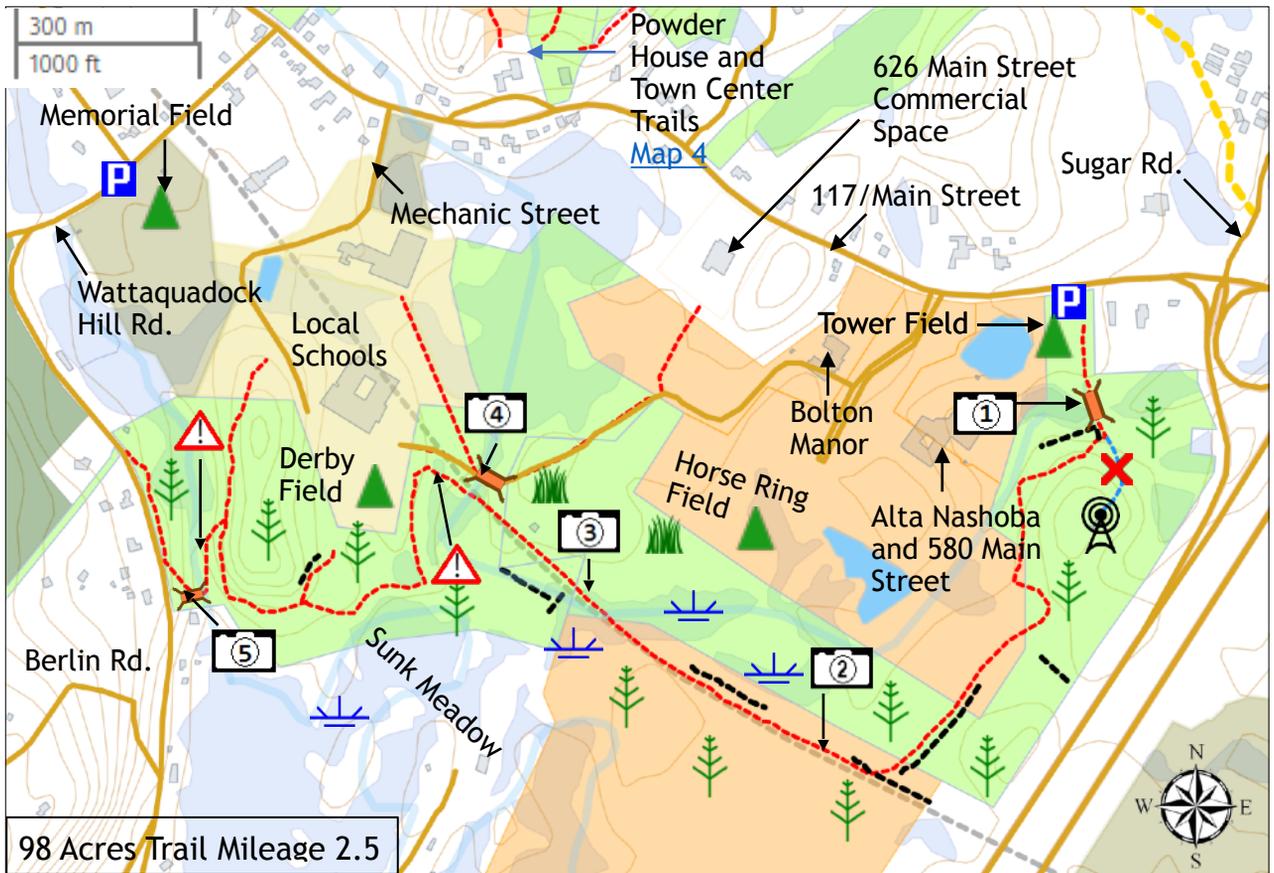


# Derby Field and the Horse Ring

# Map 19

Trails in this area cross private property. Please stay on the marked paths.



Map made by Bolton Trails Committee with MassMapper data and route locations collected by volunteers © Bolton Conservation Trust 2025

School Property	Disused railway	Route of Gas Pipeline	Bridge or crossing
Private land or easement. Please stay on trail	Private Driveway or Public Road	Parking	Meadow
Recreation Area; public or private	Primary trail	Photo location	Playing Field
Town or Conservation Land. Please obey trail restrictions.	Secondary trail	Point of interest mentioned in the text	Contour lines at 20' intervals
Wetlands	No access	Use Caution	
Agricultural Preservation Restriction. Please stay on trail	Stone wall		
	Marsh or swamp		
	Wooded area		



The **Derby Purchase** included 52 acres that were taken by the town using eminent domain at a special town meeting in 1970. John H and Emily P Derby were given \$63,000 according to the deed. The Emerson School (originally built 1923) and The Florence Sawyer School (built 1996) are located in the area which includes the "Sunk Meadow" wetland. It has been named on USGS maps since 1943.

William Sawyer (1679-1741) owned a large farm in this part of Town and The Historical Commission believes that they located the building foundation in 2007 about 4 feet below the surface using ground penetrating radar.

Starting in 1874, The Bolton Fair held its annual agricultural event on much of this land until 2004, when it was moved to the Bolton Fairgrounds in Lancaster. The Derby Field is likely to be the location of the original Sawyer homestead. The Horse Ring Field, located to its east, is lower in elevation due to the excavation of gravel for use in construction of I-495.

### Parking

*Main Street:* Next to the Tower Field, several cars 42.430786 -71.597321.

The trail head is a short distance beyond the date limiting vehicles access.

*Wattaquodock Hill Rd.:* Memorial Field for access to the Berlin Rd. trailhead (a short walk along the road), several cars 42.431914 -71.612405.

**Suggested walks** *Please avoid using the side trails during school hours to minimize disruption.*

*Long Loop 3.4 miles.* Start from either parking area and follow the trail to the end, ignoring the side paths towards the schools, then proceed to follow the public roads back to the start (note that there is no sidewalk for a short distance along Berlin Road).

*Variable length out and back.* Start at either parking area and walk as far as you like, the return the same way.

### Connections

*Powder House and Town Center Trails [Map 4](#).* The closest access point to this area is at the eastern side of the Town Hall where the Old Town House Road heads north.

*The Overlook [Map 16](#).* This small area provides an excellent view of the town. It's on the northern side of Wattaquodock Hill Rd. Note that there is no sidewalk on this road.



**1** Pond near Tower Field



**2** Old Railway Bed



**3** Town Fields



**4** Tributary to Great Brook



**5** Tributary to Mill Brook



## **Bolton Conservation Land Rules and Regulations.**

The Bolton Conservation Commission welcomes responsible public use and enjoyment of land under its stewardship. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 8c, the Conservation Commission has adopted these rules and regulations to provide a pleasurable experience for users and in order to preserve and protect in perpetuity the wildlife, ecological, environmental, and conservation values of these properties which include:

- Protection of surface and groundwater resources
- Protection of unfragmented forest habitat
- Protection of wildlife habitat
- Protection of open space and the Town's trails system.

### **Prohibitions**

- Hunting, trapping and discharging of firearms, arrows, paintballs, and pellets
- Motor vehicles, except for emergency response or municipal vehicles
- Dumping and/or littering
- Alcoholic beverages and glass containers
- Smoking
- Swimming except by waders at the Tom Denney Nature Camp

### **Advance permission needed in writing from the Bolton Conservation Commission for the following:**

- Camping
- Fires
- Memorials or Displays
- Building new trails, extensions, and modifications to existing trails
- Cutting, removing, or damaging vegetation, except for the control of invasive species
- Collecting dead or downed wood, rocks or wildlife

Any activities or uses not set forth here require the prior written permission of the Bolton Conservation Commission.

Adopted 12/21/2010

Filed with the Bolton Town Clerk 1/3/2011

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 Dogs may be walked on conservation land as long as they are under effective control of a person. People walking dogs shall remove feces from trails and all environmentally sensitive areas. Please keep dogs out of vernal pools during breeding season for frogs and salamanders (generally mid-February through April). Do not let dogs chase or harass wildlife.

