



Trail Network
Town of Exeter, NH



Please use this property with care to avoid impacting the actively managed crops on site.

Raynes Farm



Legend

- Year-round Trail
- - - Seasonal Trail
Not for use during growing season
- † Wiggin Gravesite
- * Historic Town Landing
- P Parking



In 2002, the town acquired the 50 acre Raynes Farm property with grant assistance from the Land and Community Heritage Foundation. With grassland, woods, and river frontage, diverse natural resources abound. By far however, the most recognizable feature is its iconic red barn, visible as you head out of town on Newfields Road. As the largest remaining barn in Exeter, this building provides a tangible link for modern day Exeter to its agricultural past which extends back to the 1600's.

The property has been an active farmland since the late 17th century. Chase Wiggin constructed the large barn and ran a highly successful cattle market on the property in the 1800s. In the 17th and 18th centuries, the river frontage was used as a town landing. In 1840, Boston & Main Railroad constructed their first line in NH across the property paralleling the river. The granite cattle underpass afforded access to the river under the railroad.

Today the fields are actively managed and hayed several times a year or managed for corn production through a lease with a local farmer.

The mix of habitats makes for a diverse array of wildlife including turkey, hawks, and grassland birds. The open fields are frequented by local residents for passive recreation such as hiking and bird watching.



A gravel parking lot off of Newfields Road north of the barn serves as the main access point. From the parking lot, visitors can walk to the wooded trail to the north, explore the fields, or head to the hickory stand to visit the newly restored Wiggin family gravesite. The barn is not currently suitable for safe open public use but it is hoped that with improvements it can be available in the future for educational uses.

Location: On the east side of Newfields Road approximately 1 mile north of the intersection with Route 101.

Compatible Uses:

- Hiking
- Cross-country skiing
- Wildlife Viewing
- Historic Edification
- Hunting in season
- Other passive recreation

Leashed dogs under their owner's control are welcome.

NOTE: During the growing season please avoid uses that may impact the crop and be aware that at times heavy machinery may be present.



REMEMBER
Please take only pictures
and leave only footprints.



RAYNES FARM CONSERVATION AREA



Photo courtesy of Gus Brewin

Newfields Road Town of Exeter N.H.

