

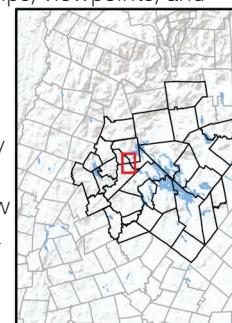
HOMESTEAD FOREST CONSERVATION AREA

Conserved Property of the
Lakes Region Conservation Trust

Welcome to the Homestead Forest Conservation Area. In the mid-nineteenth century, this 604-acre property consisted of 13 separate lots. Miles of stonewalls and rusted wire fencing attest to an agricultural economy that has almost ceased to exist in central New Hampshire. In 1999, the land was given to the Lakes Region Conservation Trust; at the same time a conservation easement on the property was donated to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

From the trailhead kiosk, Lambert Road continues straight ahead for a mile. Scattered throughout the forest are cellar holes and foundations which identify the locations of four of five farms known to have existed in the 1800s. A sixth farmhouse, now owned by LRCT, dates from about 1825. These structures bear witness to a tradition of homestead agriculture in rural New Hampshire and to the transition from fields back to forestland after these farms were abandoned.

In the center of the Homestead Forest is a network of trails which pass old foundations, swamps, viewpoints, and caves. About 40 yards above the second detour, the Gibban Trail leaves on the left. The total circuit is almost 3 miles in length and involves a climb of 600 feet, nearly all within the first mile. The trails are signed and marked with yellow blazes. (Blue blazes mark internal boundary lines, red blazes mark external ones.)



Directions:

From Meredith/points south:

- Take Route 104 in Meredith west for approx. 1.7 mi. to Winona Rd.
- Turn right on Winona Rd. and follow it for approx. 5.2 mi. to Lambert Rd.
- Turn right on Lambert Rd.; the trailhead kiosk is at end of the road.

From Plymouth/Holderness/points west, north, and east:

- Take Route 3/25 to Ashland.
- At the intersection of Routes 3/25 and 132, take Route 132/Main St./Depot St. south for approx. 0.2 mile to Winona Rd.
- Bear left on Winona Rd. and follow it for approx. 2.2 miles to Lambert Rd.
- Turn left on Lambert Rd.; the trailhead kiosk is at end of the road.

Lakes Region Conservation Trust

The Lakes Region Conservation Trust was founded in 1979 to conserve the natural heritage of New Hampshire's Lakes Region. Our conservation and stewardship work preserves community character, conserves critical wildlife habitat and diverse ecosystems, protects natural landmarks and scenic landscapes, and provides outdoor recreation opportunities for people of all ages.

Together with our dedicated community of supporters, we have conserved thousands of acres throughout the Lakes Region. These conserved lands encompass many of the special places that define this unique and spectacular part of New England, affording everyone abundant opportunities to explore and connect with the natural world and establishing a legacy of conservation for future generations.

Become a Member Today!



Lakes Region Conservation Trust
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HOMESTEAD FOREST TRAIL MAP

Lakes Region Conservation Trust



HOMESTEAD FOREST CONSERVATION AREA Ashland, New Hampshire



Homestead Forest Conservation Area

Ashland, New Hampshire

Revised 2024



Trail Name	Mileage	Blaze	♂	♀
Devil's Den Trail	1.5	Yellow	✓	✓
Gibban Trail	0.2	Yellow	✓	✓
Gibban Loop	0.6	Yellow	✓	✓
Lambert Road	1.0	Yellow	✓	✓
Winona Ledge Trail	0.3	Yellow	✓	✓

