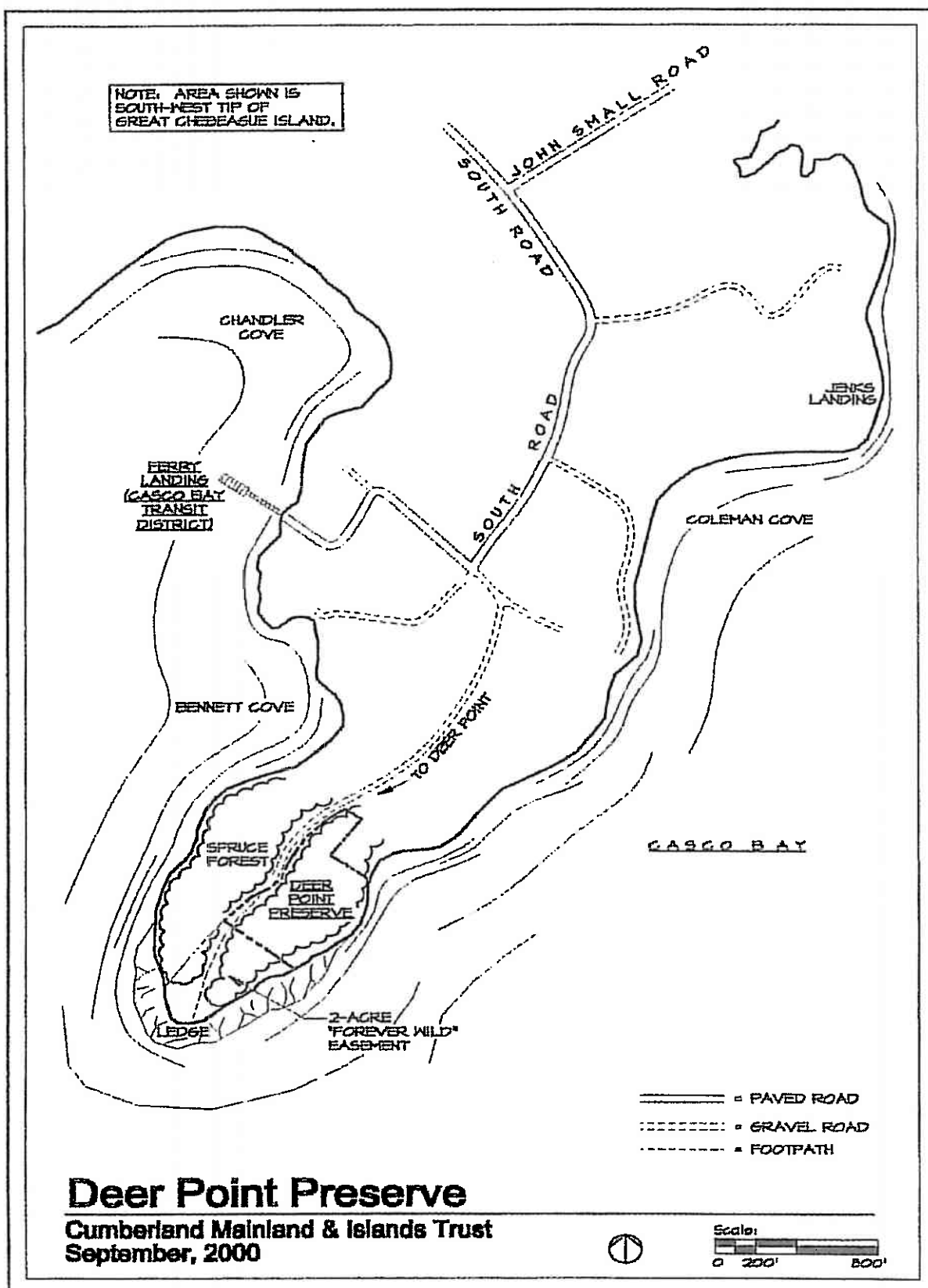
What to see:

As you are walking in, look and listen for birds. Pileated woodpeckers have taken up residence since the 1998 ice storm. Ravens mingle with the local crows and are identifiable by their deeper, throaty calls. You may also see a barred owl gliding through the trees. Deer, foxes and raccoons are common here but there are no skunks or porcupines on Chebeague. When you reach the Point, look for eider ducks swimming close to the ledges (in the spring) and ospreys diving for fish. You may even see an eagle.

Then there is the outstanding ocean view! Look east and you will see Hope Island with Cliff Island behind it. Looking south you might see Outer Green Island about 2 1/2 miles away and beyond that nothing but ocean, with perhaps a ship coming in to Portland. Directly to the southwest lies Long Island. To the west is Little Chebeague Island with the sandbar visible at low tide. Clapboard Island is between Little Chebeague and the Cumberland/Falmouth mainland.

Special information: Absolutely no fires allowed!

Caution: The water is very deep directly off the ledges and the tides are strong. This is not a good place to swim. (See Chandlers Cove beach)



HOMESTEAD

Homestead is a 19-acre parcel owned by the Town of Cumberland, located off of Valley Road.

How to get there:

Take Blanchard Road toward the Cumberland Fairgrounds. Just before the Fairgrounds, turn right onto Bruce Hill Road. At the fork, go left onto Valley Road. Continue to Homestead Lane on the left. Parking is along the road just after the first lot.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, round trip

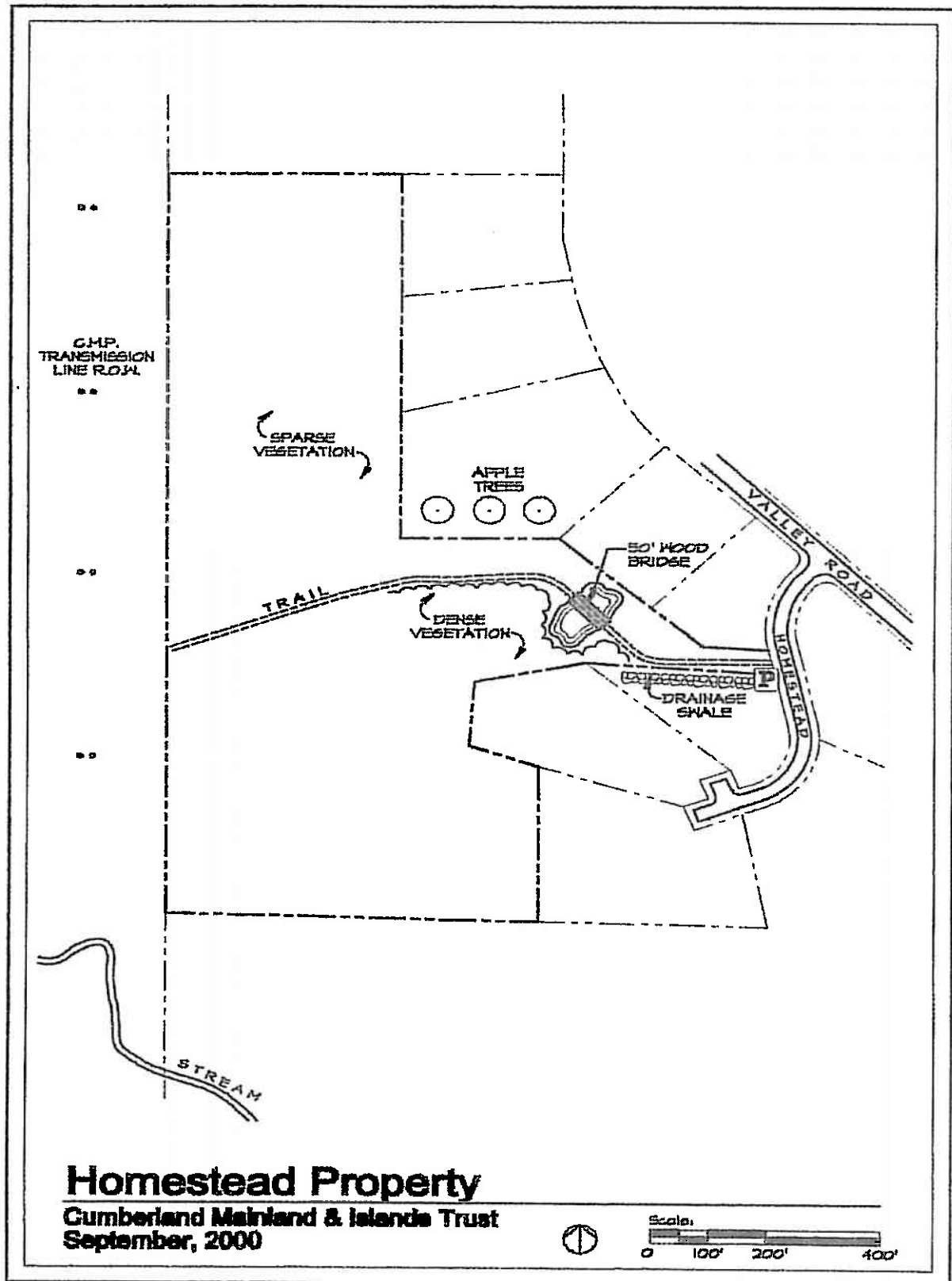
Walking time: 20 minutes, round trip

The trail passes between residential house lots and follows a culvert down a short but relatively steep hill to a wooden bridge that spans a marshy area with intermittent streams. On the other side of the bridge, the trail climbs uphill for a short distance then meanders along the edge of an apple orchard, into a wooded area and out to power transmission lines. From here, a huge network of trails can be accessed. The trail is covered with wood chips and is easily traversed, although the ridges descending to the footbridge are somewhat steep.



What to see:

Variety is what you will find along the Homestead trail. As you pass from a residential neighborhood into the quiet of the woods, look for signs of wildlife or listen to the songbirds that frequent this area. In the spring, be prepared for mud along the trail near the marshy area and by the power lines. You may even spot a puddle with frogs or polliwogs or a bush loaded with blueberries. This is a great trail for children.



Homestead

Bruce Hill

MAINLAND CUMBERLAND SCENIC TRAIL LOCATIONS

Twin Brook

Payson

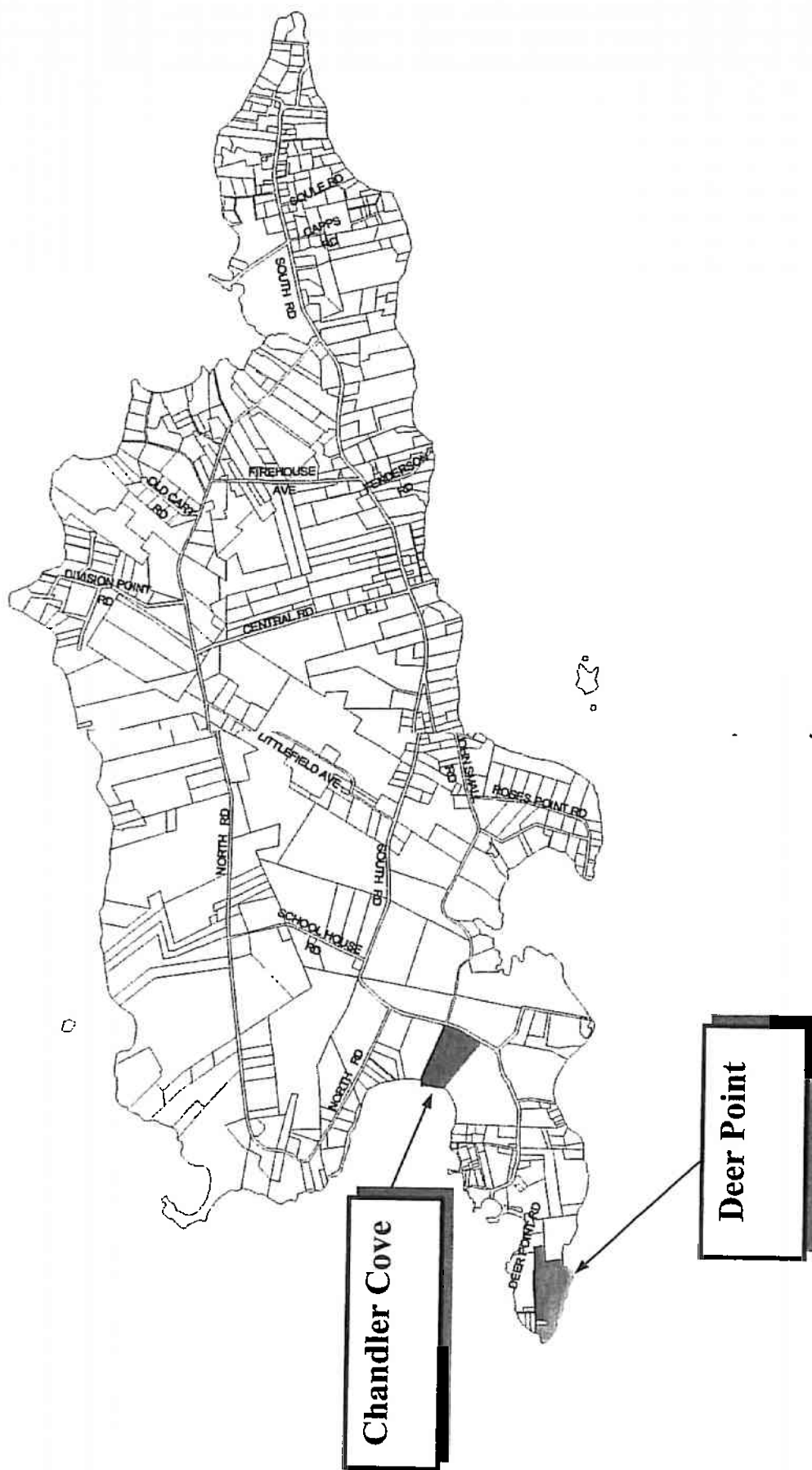


Idlewood

Town Forest

Rock Ridge

CHEBEAGUE ISLAND SCENIC TRAIL LOCATIONS



IDLEWOOD

Idlewood is a 54-acre parcel held in joint private ownership by the property owners in the development, with the Town holding a conservation easement on the surrounding woodlands. CMIT owns two one-acre pieces: the pond to the left and the swamp to the right of Idlewood Drive. Public access is limited to a trail along the west border 350 feet from the entrance to the development.

How to get there:

Idlewood is off Range Road approximately 1.5 miles west of Route 9. There is a small pond on the left just before Idlewood Drive. The public access trail is another 350 feet down Range Road. Park on the side of Range Road.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: 1 mile, round trip

Walking time: ½ hour, round trip

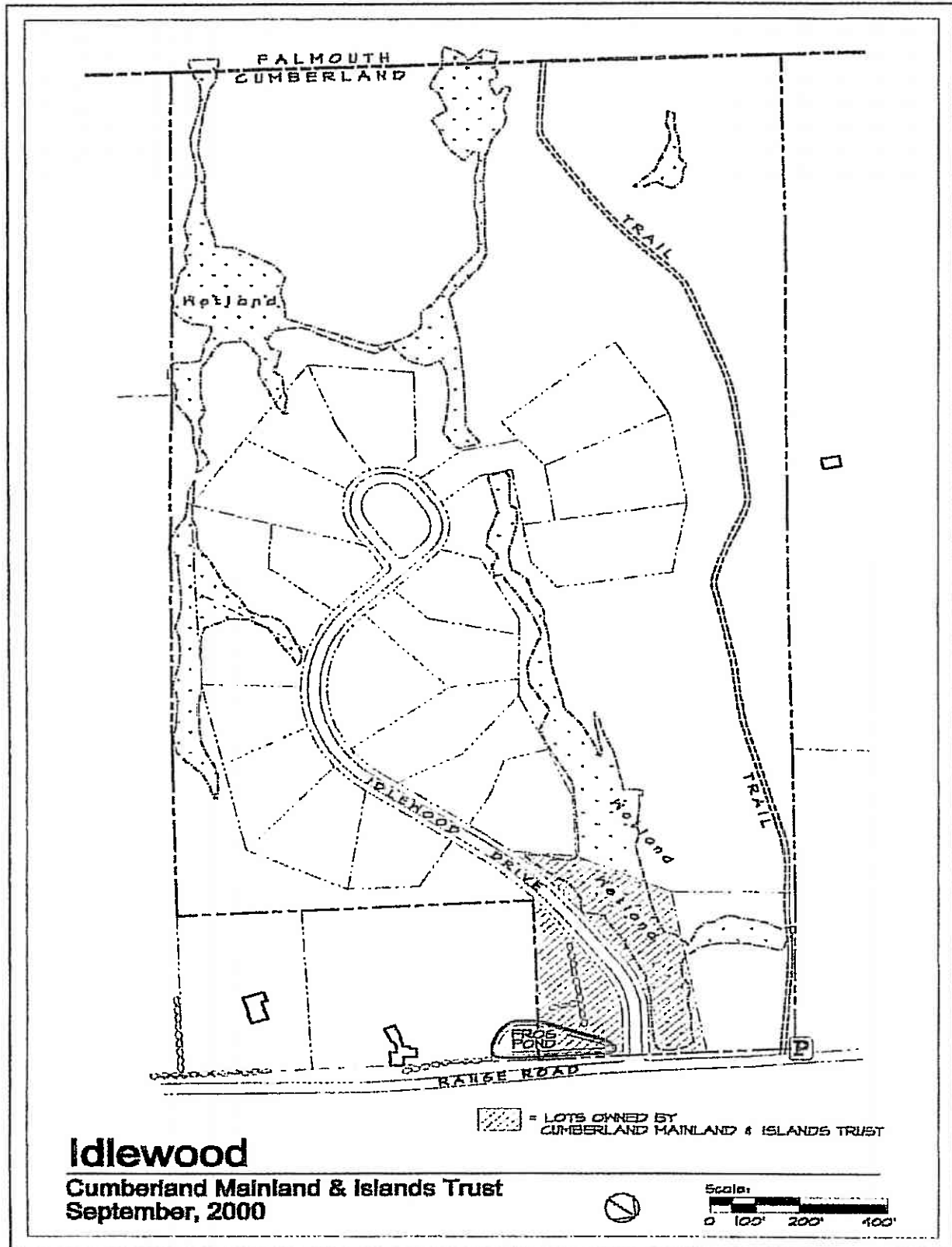
The trail is easily traversed with no steep hills. At the entrance you will see a small clearing with logs marking the edges of the trail. In about 0.3 mile the woods open somewhat and you will see a farmhouse and barn to the right. The trail then swings a little left and drops slightly downhill. You will reach a wetland on the left, which is the end of the trail at the Cumberland/Falmouth line.

What to see and do:

On your way into or out of the Idlewood forest, take a moment to stop, listen and look around Frog Pond and Salamander Swamp, two wetlands on either side of the entrance to Idlewood Drive. The pond on the south side of the road harbors hoards of breeding wood frogs and spotted salamanders just after ice-out, and beckons singing spring peepers, gray tree frogs, green frogs, and bull frogs during May and June. Salamanders have also been known to breed in the shallow waters on the north side of the road. In the dark of the night, these little amphibians can make your ears ring from all the cacophony. Following all the singing, masses of eggs decorate twigs all around the pool. During the day, you may be lucky enough to see a quick hop through the surrounding vegetation or a fleeting pair of legs swimming through the water. Starting in July, young frogs and salamanders leave the pool to spend the rest of the year in the leaf litter or underground tunnels of the surrounding forest. CMIT regularly monitors the water in the pond to assure it will remain a thriving habitat for its residents.



The trail lends itself nicely to cross country skiing, walking and snowmobiles. **All use of the trail is firmly restricted to the one-mile long, thirty-foot wide public access easement.**



PAYSON PROPERTY

The Payson property is a 104-acre, heavily wooded parcel that includes 1/2 mile of shore frontage on Casco Bay at Broad Cove. A conservation easement limits new buildings on the land. CMIT has built a public access trail through the woods that runs roughly parallel to the stone wall bordering the property along Route 88.

How to get there:

Take Tuttle Road east to the intersection of Route 88. Turn south for a distance of 0.6 mile. The stone wall on the left is the boundary of the property. There is room to park two cars off-road at the south end of the property or park on the west side of Route 88.

What is the trail like?

Trail Length: 1.2 miles, round trip

Walking time: 0.5 hours, round trip

The trail has been designated the *Stone Wall Trail*. Public access is limited to the well-marked trail that passes through a mature pine and mixed hardwood forest. It is easily traversed, with some undulating sections. The trail surface is covered with leaves and pine needles and is dry the year round.

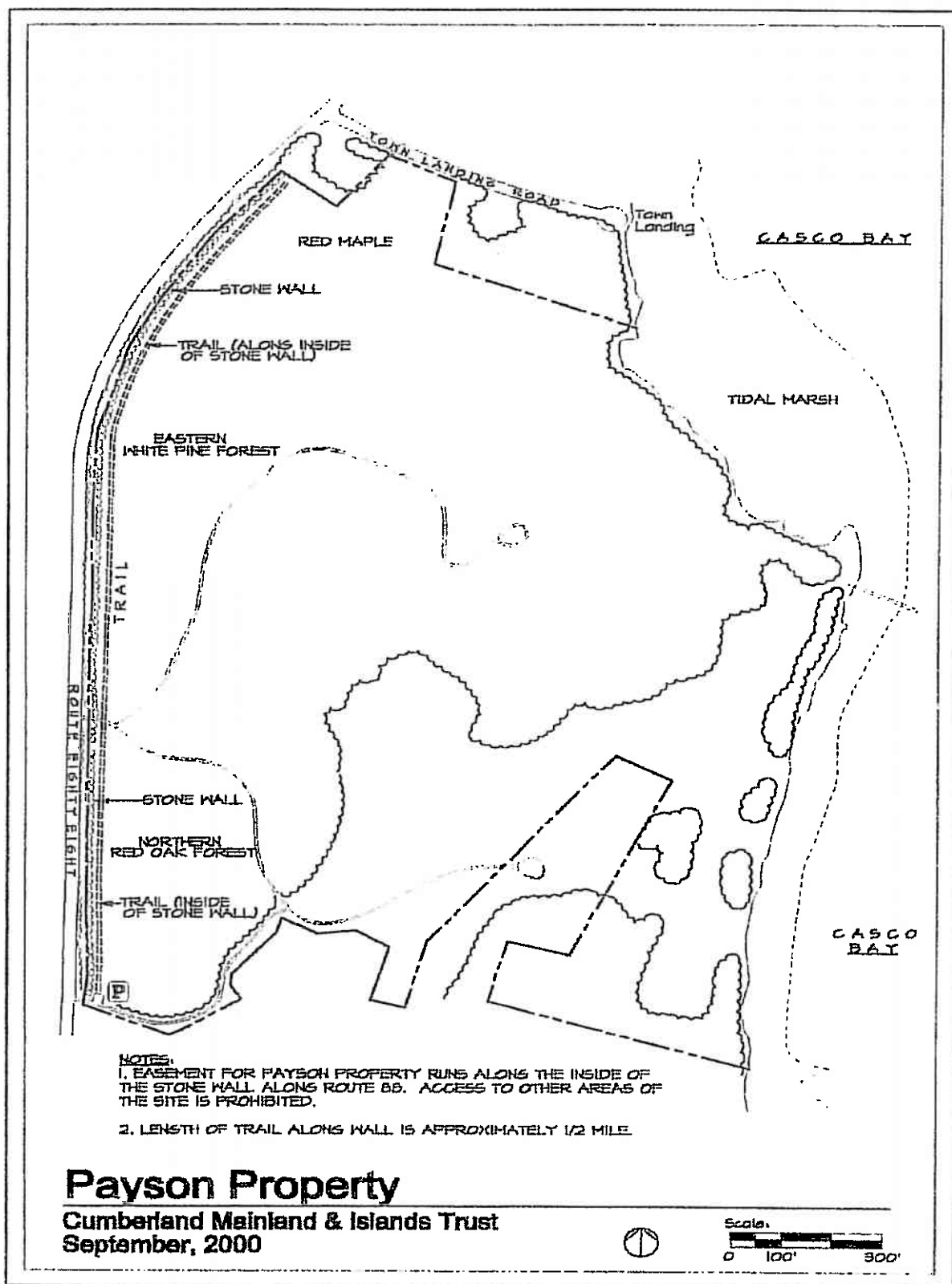
What to see and do:

Upon entering the trail, you are quickly immersed in thick woods and are bound to notice a feeling of isolation from the everyday "busyness" not far away. Both young children and adults will find the trail easy to walk, even in winter with a thin snow covering, making *The Stone Wall Trail* an accessible place to come when you want a bit of quiet.

Special information:

CMIT holds a conservation easement on this property that limits future development to no more than 7 houses. However, placement of these houses is restricted so they cannot be seen from either Route 88 or Casco Bay. Thus the natural and scenic appearance of the property is preserved. The low-density development will also protect the coastal mudflats: an important breeding and harvesting location for marine worms and soft-shell clams.





ROCK RIDGE

Rock Ridge Preserve is a 39-acre parcel owned by CMIT, surrounding a 15-lot development off Harris Road. It is bounded by Range Way to the south and the power transmission lines to the north.

How to get there

Take Tuttle Road to Harris Road. One mile south, turn left onto Rock Ridge Run (just after power lines).

There is a parking area for three cars a short distance in from Harris Road, on the right. This parking area is plowed in winter.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: 1.1 mile loop

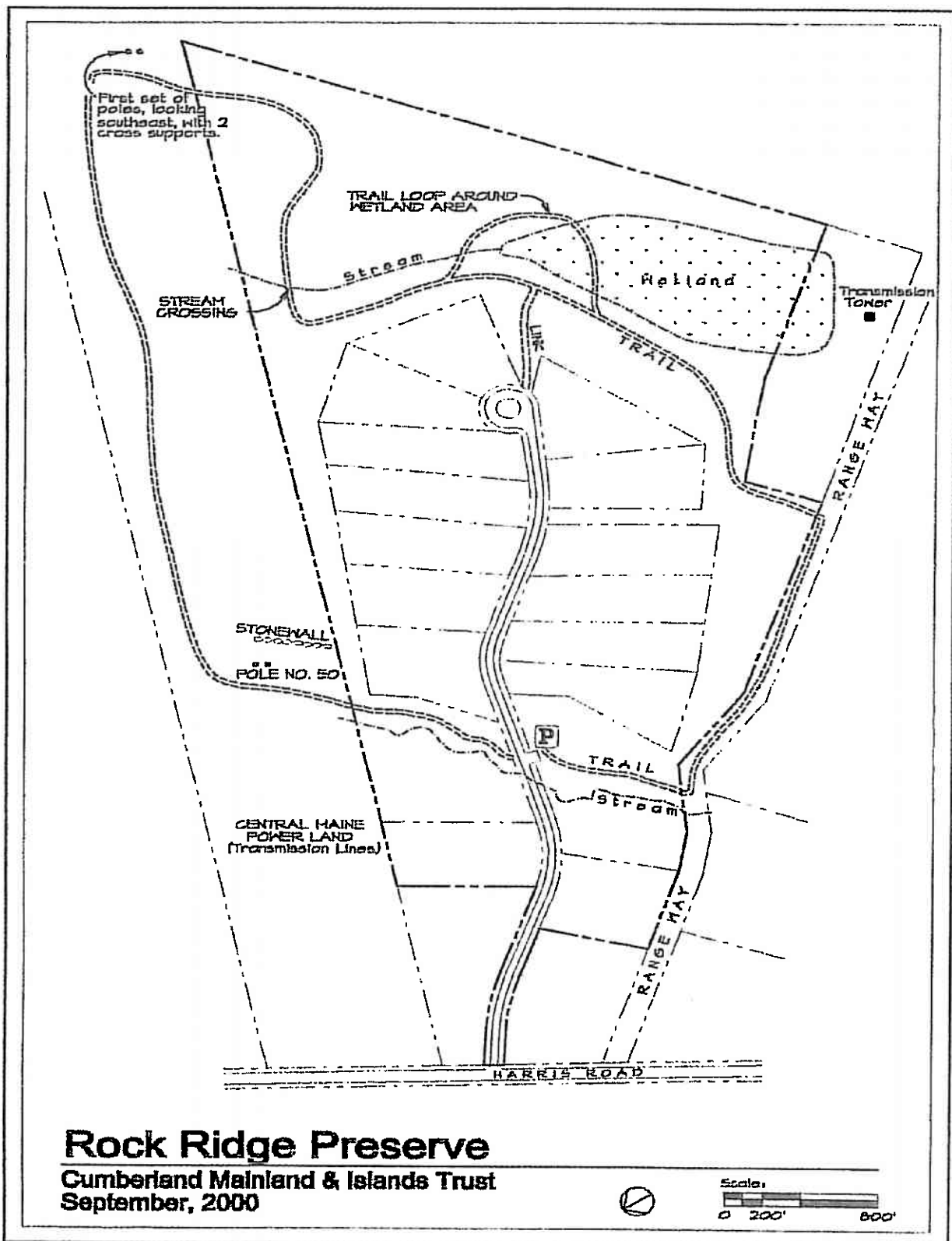
Walking time: 1 hour

The trail presently encompasses three sides of the property and the power line path can be used to complete the loop. The portion of the trail following the stream from Rock Ridge Run in either direction (toward the power lines and toward Range Way) is relatively flat, and provides glimpses of the stream. Range Way east is uphill but easily traversed. The turn in the path to the north (toward the power lines) circles the Natural Resource Zone but is mostly dry in all seasons until reaching the outlet stream from the 15-acre Resource Zone. At present you can cross the stream only after a dry spell. The Trust plans to erect a bridge spanning this stream. Once the stream is crossed, pick up the trail along the stream via the power line opening. (A low area along this power line opening is difficult after wet weather.) Follow this trail to return to the parking area.



What to see and do:

The entire path passes through heavily wooded terrain with a diversity of trees such as hemlock, birch, maple, beech, oak, pine, alder and fir. It is also richly inhabited with wildlife. You are likely to see deer, grouse, rabbits, and wild turkeys.



CUMBERLAND TOWN FOREST

Step into the Cumberland Town Forest and step back in time. Follow the Freedom Trail or the Self-Guided Nature Trail. Visit with some of the early Revolutionaries who fought for our freedom or walk with the spirits of those who tended the forest before us.

How to get there:

The Cumberland Town Forest is nestled behind the Cumberland Town Hall and the Drowne Road School. A kiosk at the east end of the Town Hall parking lot marks the beginning of the self-guided nature trail. Ample parking is available.

What is the trail like?

The 1 1/2 mile trail hugs the perimeter of the 75-acre site and takes 45 minutes to an hour and a half to walk. The trail is rustic, and may be damp at certain times of the year. Wooden bridges of various designs make crossing wet areas and streams a bit easier. Recently four wooden benches and kiosks honoring soldiers of the Revolutionary War have been added to the trail. You may stop to rest and reflect on the past while enjoying the peaceful surroundings.

What to see and do:

Begin at the Town Hall kiosk displaying a map with history of the forest. Take the illustrated brochure, *Ernest A. Rand Nature Trail*, to guide your way. The trail winds through four distinct forest stands: a red pine plantation, an old field now dominated by white pine, a mixed spruce/pine plantation, and a mixed hardwood /softwood stand. Each stand is unique and has been thinned at least once following standard forest practices.

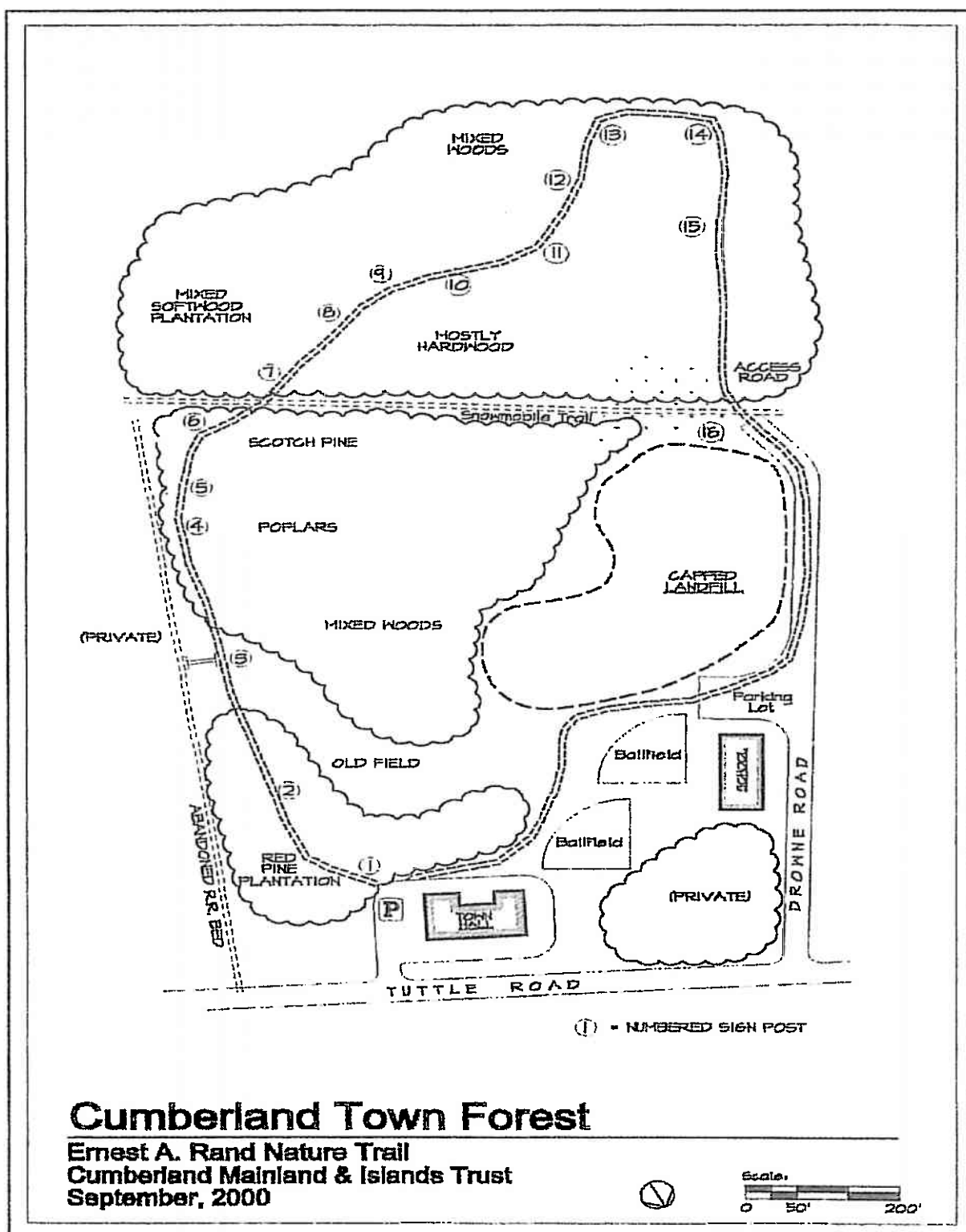


There are 16 numbered stops along the trail explaining aspects of forest ecology and management. Current practices are designed to improve biological diversity and provide an interesting and educational recreational source for citizens of the Town.

Kiosk marking the beginning of the Ernest A. Rand Nature Trail

Special Information:

Students from Greely Institute planted much of this 75-acre community forest in the 1930's under the leadership of Ernest A. Rand, a forester and long-time resident and selectman of Cumberland. The trail was originally designed and built by Boy Scouts from Troop 58. The Troop also maintains the trail annually. The Town Forest Board actively manages the forest, adding the nature trail in 1997.



TWIN BROOK

Twin Brook Recreation Area began as a 140-acre hay field on the north side of Tuttle Road, acquired by the Town of Cumberland in 1995. An additional 100 acres abutting the original parcel and extending to Greely Road was added later. Less than a mile from the center of town, Twin Brook Recreation Area has retained the pleasant pastoral feeling of open fields and wooded areas while providing many trails and playing fields for Cumberland residents.

How to get there:

Twin Brook is located roughly 1/2 mile south of the Town Hall on the north side of Tuttle Rd. A gravel road leads to an ample parking area. **Note:** The parking area is gated and closes at sunset.

What is the trail like?

Trail length: varies, 3 miles total for all the trails

Walking time: 1.5 to 2 hours

Groomed and well-marked trails lace over the fields and through the woods. The trail surfaces, heavily coated with wood chips, are mostly level and easily traversed. A handicap trail equipped with benches begins next to the parking lot.



Amenities provide a pleasant family outing: there is limited drinking water at the parking lot. There are picnic tables and trash

receptacles at rest spots in the fields. Toilet facilities are also available.

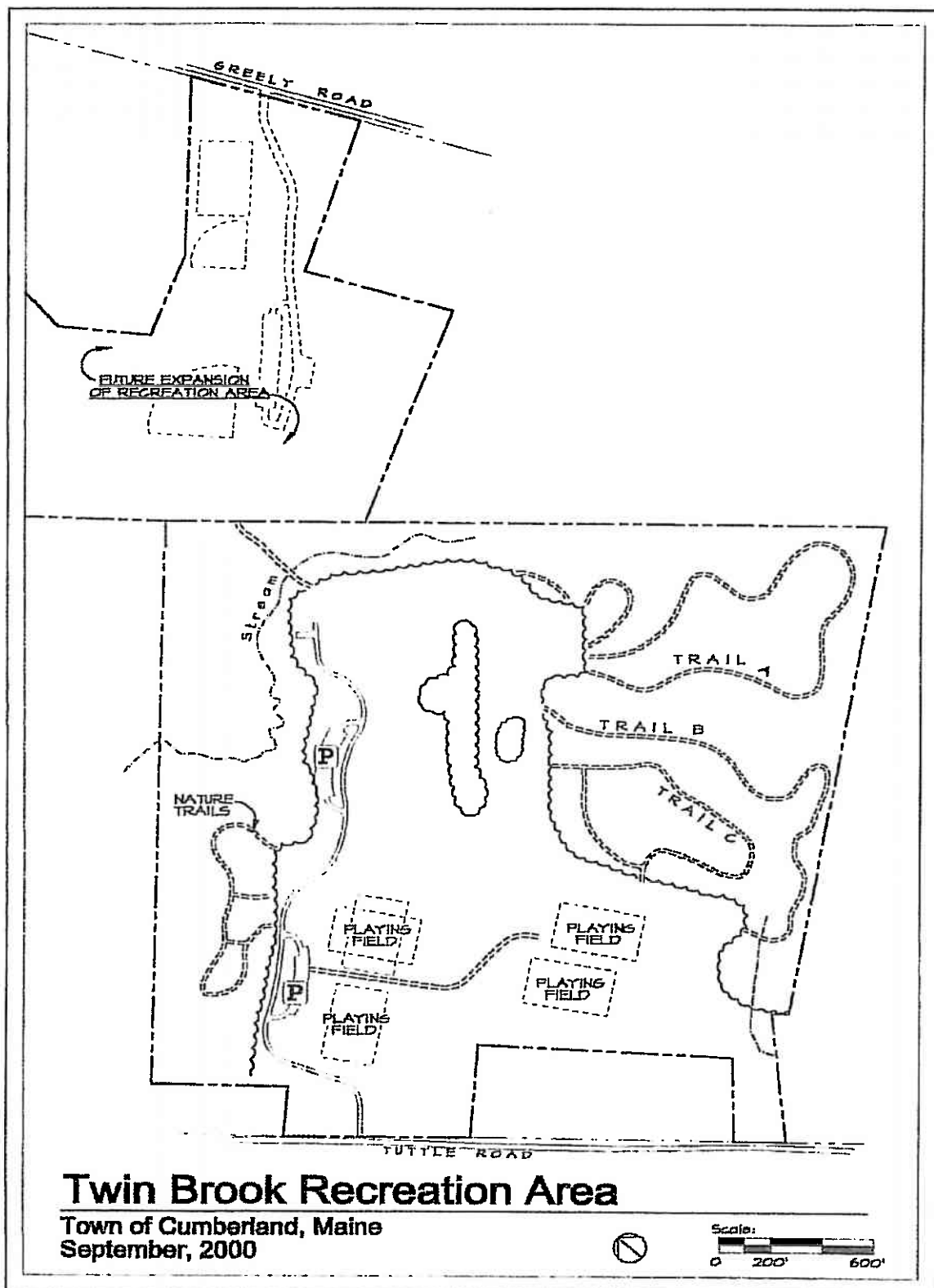
What to see and do:

The trails and playing fields are used by schools for athletic training and events. Many people come to Twin Brook to walk, run and cross country ski. It is also a popular place to exercise well-mannered dogs. Much of the acreage has remained fields that are hayed seasonally.

Special information:

Organized groups or large outings must make reservations with the Recreation Department.

Reminder: Please clean up after your dog.



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CONSERVATION



COMMISSION

