



## Walking Trails

Nine wonderful trails listed according to difficulty

**1. Assisted Living/Parker Court Walkway:** *Very easy; short distance; paved; benches and chairs.*

Connects the west and east entries of Assisted Living. The entryways are connected by a paved walkway that goes around a portion of the Inn.

**2. Blueberry Path:** *Easy; short distance, partially paved; benches. No tape markers/blazes.*

Wide, nearly level, and suitable for wheelchairs. Begins across from the far end of the carport and proceeds west (dog run on the right), then south and east to turnaround behind cottage #65.

**3. Mowed Grass Path:** *Easy; short distance; all uphill. No tape markers/blazes.*

Begins near the Parker Ridge Lane exit to South Street, proceeds east up the hill, ending between cottages #68 & #69 on Ledge Road.

**4. Jeep Trail:** *Easy; moderate distance (about 1/3 mile each way); three benches. No tape markers/blazes. Easy to follow; good footing.*

The trail begins opposite cottage #58 on Pond Road and beside the residents' raised flower/vegetable beds. It continues through the woods and through an old overgrown blueberry field, crosses the hospital foundation land boundary and deSibour land, to Parker Point Road.

**5. Tate Boulder Trail (off Jeep Trail):** *Easy; short (roughly 100 yards); within sight of Jeep Trail. Green tape markers.*

This trail leads north to the Tate Boulder (a huge glacial erratic). The trail is very short and fun for both children and adults. There is a small cave on the back side of the Tate Boulder which through the years surely has sheltered Indians, wild animals, and, most recently, porcupines.

**6. Perc Trail:** *Moderate difficulty; moderate distance (about 2/3 mile round trip). One bench. Yellow tape markers for two of the three links. Easy to follow; good footing.*

The trail begins to the right of the resident gardens (see sign on tree). Proceeds along grass to opening of a log path (Corduoy Road), through a swampy area, across grassy area to the left of the Fire Pond, and then into the woods. This route has no tape markers until it joins the regular Perc Trail. The trail makes a loop from the area behind the resident gardens or from the Fire Pond it winds up through woods past Bragdon Brook Trail intersection to meet the Jeep Trail at the old blueberry field. The route follows a trail built in 1989 to make test holes for soil percolation, thus Perc.

**7. Bragdon Brook Trail:** *Moderate to low difficulty; moderate distance. Blue tape markers.*

This is one of the oldest trails cut by early Parker Ridge people. It begins off of Parker Ridge Lane near South Street, opposite the Mowed Grass Path. The trail follows Bragdon Brook for the first half, goes through the woods over Bill Gray's bridge, then east up the hill to the Perc Trail intersection. It can also be accessed from about mid point on the Perc Trail. Very scenic, but roots underfoot and wet spots. The trail is badly eroded in places because of brook flooding. Footing is somewhat difficult and trail is a little confusing in places.

**8. Connector Trail:** *Moderate; short distance. Blue tape markers.*

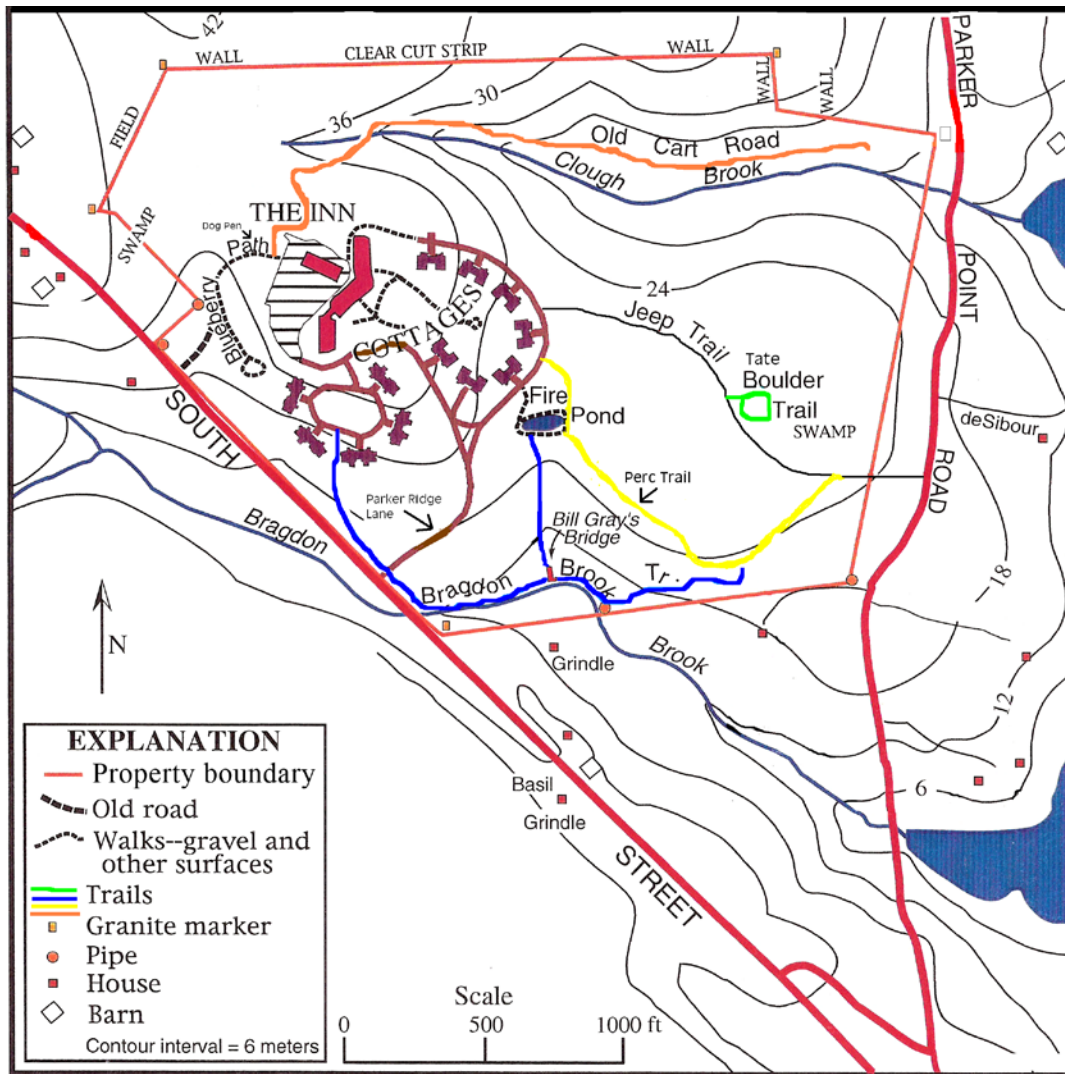
From Bill Gray's bridge at intersection of Bragdon Brook Trail, proceeds up to the Fire Pond. The trail parallels a small stream (Fire Pond run-off). Terrain is hilly and a bit steep in places. Footing is variable.

**9. Old Cart Road:** *First part (to Clough Brook) is moderate, but steeper after the pine grove; second part (after Clough Brook) is difficult and wet; distance is moderate to difficult; approximately 3/4 mile one way to Parker Point Road. Orange tape markers.*

The Old Cart Road leaves the Blueberry Path just before the first bench, at the corner of the dog run. It enters the woods, goes west, and joins the Old Cart Road, eventually going north and downhill. It then turns east, going through an old wall and a pretty little pine grove, then down (steeper) to Clough Brook. This distance is about 1/3 of a mile. Crossing the brook can be difficult and the trail is often very wet. A large building currently blocks the old exit/entry to Parker Point Road. *(continued)*

The Old Cart Road intercepts other trails at three locations, with these locations noted by double yellow trail markers. If you follow these other trails they will lead back south across the brook and up the hill towards and to the Jeep Trail.

Unless you are an able hiker, it is recommended that you only use the first part (to Clough Brook) of the trail! Then retrace your steps, following the orange tape markers to the Blueberry Path. The above mentioned first part distance is a round trip of about 2/3 of a mile.



**MAP OF PARKER RIDGE AND VICINITY. SHOWING TRAILS AND ROADS**

NOTE: These nine trails comprise only part of the Parker Ridge trail network. There are many more yellow tape trails in the woods and two more blue tape trails, known as the “Ridge Trails,” in the center area between the Jeep Trail and the Old Cart Road. These trails have several, beautiful, hand made wooden bridges and are used a great deal in the winter for snow-shoeing and cross country skiing.

There are Parker Ridge residents who are very familiar with the Parker Ridge trail network. They will be happy to answer detailed questions regarding the above or provide guide service for first time hikers.

If color coded tape markers (blazes) are doubled (two rows), it means either:

1. The beginning of a trail; or
2. The end of a trail; or
3. The intersection of another trail of the same color.
4. If numbers 1, 2 and 3 do not apply, then look for another color or retrace your steps.