

The Rocks

Forest Society North

PROTECTED
1978

1,276
acres

Welcome to The Rocks

Welcome to Forest Society North at The Rocks! This 1,276 acre property was donated to the Forest Society in 1978 by the family of John Jacob Glessner. Glessner, a Chicago business man and co-founder of agricultural equipment company International Harvester, purchased several parcels of land in Bethlehem in the late 1800s as a summer retreat for his family. Numerous barns, residence houses, gardens and ancillary buildings were constructed on the property to house and entertain the Glessner family and their guests, and the property operated as a working farm where John Glessner could experiment with various agricultural implements and equipment.

Today The Rocks remains a working farm, producing high quality Christmas trees for cut-your-own and wholesale markets as well as sustainable timber and maple syrup. Several of the original Glessner-era buildings remain on the property and are still in use, such as the Sawmill Pigpen building (now the New Hampshire Maple Museum) and a large carriage barn that has been renovated as the Forest Society North's office building and program center. With its many acres of forest and productive farmland, maintained trails, abundant wildlife and beautiful north country views, The Rocks is also a fantastic destination for recreation- hikers, dog walkers, hunters and picnic-goers all enjoy the property. We hope you will as well!

TRAIL INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL (0.7 mile round trip)

This short loop trail passes through the heart of our Christmas tree operation at The Rocks, winding through fields of balsam, canaan or fraser fir trees at different stages of development. Be sure to enjoy the spectacular views of the Presidential Range of the White Mountains from the higher points in the field. A digital interpretive outing is available for this trail that explains the process of planting, growing and harvesting Christmas trees- to utilize this on your walk, simply download the Outerspatial app using the adjacent QR code. To keep our visitors and staff safe during active farming, this trail is open on weekends only during the growing season.

MICHAEL A. GOZZO LOOP (1.1 mi round trip)

Hiking the Michael A. Gozzo Loop Trail is a terrific way to explore some of the natural and cultural history at The Rocks. The trail passes by the Sawmill Pigpen, which in the Glessners' day combined a cordwood sawmill with a hog raising facility under one roof, and today houses the NH Maple Museum. You will also pass by the Bee House, which has beautiful carvings on many of its wooden supports and was built to hold the numerous hives of honey bees tended by Mrs. Frances Glessner. A digital interpretive outing is available for this trail that can enhance the experience of hiking the Gozzo Loop. To access it, please download the OuterSpatial app using the adjacent QR code.

BEAVER POND LOOP (0.8 mi round trip)

The Gozzo Loop hike can be extended by continuing on the adjacent Beaver Pond Loop, which provides nice views of a large wetland complex on the property. Listen for red-wing blackbirds in the spring and summer months, and tree swallows winging for insects over the marsh. The Beaver Pond Loop adds 0.8 mi to your hike of the Gozzo Loop.

MAPLE TRAIL (0.1 mi one way, from Gozzo Trail)

This short interpretive trail begins from either side of the Gozzo Loop trail, about 0.3 mi from this trailhead. Signage explains the process of extracting sap from sugar maple trees and processing it into maple syrup.



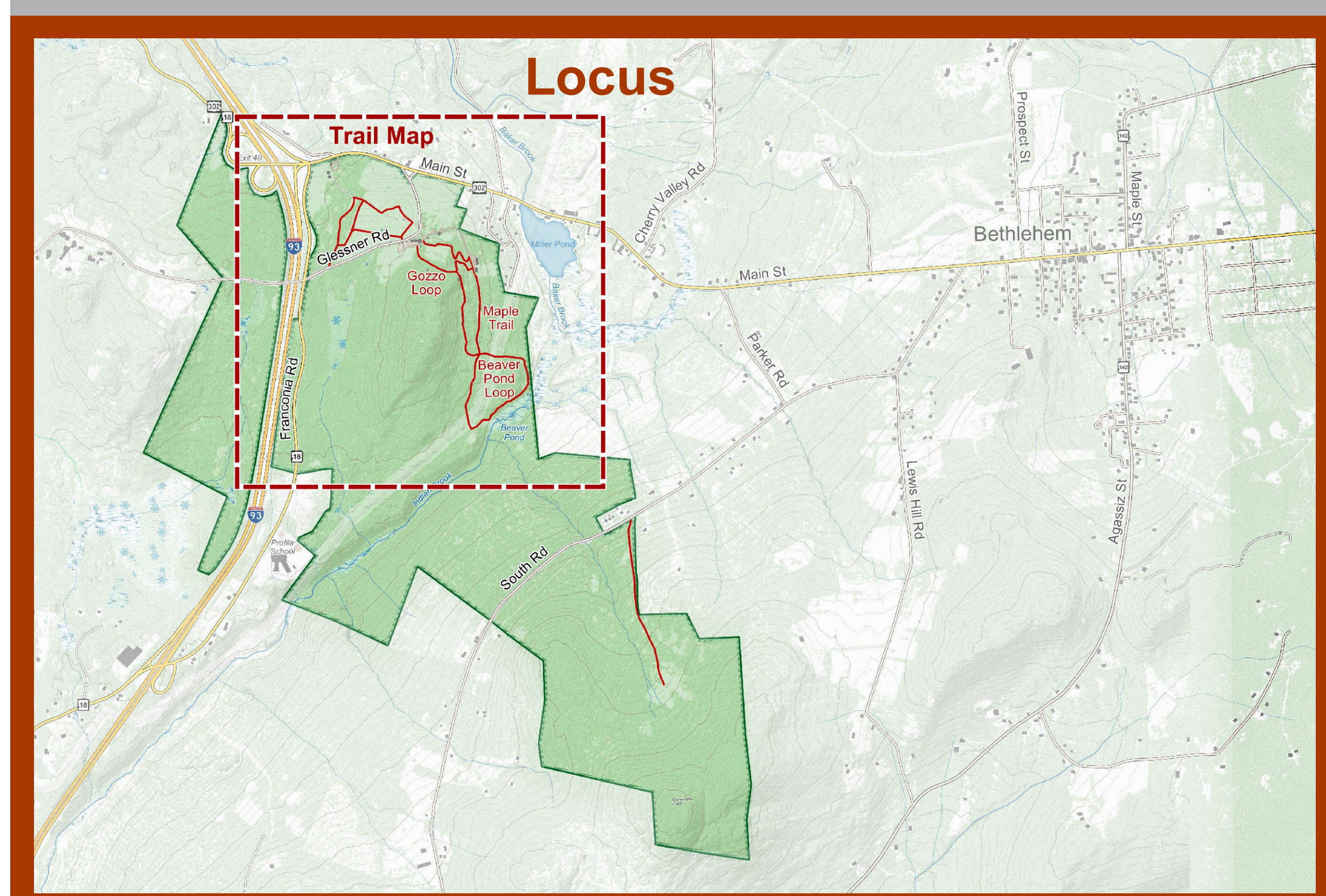
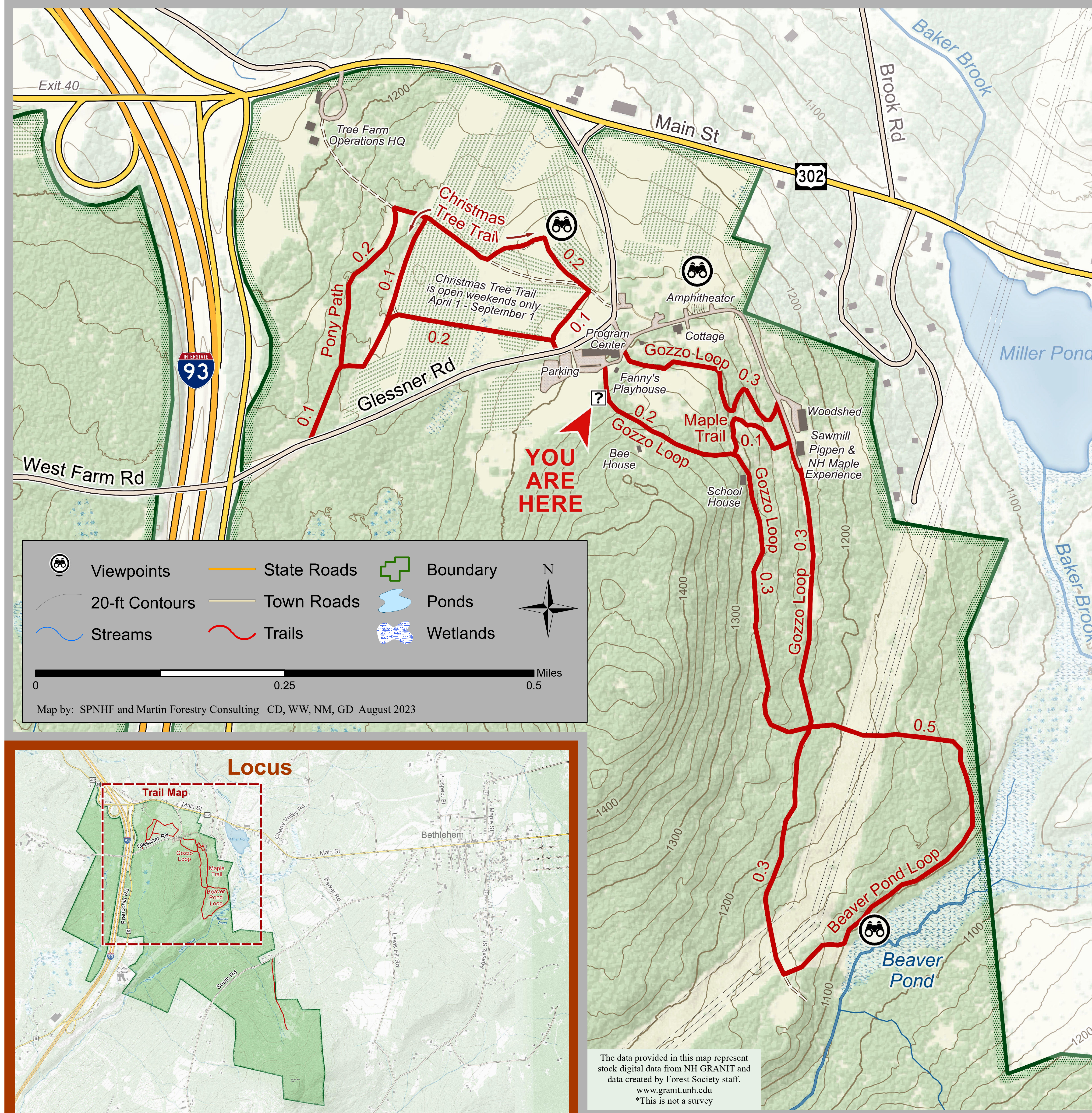
Please scan this QR code to download our Mobile Trails App, Outerspatial. With this app you can access mobile trail maps and interpretive outings, and track your location on the trails.

Since 1901 the Forest Society has helped to permanently protect land statewide for forestry, wildlife, water quality, and recreation. The Forest Society is a private, non-profit membership organization that owns and manages more than 200 forest reservations across New Hampshire totalling over 60,000 acres. Become a member and help protect more special places!

For more information, please contact:
Society for the Protection of NH Forests
54 Portsmouth Street, Concord, NH 03301

Call, e-mail or visit us on the web:
(603) 444-6228
info@forestsociety.org
www.forestsociety.org

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FORESTS



Please observe the following guidelines:

- Please carry out all trash
- No overnight parking
- No camping or open fires
- Please maintain control of your pets
- Pick up and pack out pet waste
- Hiking trails are open to foot traffic only
- Target shooting and metal detecting are prohibited
- Hunting is allowed - except in posted safety zones

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.