

explore Sharon

Linking history, linking nature

“A nice place to live because it’s naturally beautiful,” says a welcome sign near Post Office Square. Sharon’s natural beauty coupled with its rich history and easy access makes it a true gem. From hiking and biking trails to beautiful lakes and streams to conservation and wildlife areas, Sharon’s open spaces and historical sites have been successfully preserved for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Sharon is located halfway between Boston and Providence, Rhode Island and is easily accessible to Routes 95, 1 and 27. The MBTA’s Commuter Rail Providence/Stoughton line serves the town with a station on Depot Street.

Local fare

Ward’s Berry Farm

614 South Main Street
781-784-3600
Pick-Your-Own, farmers market, CSA, bakery, sandwiches, smoothies, hayrides.

Crescent Ridge Dairy

355 Bay Road
781-784-7237
Fresh local milk, grass-fed beef, world-famous ice cream, and seasonal farmers market.

Angel’s Café

3 Post Office Square
781-784-8184
Coffee, bakery, sandwiches, salads.

Pizzigando Cafe

1 Pond Street
781-784-8161
Pizzeria and grill.

Alice’s Mandarin Taste

37 Pond Street
781-784-7377
Szechuan and Mandarin cuisine.

Carriage House Pizzeria

21 South Main Street
781-784-2700
Pizza, subs, salads, Italian fare.

Coriander Bistro

5 Post Office Square
781-784-2300
Indian and Nepali food.



TOWN OF WALPOLE
to Francis William
Bird Park

THE TRUSTEES OF
RESERVATIONS
MOOSE HILL
FARM & TRAILS

MASS AUDUBON'S
MOOSE HILL WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY & TRAILS

27

A

BEAVER
BROOK
TRAIL

C

MASSAPOAG
TRAIL

B

HISTORIC BIKE TRAIL

TOWN OF
STOUGHTON
to Mary Baker Eddy
Historic House
and Bird Street
Conservation Area

E

LAKE
MASSAPOAG
LOOP

LAKE
MASSAPOAG

D

KING PHILIP'S
ROCK TRAIL

TOWN OF
FOXBOROUGH
to Gillette Stadium
and F. Gilbert Hills
State Forest

BORDERLAND
STATE PARK &
TRAILS

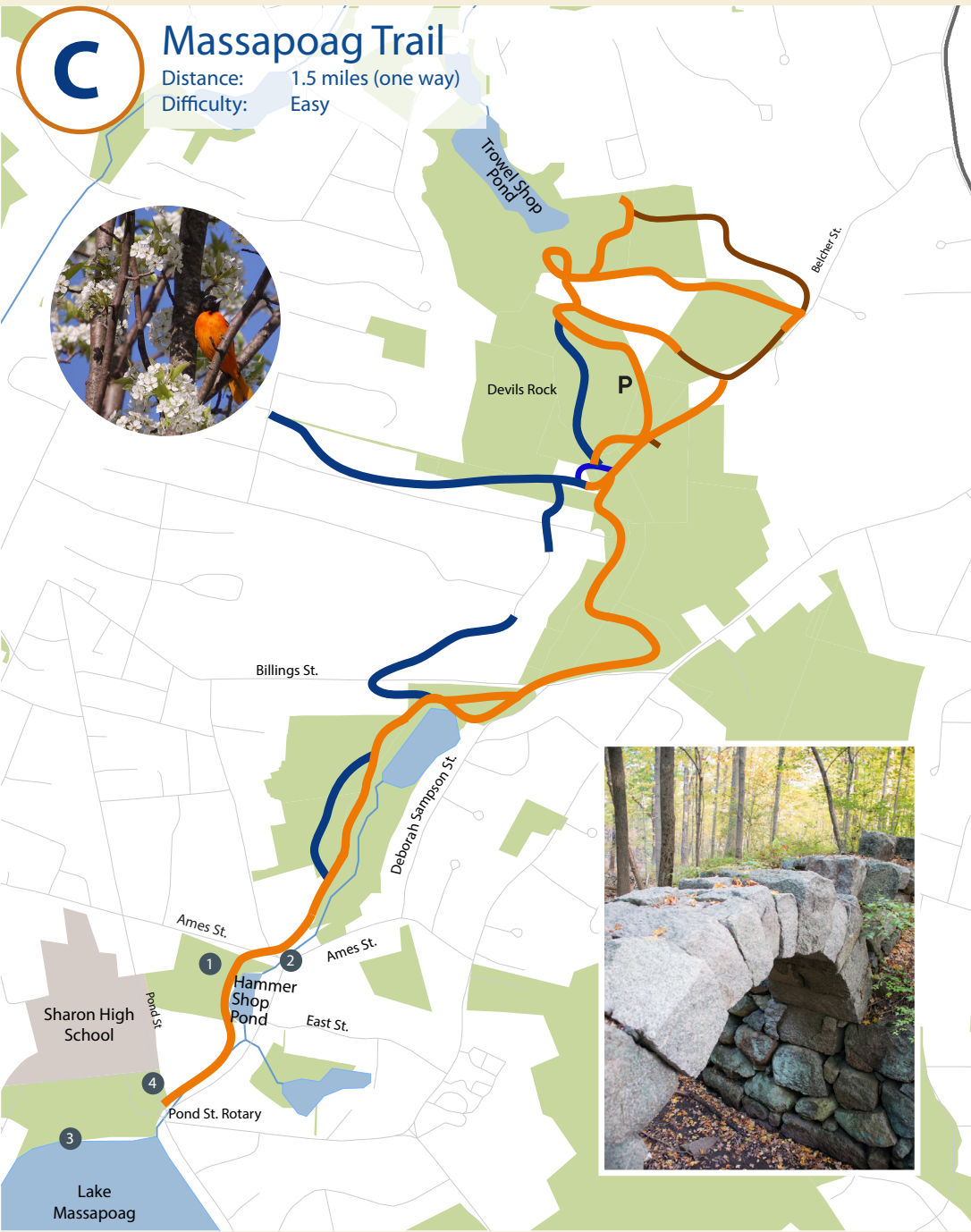
TOWN OF EASTON
to Children's Museum and
Ames Estate



Photos, clockwise from top:
American Robin eggs, Garter Snake, Ann-Marie Ford; Cobb's Tavern, Sharon Historical Society; Fire Engine, Heidi Hewey-Lane; Mann's Pond, Deer, Ann-Marie Ford; Ward's Berry Farm, Coriander Bistro, Ann-Marie Ford; Sunset over Lake Massapoag, Peter Higgins; Deborah Sampson's grave, Matt Ducke; Ward's Berry Farm, Ann-Marie Ford; Sharon sign, Heidi Hewey-Lane

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- Massapoag Trails**
- Blue Blaze
 - Orange Blaze
 - Private
- 1 Walter Griffin Playground 2 Hammer Shop Pond Dam
3 Memorial Park Beach (residents only Memorial to Labor Day)
4 Beech Tree Park



Sharon's Industrial Past: The Six Privileges

Massapoag Brook and Beaver Brook were the engines of Sharon's industries between the 18th and 19th centuries. Along Massapoag Brook were six established "privileges," which gave owners the right to construct dams and use water power to operate mills. Five of six of these privileges still exist, and vestiges of many former mills are evident today.

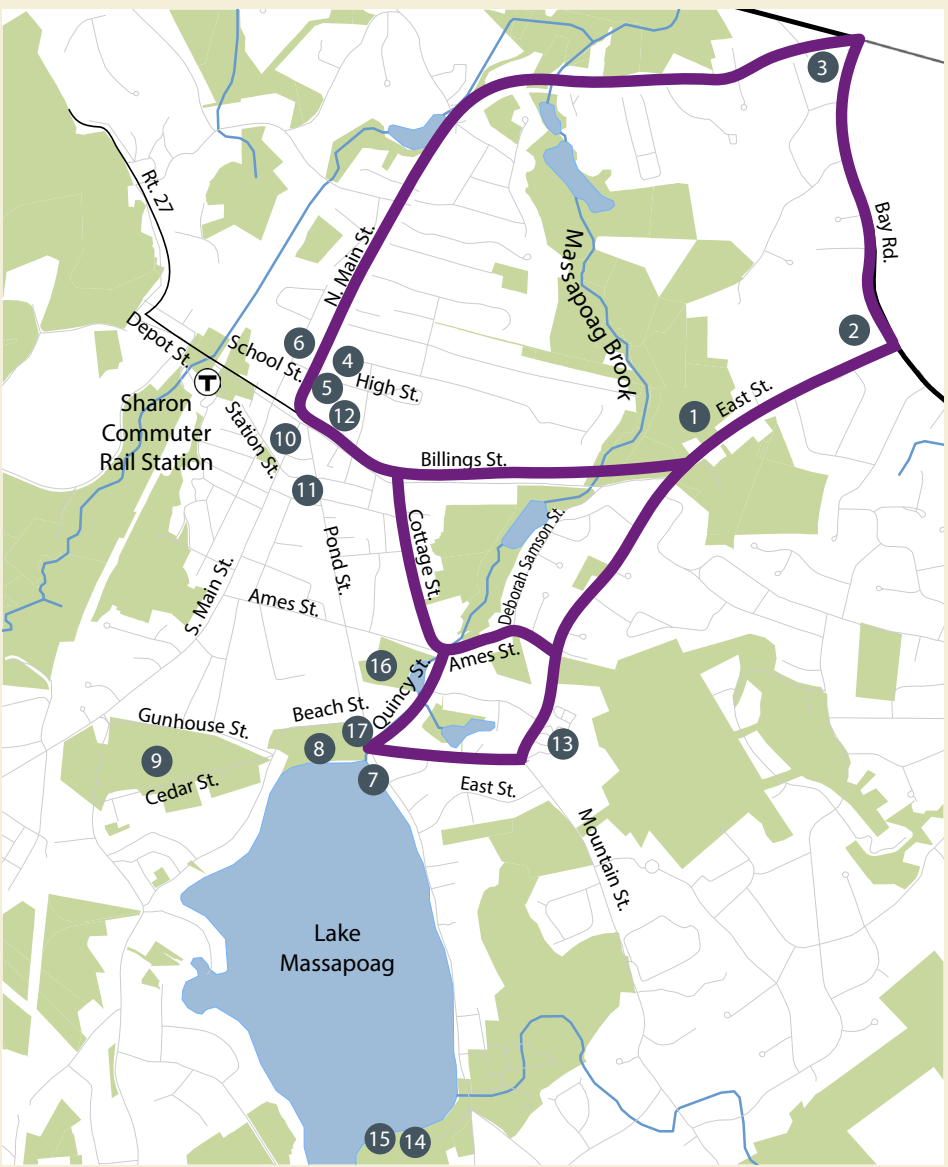
Hammer Shop Pond: Hammer Shop Pond was home to factories producing knives, farming tools, and firearms as well as saw, grist, and textile mills. The dam and spillway are still intact.

Knife Works Pond: The former site of textile mills and knife factories. Several houses on the north side of Ames Street were homes of knife factory workers.

Mann's Pond: The water rights originally belonged to Paul Revere's son, Joseph Warren Revere, who sold it to George H. Mann in 1831. The Mann family manufactured cotton duck sailcloth and delivered an average of 3,000 pounds of product a week. The mill ceased operations in 1900 due to competition from cotton mills in the South, and the building was destroyed by a fire in 1919. Several houses on Mann's Hill Road were built for workers.

Trowel Shop Pond: Remnants of past industrial activity no longer exist, but Trowel Shop Pond was the site of a cotton mill and later a knife and trowel factory – hence the name.

Although Lake Massapoag did not provide any water power, the Great Pond's bed was rich in bog ore, which was used to make household and farming tools and – most famously – cannons and cannon balls for the Revolutionary War.



Historic Bike Trail

- 1 Deborah Sampson Gannett House 2 Crescent Ridge Dairy 3 Cobbs Tavern 4 Sharon Historical Society
5 Sharon Public Library 6 Police & Fire Museum 7 Massapoag Loop Trailhead 8 Memorial Park Beach (residents only in the summer) 9 Sharon Dog Park 10 Pizzigando 11 Alice's Mandarin Taste 12 Coriander Bistro 13 Rock Ridge Cemetery 14 Sharon Community Center/Rec Dept. 15 Community Center Beach (public) 16 Walter Griffin Playground 17 Beech Tree Park

Local Distinguished People

Job Swift, elected in 1765, was one of the first Selectmen in the Town of Sharon, when it was still known as Stoughtonham. Swift was a true patriot who served as a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1774 and is often referred to as the "Paul Revere of Sharon." He was among the first responders in alarming Sharon of British military movement in April of 1778, during the first phase of the American Revolutionary War.

Job Swift's former home is located at 291 Mountain Street, which is currently a private residence and not open to the public. He is buried in Rock Ridge Cemetery.

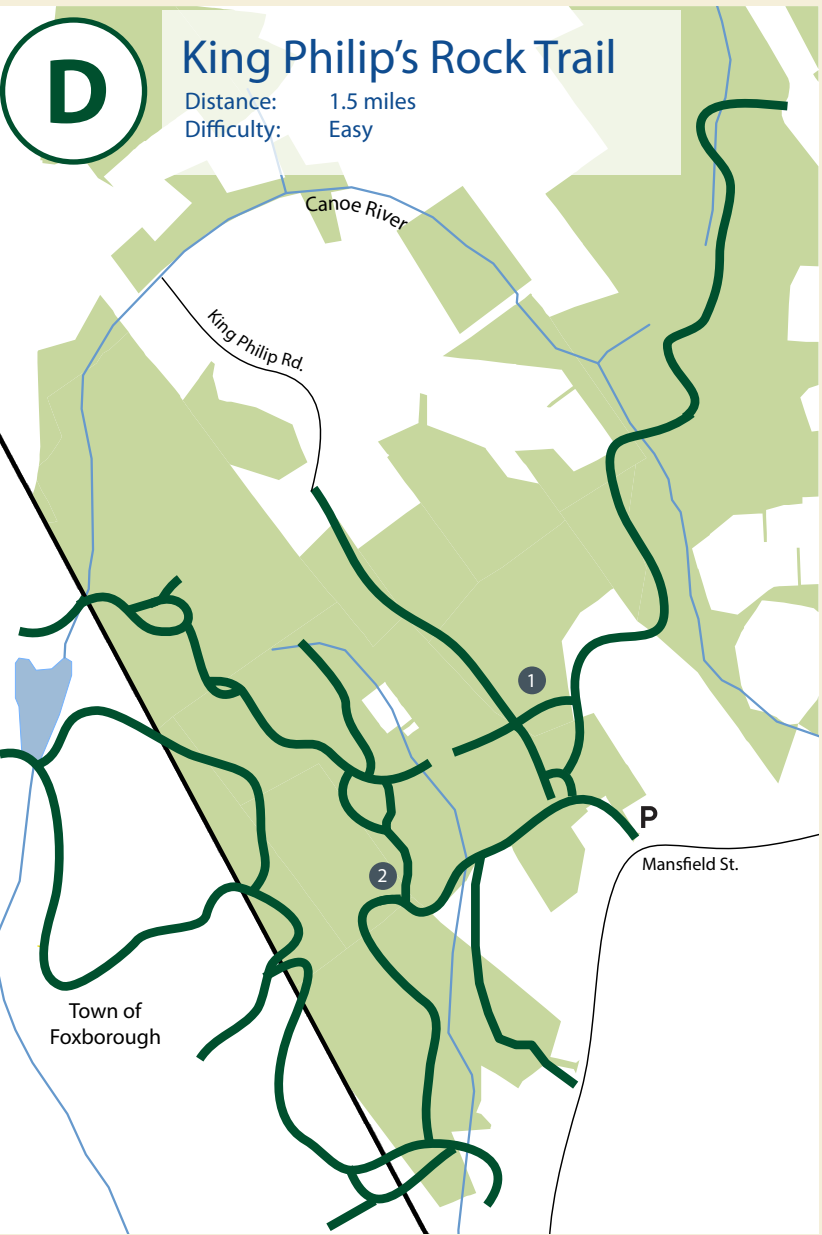
Sanford Billings was a well-known Sharon citizen who was active in local politics and a staunch advocate for education. Billings established the Stoughtonham Institute in 1861 and served as its principal for 15 years. A high school replaced the Institute in 1877, where Billings served as principal for another 14 years.

Billings was instrumental in passing state legislation that authorized towns to take ownership of books purchased by local school committees that could be loaned to children. Sharon was the first town in Massachusetts to take advantage of this act.

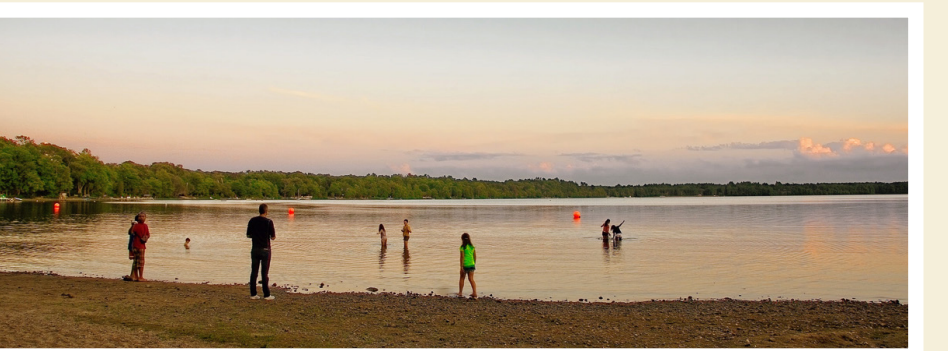
Deborah Sampson was born in Plympton, Massachusetts in 1760 and is the official Massachusetts State Heroine. She disguised herself as a man and fought in the Revolutionary War for 17 months between 1782 and 1783 with the 4th Massachusetts Regiment. Sampson was wounded during her first battle, receiving two musket balls in her thigh and a large gash on her forehead.

In the summer of 1783, Sampson fell ill in Philadelphia. She recovered in the fall, received an honorable discharge at West Point, and returned home to Massachusetts. She married Benjamin Gannett, a farmer from Sharon, the following spring.

The Deborah Sampson Gannett house at 300 East Street is where Sampson lived with her husband, Benjamin Gannett, and her three children until her death in 1872. The house and grounds are currently in use as a private residence and working farm. A commemorative statue of Sampson is erected in the front of the Sharon Public Library. Sampson is buried in Rock Ridge Cemetery.



- 1 King Philip's Rock 2 King Philip's Cave



- 1 Lake Massapoag Loop Trailhead 2 Memorial Park Beach (residents only in the summer) 3 Beech Tree Park 4 Sharon Community Center/Rec Dept. 5 Community Center Beach (public)