

One of the treasures of Wellfleet is the intermingling of residences and landscapes of great natural beauty. The trail begins by walking on the town-owned road and turning left onto the path at the point where the road jogs slightly right. The walker will be skirting residential properties. Please respect the nearby property owners and make this a quiet and reflective experience. The trail passes through a Black Cherry and Black Locust grove and a patch of Carolina Rose. When the path passes an Apple tree on the right, the trail opens into a former meadow and then descends a gentle hill. The meadow is all that is left of the extensive farm fields here in earlier times. This land had fertile soil according to Simeon Deyo in his 1890 history of Barnstable County. The rich soil enabled the early settlers of the area to have self-sufficient farms with small orchards, a cow or two, and, in the earliest days, a modest grain crop to be taken to the mill, likely the former tidal mill at Mill Hill Island.

A spur off the trail provides a fine view of a small freshwater wetland, comprised chiefly of narrow-leafed cattail. This wetland holds water throughout the wettest seasons. It is host to a variety of plant and animal species completely different from the flora and fauna of the salt marsh, located just to the other side of the earthen berm to the south of this freshwater wetland.

Vernal pools all over the Cape like this one support the early life stages of amphibians such as the spotted salamander and wood frogs, as well as insects such as caddis flies and mosquitoes. After the first rains and warm nights, the amphibians will begin to lay their eggs and the insect larvae will begin twitching around the water of the pond. By

late spring, at dusk, the pond becomes a vibrant chorus of spring peeper calls laced through the songs of many insects and frogs.

After this freshwater wetland, the trail meanders uphill to afford fine views of the salt marsh to the left. The walker may flush waterfowl such as American Black Duck as he reaches the marsh. The path follows the marsh with lovely water vistas to the left and ahead. The salt marsh has the Old Silver Spring Creek down the center. The view from the bench is a highlight. Then the path returns to the forest and the walker may choose the route back to the trailhead. One may encounter Diamondback Terrapins crossing Lieutenant Island Road seeking to find sandy areas to lay their eggs.

Please stay on the trails to protect fragile plants in the area and to respect private properties. Be vigilant about poison ivy and ticks!

Total Length of Trails: 0.9 miles

Extent: 8.7 acres

The trails pass over parcels owned by the Town of Wellfleet subject to a conservation restriction held by the Wellfleet Conservation Trust

Thanks to the Galdston family and the Frank family for their generous cooperation as landowners.

Prepared by the Wellfleet Open Space Committee and The Wellfleet Conservation Trust. Printing paid for by the Wellfleet Conservation Trust.

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WELLFLEET
CONSERVATION
TRUST

Bayberry Hill Conservation Area

“The Austin B. and Theresa W.
Wood Trail”

Area Description:

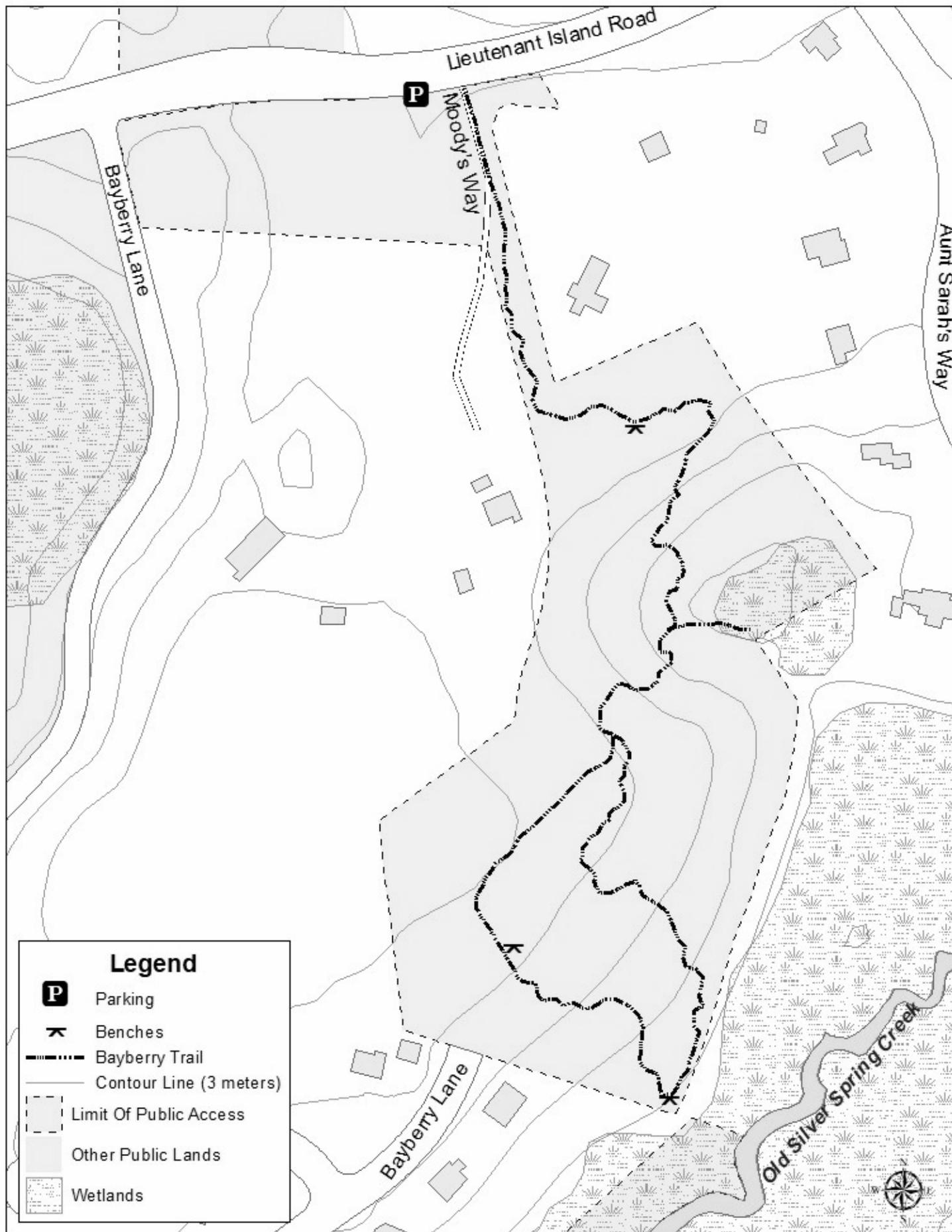
This relatively small parcel and short trail off Lieutenant Island Road provides a surprisingly varied and tranquil landscape of overgrown field, forest and marsh. The walker has the options of the looped portion of the trail at the southern end. The view from the bench area the end should be enjoyed as it overlooks the marsh, into Wellfleet Harbor, and on to the north coast of the mid-Cape area. Enjoy the play of light and great vistas, the flights and feeding of land and sea birds, and savor the aroma of pine and sea.

Location: GPS 41.89654°N, 69.99360°W
South Wellfleet, off Lt. Island Road.
Opposite #260 Lt. Island Road

Directions:

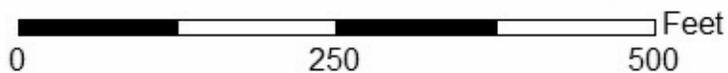
West on Lt. Island Road for approximately 0.5 miles, to the trail head sign on the left. Parking is along the shoulder of the road and walk in to trail on Moody's Way. **Do not park on, or block, Moody's Way.**

Bayberry Hill Conservation Area



Legend

- P** Parking
- * Benches
- Bayberry Trail
- Contour Line (3 meters)
- - - Limit Of Public Access
- Other Public Lands
- Wetlands



Updated March 2021