

## Welcome to Sewall Woods

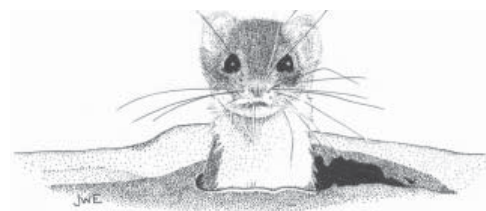
The forest is open free of charge to the public from dawn to dusk. Sewall Woods is managed for wildlife preservation; please stay on the upland trails. Help us protect what you have come to enjoy. Natural areas are delicate; foot traffic only, no camping, fires, or motorized vehicles. Respect boundary signs and adjoining private property. The preserve is also a working timber lot designed to demonstrate the compatibility of wildlife protection and sustainable wood harvest.

## Ecology of Sewall Woods

Natural features support a wide variety of wildlife.

### 1) Mixed Woods

The forest is 80% softwood. The woodlands and adjacent protected fields provide habitat for diverse wildlife including white tailed deer, red & gray squirrel, fox, coyote, pileated woodpecker, owl, grouse and small songbirds. Numerous amphibians are also native to the area.



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### 2) Fresh Water Wetland

Lowland marsh attracts birds, deer, and amphibians for forage and cover.



### 3) Fresh Water Pools

Small streams and pocket ponds are essential water sources for wildlife.

### 4) Tidal Waterfront

Whiskeag Creek is a major arm of the Lower Kennebec estuary, an important fishery, and high-value habitat for wading birds, otter, mink osprey, eagle. Many waterfowl forage for wild rice. Rare mud plants flourish on the subtidal flats. No trails follow the waterfront in order to protect the flora and fauna.

## Land Use History

**6000 BC** Abenaki people gather wild rice and fish in estuary creeks known as Whizz gigg, rapidly-running water.

**1660** Deed to Reverend Robert Gutch, first settler, for the chief part of Bath, 3800 acres running from the Kennebec to the New Meadows River between Truffant Creek and present-day Harward Street. Gutch establishes a tidal mill on Whiskeag Creek upstream of Sewall Woods.

**1775** Dummer Sewall leads 50 patriots to Kings Spar Dock at the foot of Harward St to demand British workmen suspend work, Bath's only Revolutionary War encounter.

**1783** Part of Gutch allotment goes to Simeon Turner who builds a house at King's Dock.

**1797** John Peterson's lot includes the John Tarp house, afterward the Stone House Farm.



**1812** William King erects the Stone House Farm. One of Bath's first shipbuilders, he plants 500 apple trees and acres of potatoes to supply his ships.

**1821** Mill is rebuilt on Whiskeag Creek by Samuel Rogers

**1823** William D Sewall launches the brig, *Diana*, laying the cornerstone of the shipbuilding and operating empire of the Sewall family.

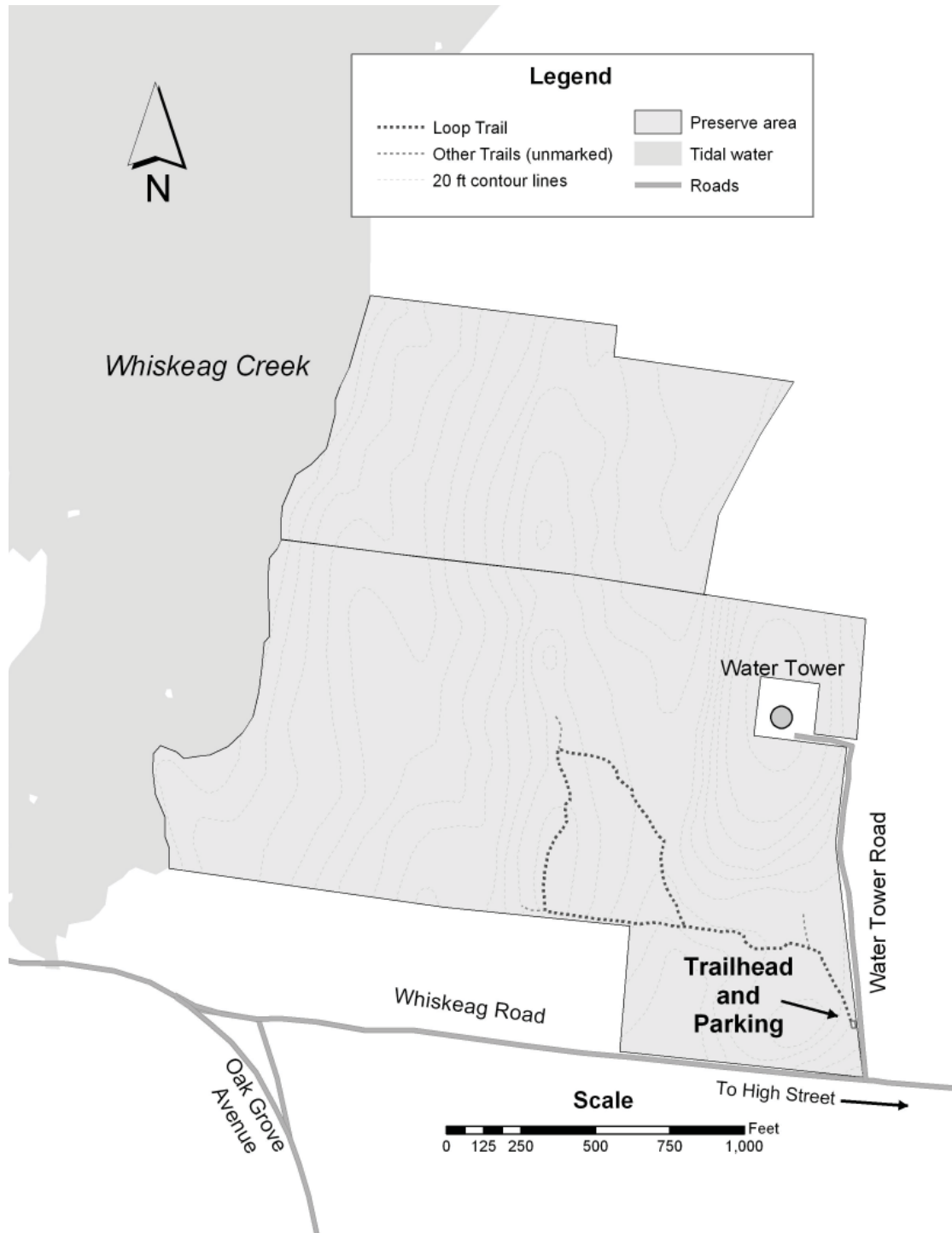
**1933** Bridge over Whiskeag Creek replaced with culvert and fill. Site is a prime elver station for fishermen. Eels are a catadromous species that inhabit the estuary for up to 40 years before departing to spawn in the Sargasso Sea.

**1979** Donor William D. Sewall takes possession of his father's property, a working dairy farm.

**2004** William D Sewall, with the encouragement of family, leaves the woodlot to LKRLT. A viewshed easement of the field west of the house is included.

**2006** Twenty-six adjacent acres are added to the preserve from the Bath Housing Authority lot.

**July 23rd, 2006** official opening celebration.



## Join LKRLT!

Please help LKRLT conserve land in the Kennebec estuary. Become a member today.

Consider a gift membership for someone who cares about our region. We welcome commemorative gifts.

We are always working to preserve the beauty and ecological health of the Lower Kennebec Region.

- Individual/gift Membership \$25
- Family/gift Membership \$50
- Life Membership \$500

Mail to LKRLT, PO Box 1128 Bath, ME 04530

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift from: \_\_\_\_\_  
(include address)

# Sewall Woods

## Trail Map

Whiskeag Road  
Bath, Maine



P.O. Box 1128  
Bath, Maine 04530  
(207) 442-8400

www.lkrlt.org  
info@lkrlt.org

*Dedicated to the preservation of open space and the natural environment of our region*