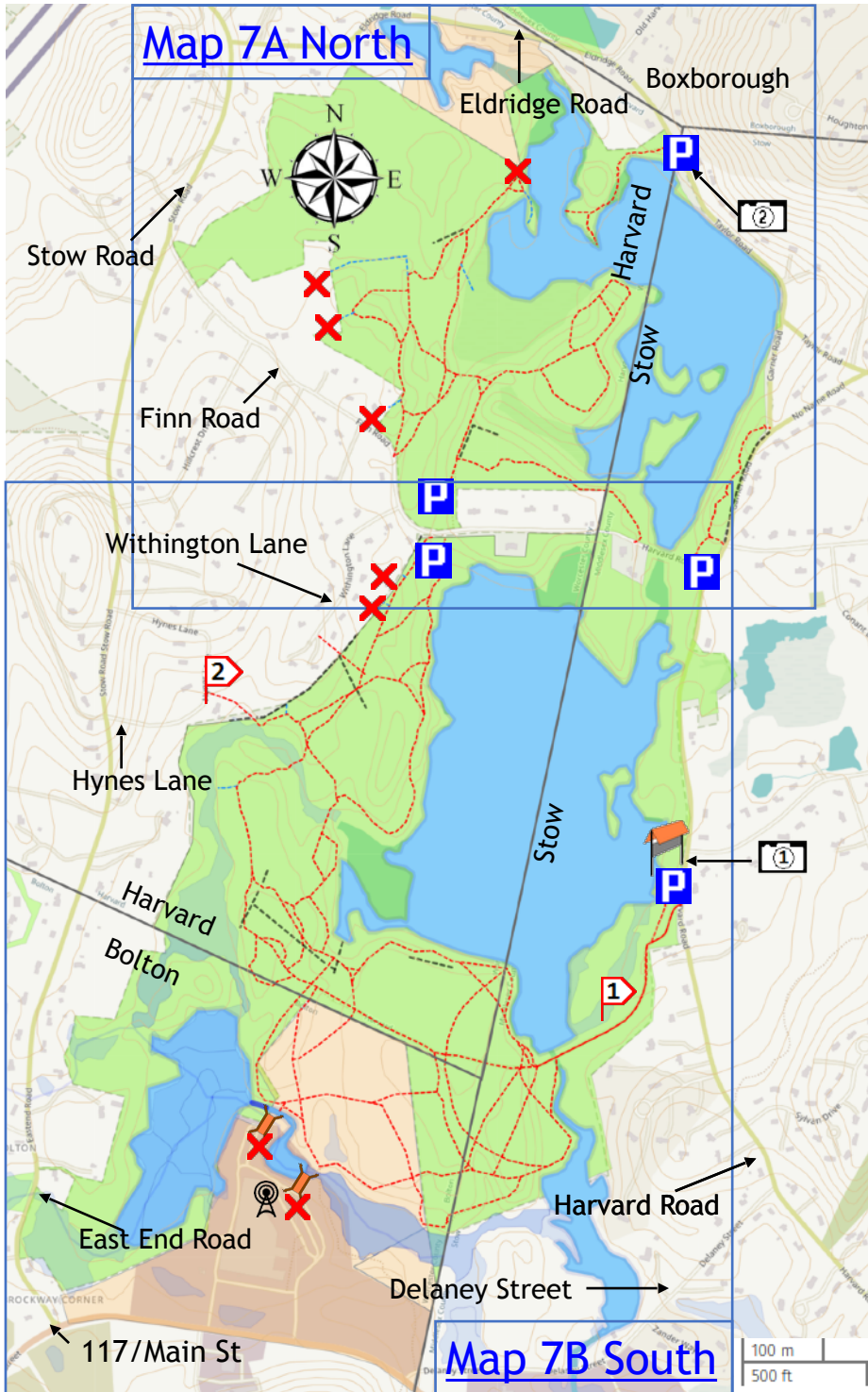


Click on a map title to jump to the detail.



### Legend:

- Private land or easement  
Please stay on trail
- Town, State or Conservation Trust Land. Please obey trail restrictions.
- Lake or Pond  
Permanent water
- Wetlands
- Primary trail
- Secondary trail
- No access
- Stone wall
- Parking
- Bridge
- Kiosk
- Communications Tower

Contour lines at 20' intervals

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**580 Acres -  
Trail Mileage 10.64**



### Regulations:

This area is under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-fisheries-and-wildlife>  
Regulations and hunting schedules are posted at the trailheads and parking lots. Check the hunting schedules before entering this area.



**Delaney Flood Control Project:** It's been predicted that in the event of a 100-year storm, the Assabet River could increase in depth by up to 12 inches if the waters feeding the Elizabeth Brook are not held back. The Delaney Flood Control Project including the 22 foot Campbell Dam **1** was established in 1968 by the US Soil Conservation Service. It was one of a number of such projects in the region that were prompted because of a series of Atlantic hurricanes in the 1950s. Other nearby examples are in Westboro and Marlboro.

**Elizabeth Brook:** This brook originates in Harvard and retains this name until it reaches Fletchers Pond in Stow where it changes to Assabet Brook. It joins the Assabet River just before it crosses the Stow-Maynard boundary.

**Delaney Wildlife Management Area:** In 1962 it was decided to combine the purposes of flood and wetlands control with wildlife management. The Delaney area straddles Bolton, Harvard and Stow town lines with 72 acres of the State-owned land in Bolton. Although the Bolton section is bounded on the west by East End Road, the land at this point is wet and cannot be crossed. Trail access on foot from Bolton is practical by using the Hynes Lane **2** connection in Harvard, or by driving to one of the parking lots.

**Activities:** The ponds and trails offer canoeing, fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. The trails lead through open fields, forest and marsh. They offer pleasant and varied walking without strenuous hill climbing. This is an excellent place for birdwatching and the Massachusetts Audubon Society lists it as "An Important Bird Area". The main ponds provide habitat for otter, fisher and many types of fish and bird species. Ospreys are frequently sighted hunting fish in late summer and fall. There are some car-top boat launch places for exploration from the water. In the Southern section there are some old horse jumps that have been used by equestrians in the past.

**Parking:** There are five parking areas. They are explained in detail on the [North](#) and [South](#) maps.

**Car Top Boat launch:** Available for both the North and South areas.

**Connections:** The Bolton Cross Town Trail North starts at the Harvard Road Parking area and boat launch. The route leads from the Delaney South area via the Hynes Lane **2** exit to the Harris Farm Trail Head of the Rattlesnake area via East End and Sugar Roads.

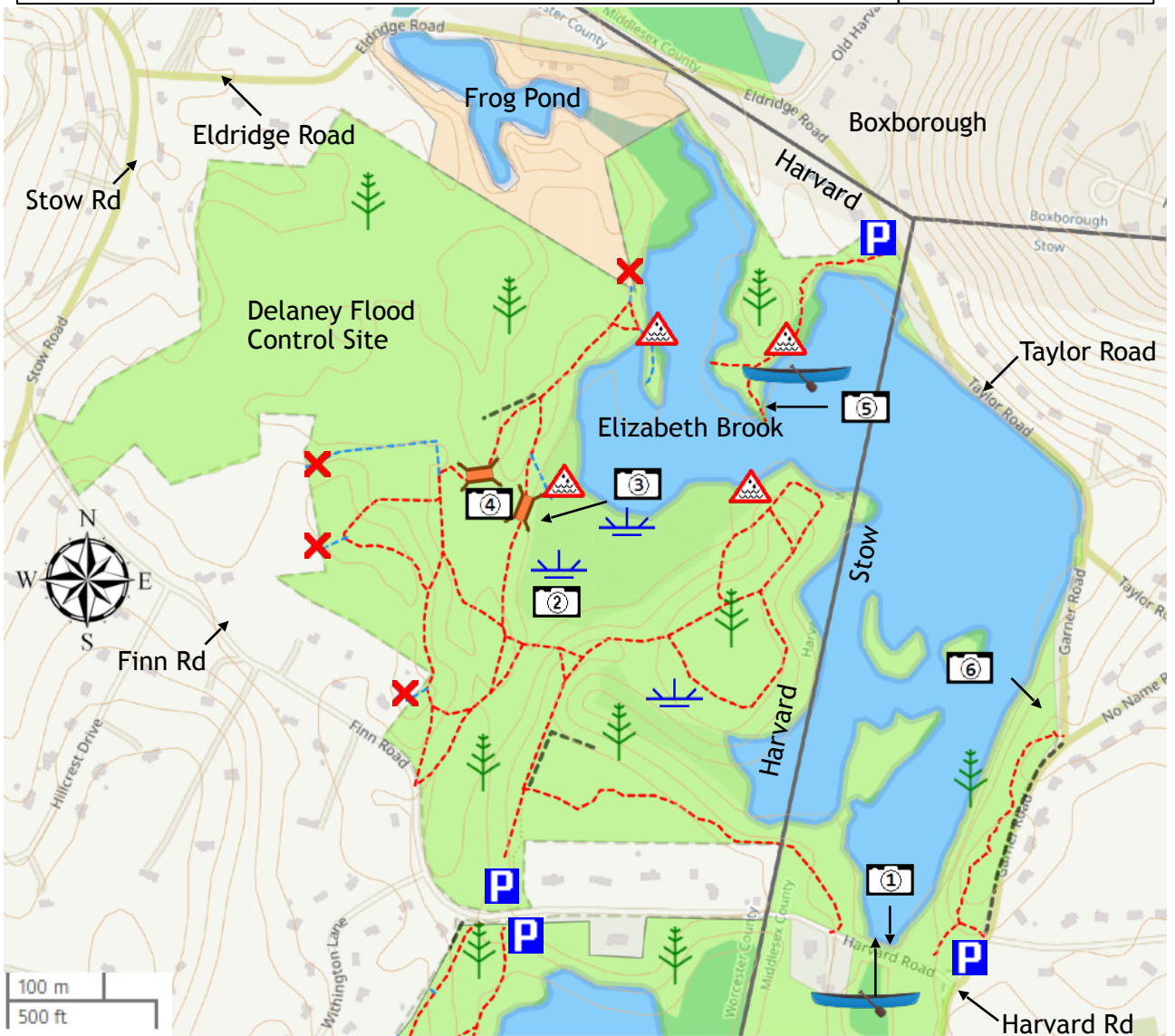


**1** The Harvard Rd Parking lot and car top boat launch.




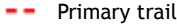



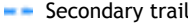




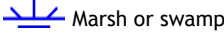





**2** The Eldridge Rd Parking lot. A short portage leads to a canoe/kayak boat launch area.





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## Legend:

 Private land or easement. Please stay on trail	 Primary trail	 Point of interest mentioned in the text	 Bridge
 Town, State or Conservation Trust Land. Please obey trail restrictions.	 Secondary trail	 Photo location	 Car top boat launch area
 Lake or Pond. Permanent water.	 No access	 Marsh or swamp	 Parking
 Swamp, wetlands or area subject to flooding.	 Stone wall	 Wooded area	 Trail susceptible to flooding

Contour lines at 20' intervals







① At the Garner Rd boat launch area



② Woodland path



③ Looking out towards Elizabeth Brook



④ Stream flowing into Elizabeth Brook

**Delaney, north of Finn Road in Harvard and Stow:** This 222 acre conservation area has over 3 miles of trails most of which are in the wooded area that can be accessed from Finn Road. Side paths lead to excellent bird watching places and quiet spots for enjoying nature. There are two other trails. One is accessed from Eldridge Road in Harvard and it leads along a peninsula out in to the pond. This is a good spot for bird watching and can be used for launching car top boats like canoes and kayaks. The second starts from a canoe launch area near the intersection of Harvard Rd and Garner Rd in Stow. This short trail meanders through the woods and parallels Garner Rd to the intersection with Noname Rd.

**Parking:** Finn Road, Harvard (either side of the Road).

42.458333, -71.549861

Eldridge Road, Harvard (Car Top Boat launch after portage).

42.466139, -71.543694

Garner Road and Harvard Road junction, Stow (Car Top Boat launch).

42.457333, -71.542944

**Suggested walks:** The terrain is generally rolling with a few small hills. Many options are available for short to medium length walks by just following the network of paths and enjoying the views of the ponds, vegetation, bird life and the small streams that flow in to the area. For a longer walk a tour of the Delaney North can be combined with a tour of Delaney South via the trailheads on Finn Rd.

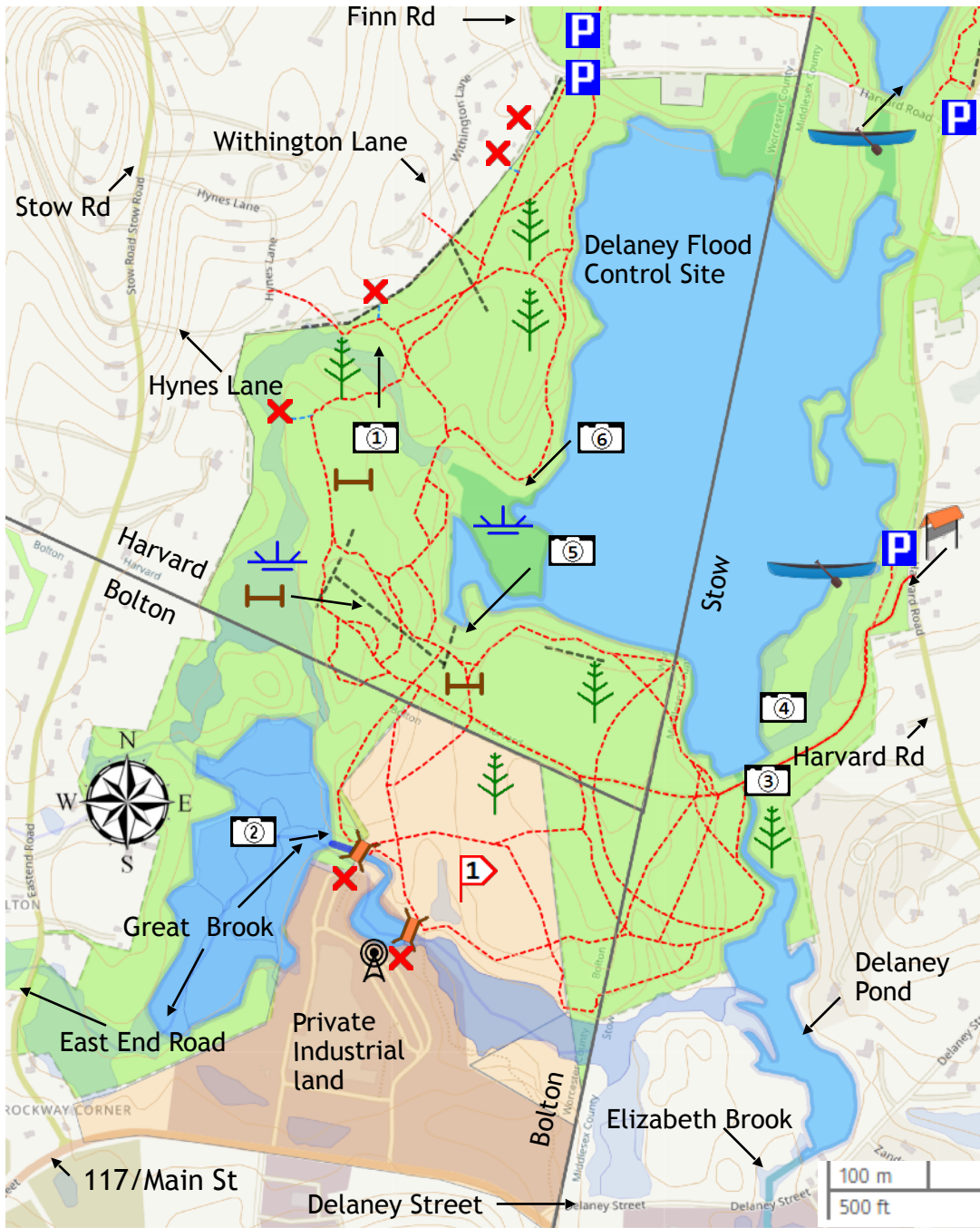


⑤ At the end of the northern peninsula



⑥ Trail head to the Garner Rd parking lot





Contour lines at 20' intervals

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### Legend:

- |   |  |                 |   |                 |
|---|--|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Private land or easement. Please stay on trail                          | Lake or Pond. Permanent water.               | Primary trail   | Parking                                 | Kiosk           |
| Town, State or Conservation Trust Land. Please obey trail restrictions. | Swamp, wetlands or area subject to flooding. | Secondary trail | Photo location                          | Bridge          |
| Wooded area   | Marsh or swamp                               | No access       | Point of interest mentioned in the text | Horse Jump area |
|   |  | Stone wall      | Car top boat launch area                | Tower           |



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**Delaney south of Finn Road in Harvard and Stow:** There are almost 7.5 miles of trails in this area of approximately 360 acres. The terrain is mostly flat with a small number of gently rolling areas. It is very varied with streams, dams, good sized ponds, woods and places for equestrians to test their skills with horse jumping. Canoeists and kayakers have plenty of space to paddle and observe the land and bird life from the water.




① Horse jump



② Rustic bridge and pond on Great Brook

**Parking:** Finn Road, Harvard (either side of the Road).  
42.458333, -71.549861  
Harvard Rd, Stow (Car Top Boat launch).  
42.450917, -71.543417

**Suggested walks:** All routes can be made as short or long as you like, but mostly you will return to your vehicle via the route you entered. The network of trails at the southern end  offer very different views to those closer to the main ponds.



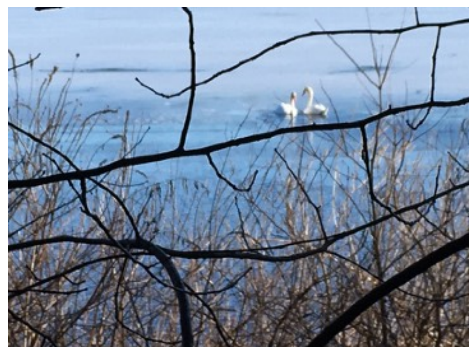
③ Delaney Pond



④ Delaney Flood Control Site



⑤ Rock field at the spillway



⑥ Swans enjoying a mild Winter day

