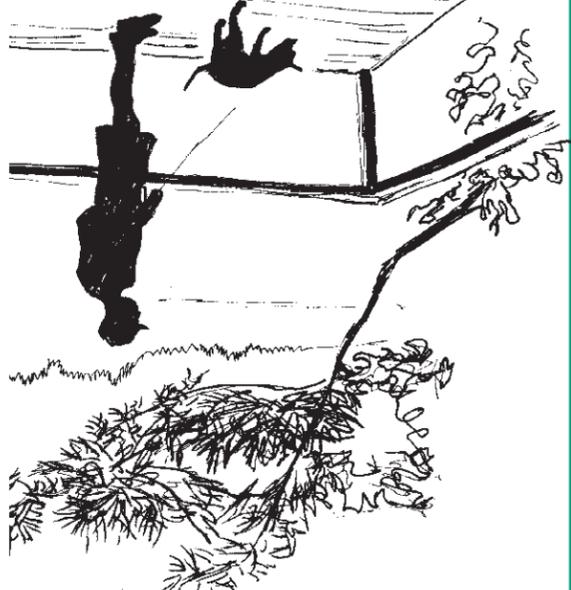


WELCOME TO
CAMP WING
CONSERVATION
AREA



DUXBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DUXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

CAMP WING

Camp Wing Conservation Area protects a two-mile stretch of stream habitat along the South River. Several rare or uncommon species of plants and animals are known to occur on the property. At Camp Wing, walkers, joggers, bicyclists, equestrians, cross-country skiers, and nature lovers will all discover a place to indulge their passions. Some of the trails follow old logging trails created years ago. They follow an old stone wall that used to edge pasture land and serve as a property line. This all comes to a terminus at an observation deck looking out over the abandoned cranberry bog on the eastern loop.

A MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Duxbury Conservation Commission commissioned a management plan to guide the use of this property. The objective of this management plan is to balance the natural values of the property with public access and provide short- and long-term recommendations for management of the property. Three main objectives have been set:



1. Protect Camp Wing Conservation Area's natural values;
2. Promote public use of the property, including activities such as passive recreation, education, and research;
3. Pursue land protection in surrounding areas.



- Do not light fires.
- No hunting or firearms.
- Do not cut or remove vegetation.
- Do not ride motorized vehicles.
- No overnight camping.
- Do not create any new trails.
- Report emergencies to the Duxbury Police Department 911 or 781-934-5656.
- Questions-Duxbury Conservation Commission 781-934-1104.

Enjoy hiking, jogging, skiing these trails, exploring these woods and fields. Please keep dogs under the *direct* control of the handler. Leave no litter and help us by removing any you find.

To keep this fragile area safe and to preserve it for the next generation—

RULES AND REGULATIONS

HISTORIC LAND USE

In the early 1600s, not long after the 54 original land holders settled in Duxbury, the Camp Wing Conservation Area and much of present day Pembroke were designated as common land. This land was used for woodcutting, hunting, and fishing by the community.



The current site of the dam, off the west side of River Street, is thought to be the site of an old mill. Judging from a few remaining cedar trees and many standing stumps, the mill pond created by the dam had earlier been a cedar swamp. The icehouse located off River Street, known as *Simon's Tomb*, probably provided a winter income to the owner of the mill when the water froze. Old stone walls and soil types indicate that the farming of livestock probably occurred on the uplands portions of the property. The Consolidated Cape Cod Cranberry Company (CCCC) operated the now abandoned cranberry bogs from the early 1900s into the late 1960s when Route 3 was constructed. The area was logged and harvested about 15 years ago and has since started to grow up again. Please excuse the appearance in some areas. Before the town bought this land, a developer dug test holes throughout the Franklin Street area. Over time the forest will heal.

CAMP WING CONTRIBUTORS

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Camp Wing is one of the newest and is the largest conservation area in Duxbury. The town purchased Camp Wing Conservation Area in June of 1998 placing it under the permanent protection of the Conservation Commission. Named after the Crossroads for Kids camp, from whom the property was purchased, the 353.4 acre conservation area preserves the rural character of Duxbury, protects ground and surface water by preserving a significant corridor along the South River, preserves habitat for numerous plants and animals, many of which are rare and endangered, and provides links to existing conservation lands.

WELCOME TO CAMP WING CONSERVATION AREA

CAMP WING WILDLIFE

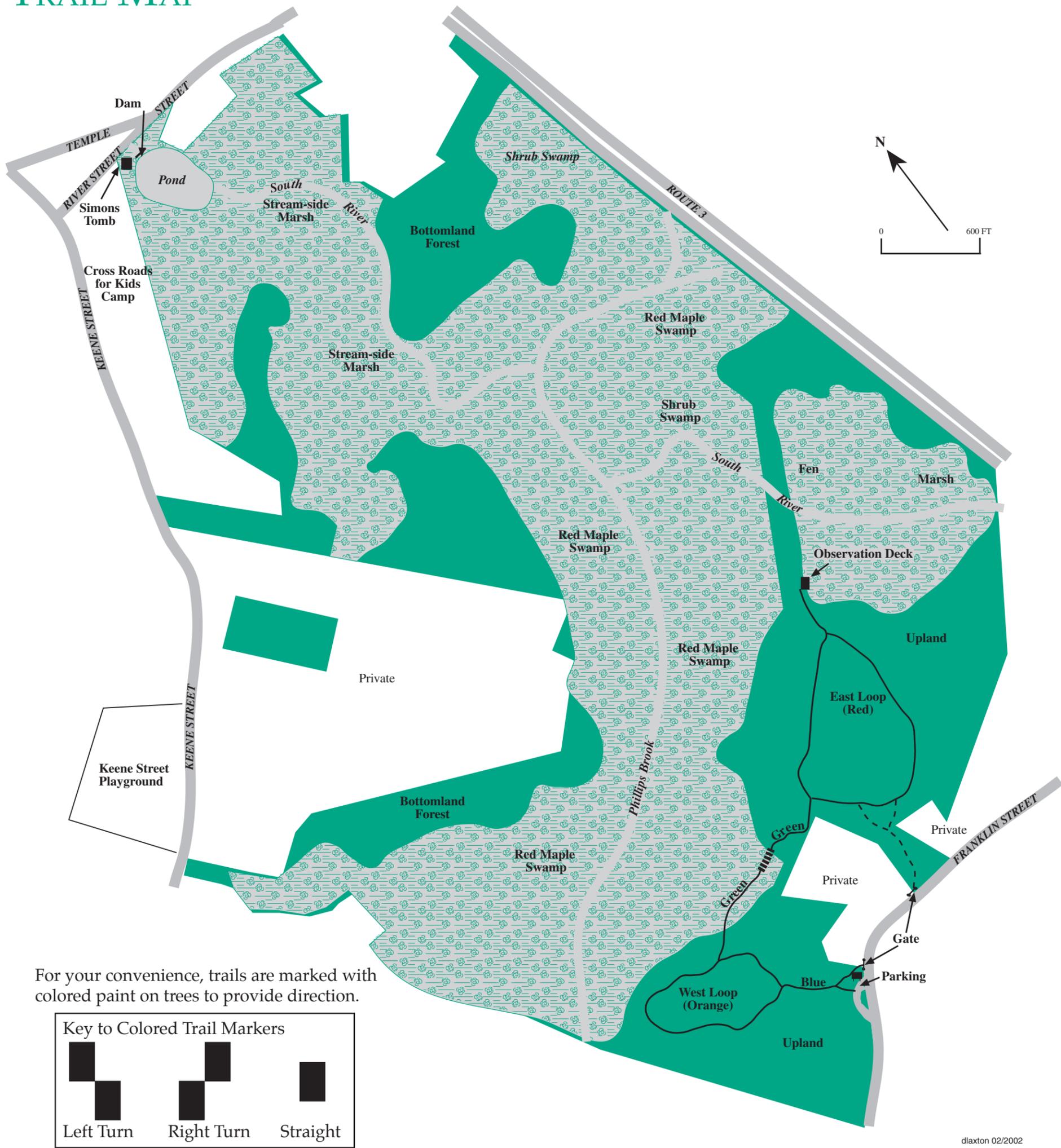
Evidence of white-tailed deer, fox, and coyotes as well as many small mammals such as field mice, red and grey squirrels, mink, opossum, and even otters can be seen on this property. The wetlands and vernal pools found here provide habitat for a variety of salamanders, frogs, and turtles. The shrub swamp habitat is suitable for species that are listed as *Special Concern* by the state such as the four-toed salamander and spotted turtle. The habitat is excellent potential habitat for a globally rare dragonfly, the banded boghaunter.

In addition to wetland resources, the large unfragmented forest areas of upland are of high value to the forest interior birds such as the scarlet tanager, oven bird, ruffed grouse and great horned owl.



CAMP WING CONSERVATION AREA

TRAIL MAP



dlaxton 02/2002

AN UNUSUALLY DIVERSE HABITAT

Stream-side Marsh—This diverse open wetland is outstanding habitat for both migratory and wintering waterfowl. It is good nesting habitat for marsh birds such as rails and bitterns. American bittern, a state endangered species, has been documented here. This is also an excellent warm water habitat for fish such as pickerel and bass.

Marsh—Dominated by cattail, unlike the stream side marsh, there is not much open water and relatively little flow. It is an excellent marsh bird nesting habitat, and the cattail is a prime food for wintering waterfowl such as black duck.

Red Maple Swamp— This forested wetland is dominated by red maple and green ash. The canopy is fairly open especially bordering the marsh. It grades from a forested swamp to a shrub swamp and marsh. Because there is more light here, herbs and sedges are abundant. Parts of this habitat seem suitable for four-toed salamanders and spotted turtles, both of which are listed by the state as species of special concern. The red maple swamp is good nesting habitat for wood duck and green heron.

Shrub Swamp—Although there are stunted trees here, the shrub layer is thick and dominates the stream side areas. Swamp azalea, sweet pepperbush, swamp sweetbells, blueberry, and alder are common. This is excellent song bird nesting habitat, particularly for warblers.

Fen—This wetland, dominated by sphagnum moss is the result of impoundment for a former cranberry bog. It is a diverse wetland with many herbs and sedges not found in the stream side wetlands. Bog orchids are likely to be found here.

Bottomland Forest—A transition between upland and wetland, white pine, red maple, and red oak dominate here with some hemlock and American holly. Shrubs include sweet pepperbush, witch hazel, blueberry, and inkberry. Prince's pine (a club moss) is common in the bottomland. There are red maple swamps within both the bottomland and upland.

Upland—White pine dominates the drier well-drained soils with a vigorous growth of seedlings from forestry management years ago. Red, white, and black oak are common. The shrub layer is almost exclusively huckleberry.