



Monson Center

269 ACRES, MILFORD/HOLLIS, NH

Reservation Details

Monson Center is a 269-acre reservation in Milford and Hollis, New Hampshire, saved from development in 1998 thanks to a grassroots campaign initiated by local residents. This property features the remnants of one of New Hampshire's first inland towns inhabited by Europeans. First settled in 1737, residents farmed the land which spread over 17,000 acres, and lived in the village until 1770 when it was disbanded and absorbed into neighboring towns. The property features original roads, stonewalls and cellar foundations left behind by the former residents. Visitors will enjoy the wooded paths and open fields, along with a beaver pond and heron rookery.

Did you know? It remains unclear today what led to the abandonment of this settlement, and historians and archeologists continue to study Monson Village with hopes of deciphering the puzzle.

Trail Information

Major trails are former roads in the village of Monson Center (E. Monson Road and W. Monson Road), so they are quite wide. Several loops are possible, along which you will encounter old cellar holes and historical remnants of Monson Center. Many of these features have interpretive signage.

- 🔗 **DIFFICULTY:** Easy
- 🔗 **ROUND TRIP DISTANCE:** 2-3 miles
- 🔗 **TRAIL MARKINGS:** Yellow rectangles on outer loop (East and West Monson Roads)

Getting There/Directions

Access to Monson Center is on the east side of Federal Hill Road in Milford, NH. There is parking for several cars in front of the gated driveway (Adams Road) and a small lot adjacent. A kiosk is located a few hundred yards down the road into the property, where the forest opens up to fields.

- 🔗 **Google Maps:** Entering "Monson Village Parking, Federal Hill Road, Milford, NH" will get you specific directions from your location to the property.

Recreational Opportunities

- 🔗 Hiking
- 🔗 Historical exploration
- 🔗 Dog walking
- 🔗 Nature observation
- 🔗 Snowshoeing, XC skiing

Available Amenities

- 🔗 Informational kiosk
- 🔗 Interpretive signage at cultural features
- 🔗 Small volunteer-run museum (hours vary)
- 🔗 Parking area, not plowed in winter
- 🔗 Please note NO bathroom facilities are available at this location.

Recreational Use Guidelines

- 🔗 No wheeled vehicles including bicycles, dirt bikes, ATVs
- 🔗 Carry In, Carry Out all Trash
- 🔗 No camping or campfires
- 🔗 Do not disturb plants, animals or cultural features.
- 🔗 Dogs must be on a leash at all times, carry in carry out dog waste

COVID-19

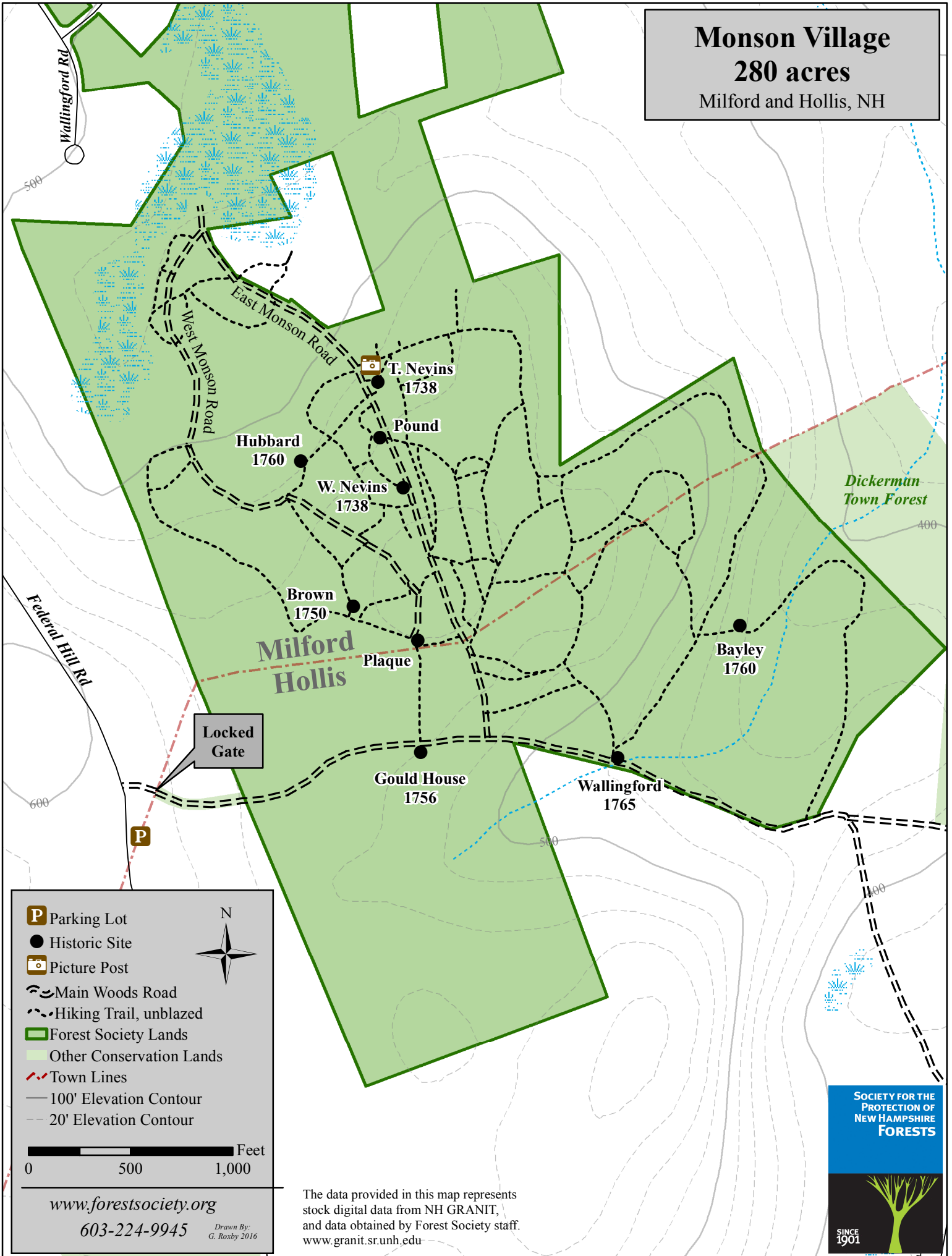
HIKE SAFE TIPS

- Allow 6+ feet of distance between unrelated groups. Step off the trail to allow others to pass.
- Bring a mask or face covering and hand sanitizer in case you need it
- Don't attempt anything risky or outside your comfort zone
- BYO lunch and plenty of water!

Monson Village

280 acres

Milford and Hollis, NH



P Parking Lot

● Historic Site

📷 Picture Post

— Main Woods Road

- - - Hiking Trail, unblazed

■ Forest Society Lands

■ Other Conservation Lands

--- Town Lines

— 100' Elevation Contour

- - - 20' Elevation Contour

0 500 1,000 Feet

www.forestsociety.org

603-224-9945

Drawn By:
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The data provided in this map represents stock digital data from NH GRANIT, and data obtained by Forest Society staff. www.granit.sr.unh.edu

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