

Connecticut

Also worth exploring in Hampton...

The **Edwin Way Teale Memorial Sanctuary**, 93 Kenyon Road. Donated to the Connecticut Audubon Society by the Pulitzer-Prize winning author, Edwin Way Teale, and his wife, Nellie. This 168-acre preserve provides miles of well-marked hiking trails that capture the beauty of Hampton and affords one the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of the 20th century naturalist.

The **Airline Trail**. An officially designated Greenway in Hampton, this abandoned railbed cuts through Hampton, and has created miles of broad, flat walking and biking paths. One of the finest viewing stretches can be picked up in the Goodwin State Forest on Route 6 near the Chaplin Town Line.

Hampton Conservation Commission

Mission Statement

"To support the Town of Hampton and its citizens through research, coordination, development, and proposal of conservation plans pursuant to the originating ordinance."

For more information:

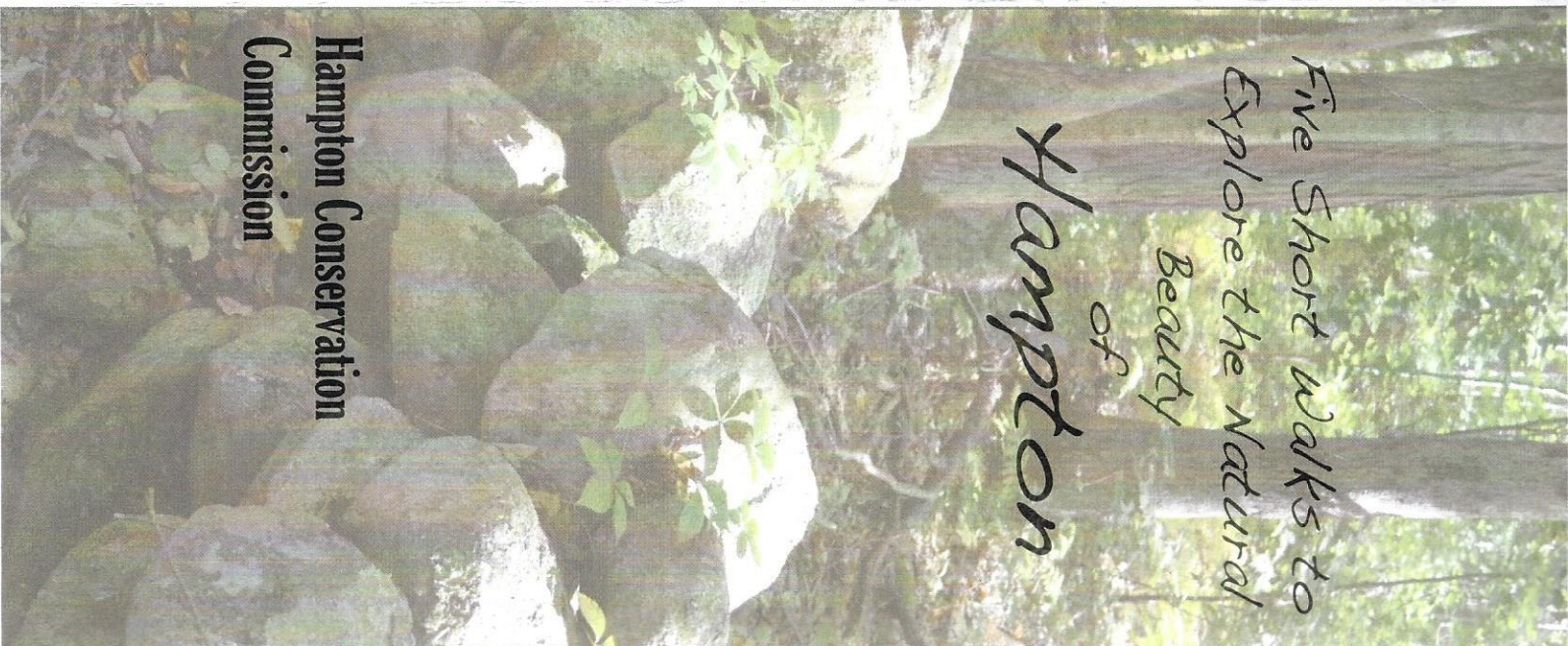
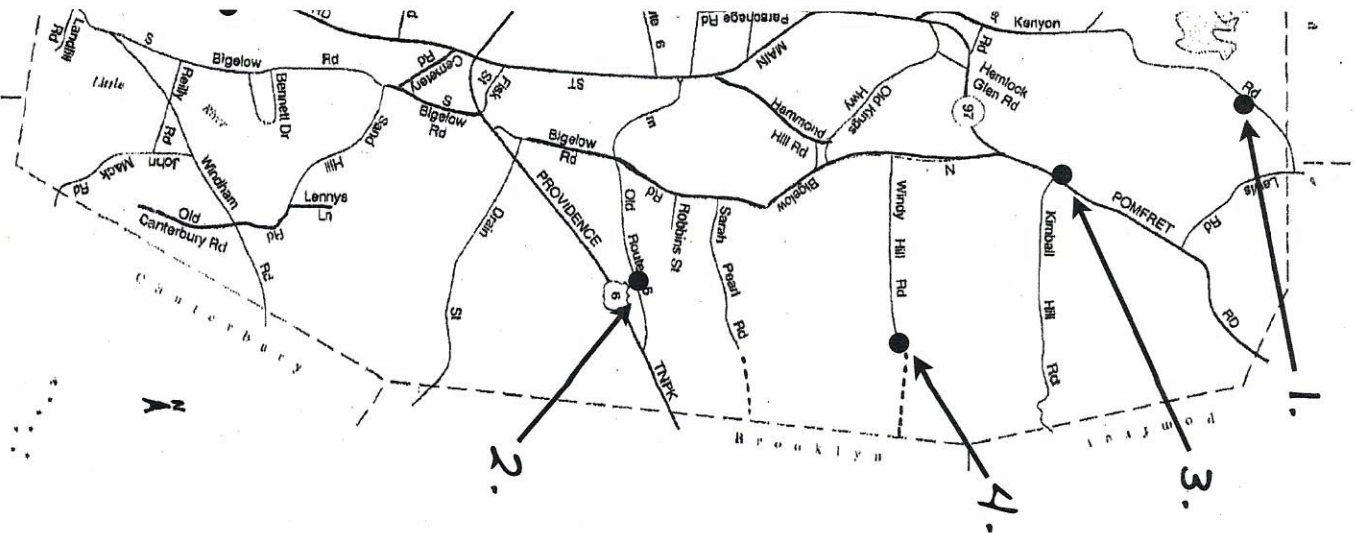
Hampton Conservation Commission

Hampton Town Hall
Hampton, CT 06247

Photographs by Blair Johnson
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*Five Short Walks to
Explore the Natural
Beauty
of
Hampton*

**Hampton Conservation
Commission**



approximately one mile, the trail passes through wet areas, especially in the springtime. Follow the well-marked trail to Sarah Pearl Road. Take a left on this road and after 100 yards, re-enter the

woods at the trail marker for an enjoyable trek back to Old Route 6. The starting point is .2 miles to the east on Old Route 6.

The trail is located on Old Route 6, one half mile west of Route 6, and one half mile east of the intersection of Bigelow Road. There is parking on the side of the road. Be sure to sign the register at the entrance to the trail.

3. Preston Preserve

Owned and maintained by Joshua's Trust, this slightly less than 1 mile walk is a little known jewel in Hampton and provides many opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of our area in less than 45 minutes. The well-marked trail quickly enters a rolling pasture.

The trail is best enjoyed if you follow the signs and walk at a slight angle to the north end of the pasture, and enter the forest where marked. The yellow-marked trail trends downward to, then abuts the Little River. This area is fairly close to the start of the Little River, and the beauty of the

Little River at this point is quickly realized. There is even a bench on the river which allows for a bit of relaxation before heading back. The trail then departs the



Rad Ostby Memorial Forest



Preston Preserve

Little River and travels through varied woodlands and new forest and ascends back to the pasture. Cross the pasture to the beginning of the trail.

The Preston Preserve is located on Route 97, approximately 3 miles north of the center of town, directly across from Kimball Hill Road. There is ample parking on the side of Route 97. Please note the big rock just before the re-entry into the pasture. What animal does this remind you of?

4. Jericho Road

There are many old roads in Hampton that once provided access to areas that have since been "abandoned" and are no longer able to maintain vehicular traffic. These roads now provide many scenic opportunities by foot to explore Hampton's natural beauty and past development. One of the best of these roads in Hampton is Jericho Road. This road starts at the northerly end of Windy Hill Road. The trail is on your left as you face the cul-de-sac, and travels approximately .7 miles to Kimball Hill Road.

Surrounded by and adjacent to many stone walls, the still well-marked road cuts through varied woodlands and offers scenic vistas. After reaching Kimball Hill Road, you can simply back track to the beginning and note some of the natural beauty missed on the first part of your journey. The total length of your round trip journey, even at a leisurely pace, should be less than an hour.



Jericho Road

The end of Windy Hill road is 1 mile from the intersection with North Bigelow Road. Park at the cul-de-sac on Windy Hill Road.

5. Cowhantic Ledges

Fans of history, legend and unusual geographic formations can explore part of the Cowhantic Ledges in Howard Valley. The rocky series of outcroppings and overhangs begin at Route 6 and lies parallel with and between Route 97 and South Bigelow Road; parts of the spine can be seen from various points of South

Bigelow. Thanks to the generosity of the owner of a 39 acre tract of land spanning between the two roads, approximately 1.5 acres was deeded to the Town of Hampton in 2008, for use as open space to preserve public access to, and a vista of, the prominent and dramatic view of the ledges. A short walk down a path maintained and marked by the Hampton Conservation Commission offers visitors an up-close look at an important Nipmuc tribe over wintering area, and the location of the events surrounding the mysterious case of Elizabeth Shaw in the late 1700's. (Rush to the Historical Society and find out more.)



Cowhantic Ledges

The trailhead is located on Route 97; from Route 6 it is on the left hand side of the Road. Pass Inman's Tree Farm on the right and it is shortly on the left side of the road. Park well off the road on the trailhead side; the entrance is just to the right of the "pink house." Look for green and white HCC markers on the trees. An easy walk, but care should be utilized around the ledges.

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