

**Explore Your Town
with
the Exeter Area
Trail Passport**



Welcome to the Exeter Trail Passport!

GET TO KNOW YOUR TOWN: Did you know that the citizens of Exeter have protected over 2,000 acres of conservation land? These lands help to ensure that Exeter is and always will be a place that supports clean water, wildlife, birds, and nature exploration. Many of these properties have existing trails for you to explore.

Through our Trails Passport program we hope to entice you and your family to discover some of these beautiful areas.

HOW DOES IT WORK? Each Passport area is an easy and fun way to explore a small portion of the trails on these properties. You simply follow the maps and hiker trail markers (see image to right of map) to the passport rubbing location (a 4x4 post with a unique marker and property name on top), place the corresponding page of your passport on top of the marker and make a rubbing with the side of a crayon or pencil. This will create a passport “stamp” for each site you visit.

EARN A PRIZE: When you have collected at least three stamps, come in to the Exeter Planning Office between 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday and get your free prize!

EXPLORE FURTHER: Some of these sites have maps of a larger trail network. When you feel like exploring a little further, scan the QR code on the bottom of the Passport Map page and it will take you to a printable brochure of the property and trails. No smart phone? No worries! Simply go to the Exeter Town website and type “*trail maps*” in the search bar.

GET INVOLVED: All of these trails are maintained by volunteers. Want to help out? Report areas that need attention, volunteer to help re-paint blazes, trim back overgrowth, or pick up debris and trash. Contact the Planning Department for more information at 773-6112 or attend a Conservaiton Commission or Trails Committee meeting.

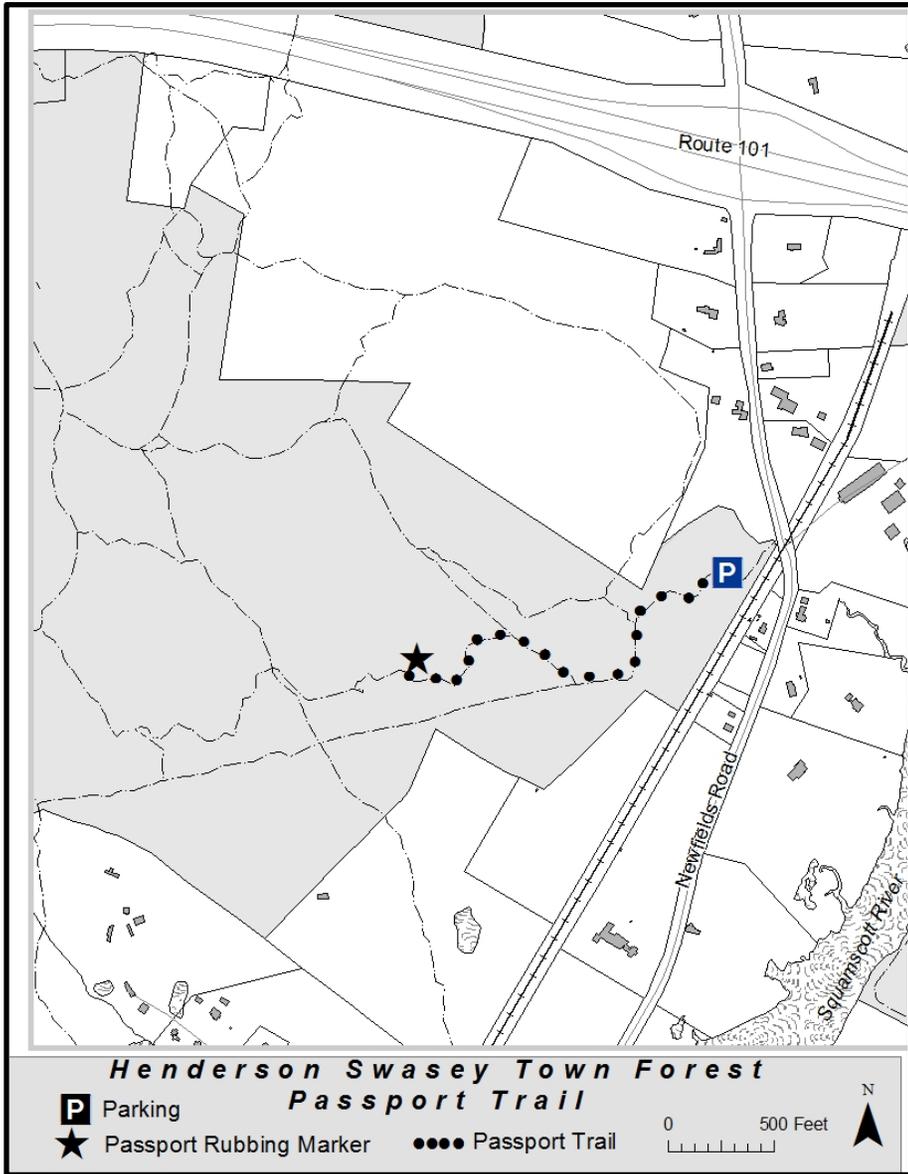
Exeter Passport Areas



To learn more about Conservation Land in Exeter scan the QR code or visit the Conservation Commission Web Page on the Town Website (www.exeternh.gov).



Henderson Swasey Town Forest



Want to explore this area further?
Visit the Exeter Town website or scan this QR
code for a map of the entire trail network.



Henderson Swasey Town Forest

Parking: The trailhead is on the left (west) side of Newfields Road, past the Dept. of Public Works on the north side of the railroad trestle bridge.

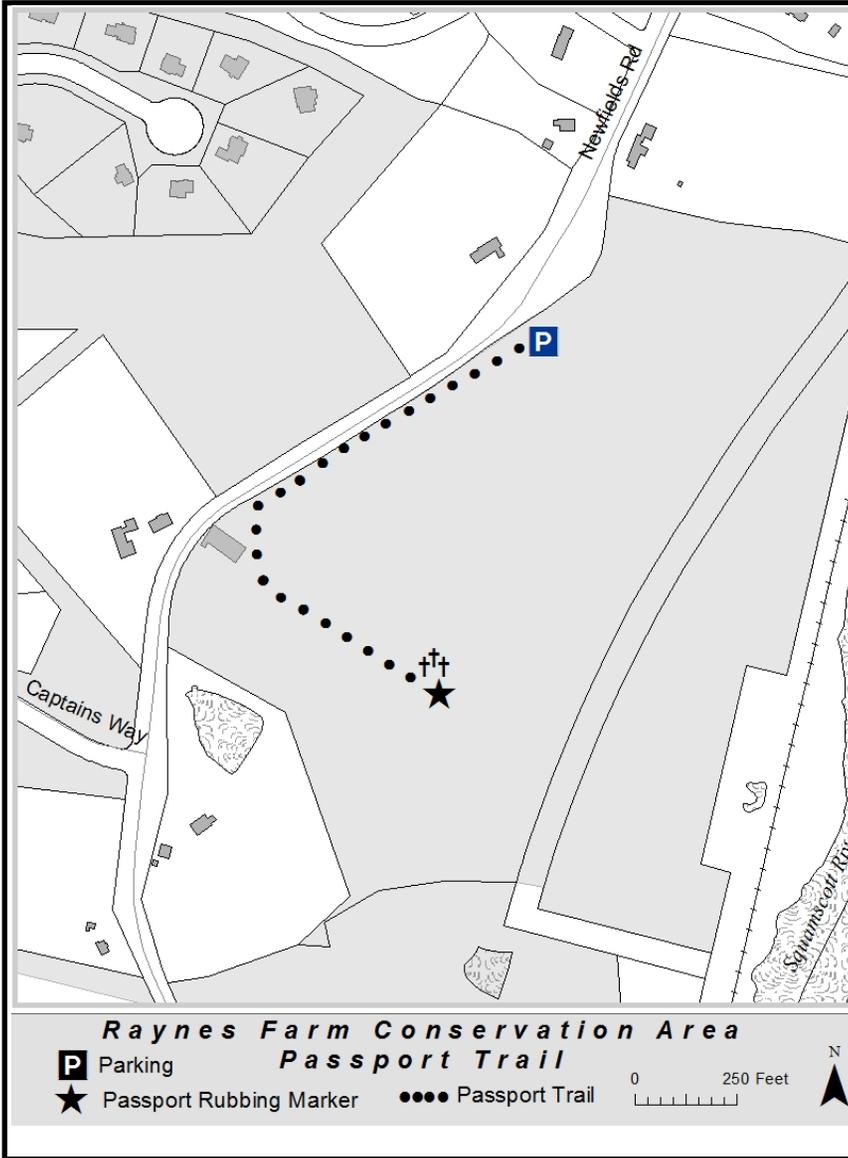
Property Details: This marker is within the popular Henderson-Swasey Town Forest, a 220 acre area of conservation land. Trails here also connect to the Oaklands Town Forest via a tunnel under Rte 101. The wooded trails are accessible year round and are home to a variety of birds, wildlife and beautiful wetlands.

Marker Location: Walk around the gate at the parking lot staying left until you reach the gasline trail. From there take your first right into the woods onto the green trail. Take the first trail on the left and follow for about 500 feet. The marker is next to a VERY large old oak tree. This tree dates back to the when Abraham Lincoln visited Exeter in the 1860s just before becoming our President!

Length: 3/4 mi. round trip

Make Trail Marker Rubbing Here

Raynes Farm Conservation Area



Raynes Farm Conservation Area

Parking: The parking area for Raynes Farm is on the right (east) side of Newfields Road approximately 1 mile north of Route 101 (about 900 feet past the red barn).

Property Details: This 50 acre conservation area has been actively farmed since the late 1600's! The iconic big red barn you see was built in the mid 1800's by Chase Wiggin who ran the Exeter Cattle Market. Cattle came from Maine and Vermont to rest before heading to Massachusetts on barges down the Squamscott River bordering the property to the east. This area served as the original town landing.

Marker Location: Head southwest from the parking lot parallel to Newfields Road toward the red barn. From the barn follow the mowed path east to the group of tall shagbark hickory trees in the field. The marker is at the original Wiggin family gravesite. The peaceful site is also a great spot to listen for woodcock in the early spring or turkey year round. (*Note- Because this area is an open field there are no trail markers leading you to the rubbing station.*)

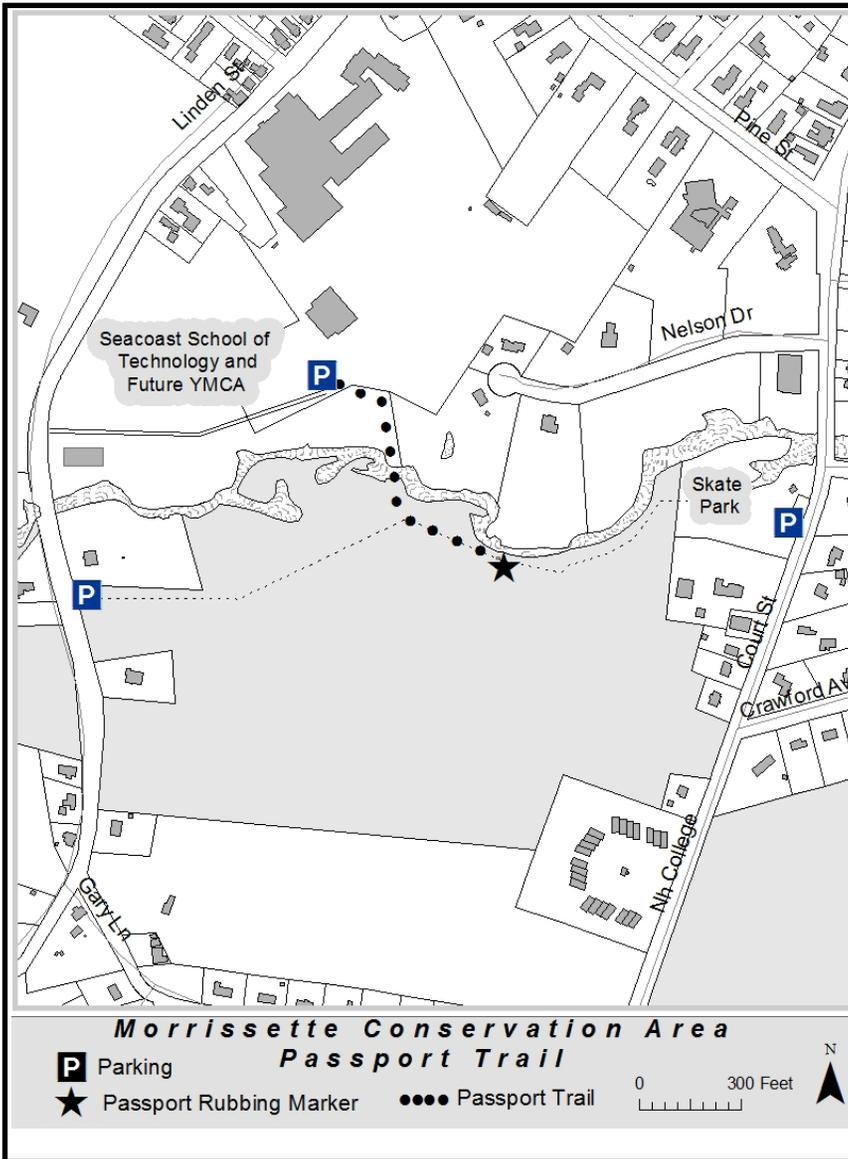
Length: Approximately 0.5 mi. round trip

Make Trail Marker Rubbing Here

Want to explore this area further?
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code for a map of the entire trail network.



Morrissette Conservation Area



Morrissette Conservation Area

Parking: When school is not in session you can park in the back corner of the Seacoast School of Technology parking lot. If you head into the woods, you will come to a metal bridge over the Little River. Cross the bridge and you will be on the Morrissette property. An alternative is to park along Linden Street in the small pullout by the gate.

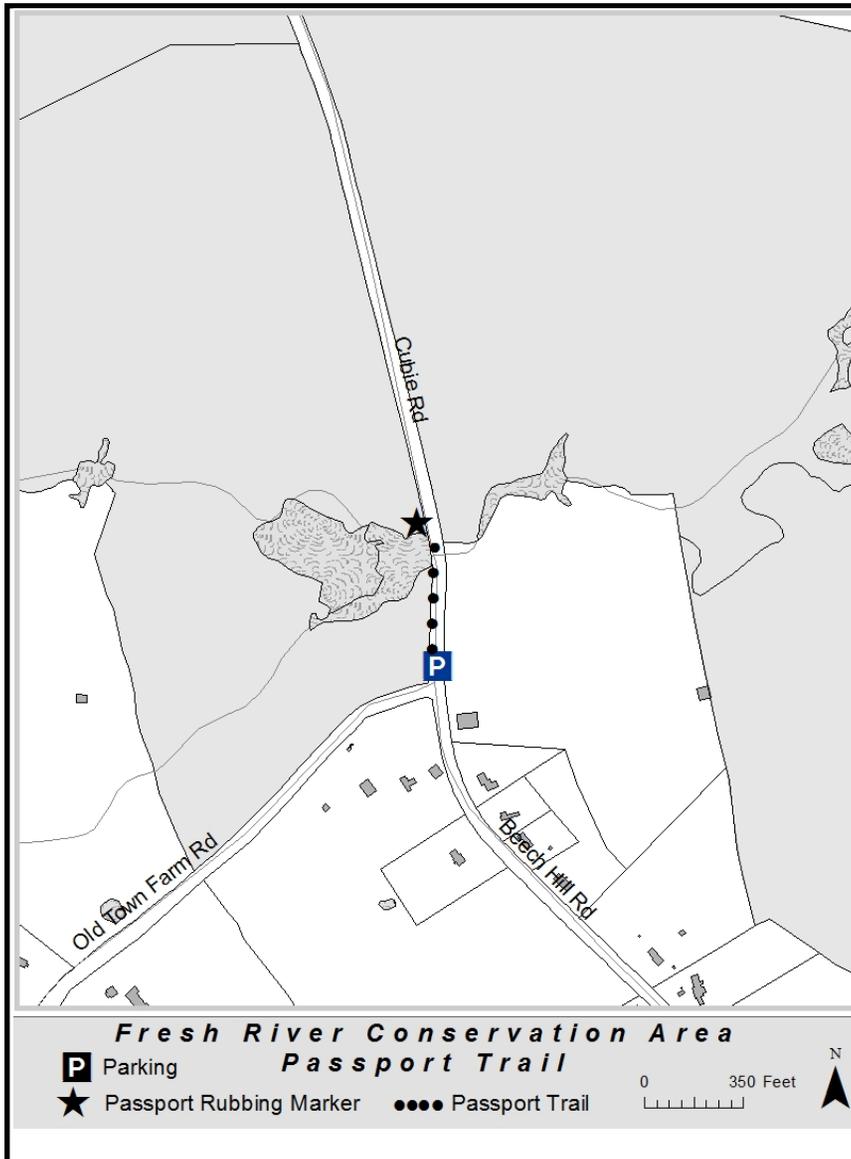
Property Details: This property once served as the football field for the old high school. Today it remains a mix of open grassland, woods, and shrubland. Wildlife such as deer, woodcock, and turkey call this place home. The wildflowers attract pollinators and butterflies. Visit in the spring to see the apple trees (remnants from its former days as a farm) in bloom when their fragrance fills the air!

Marker Location: After crossing the bridge follow the wide path left (east) to the open field. The marker is on the north end of the field at entrance to the trail leading to the skate park.

Length: 0.3 mi. round trip (or 1 mi from Linden St)

Make Trail Marker Rubbing Here

Fresh River Conservation Area



Fresh River Conservation Area

Parking: The trailhead is at the intersection of Old Town Farm Road and Beech Hill Road. A sign that reads “Piscassic River Wildlife Management Area” is located to the left of the parking area. Park in front of the gate and walk around the gate to the start of the trail (a former road).

Property Details: This trail crosses over the Fresh River that, after joining with the Piscassic and Lamprey Rivers, ultimately empties into Great Bay and then the Gulf of Maine. The wetlands surrounding the Fresh River support an incredible variety of plants and animals. In addition, these areas provide important benefits for people, too, such as improving water quality and storing floodwater.

Marker Location: Walk straight up the trail a short distance to where the trail begins to rise to cross over the Fresh River. The marker is to the left of the trail under a maple tree.

Length: 0.2 mi. round trip

Make Trail Marker Rubbing Here