



Hatch Lots

The Hatch Lots are named after a group of historic wood lots created by a farmer named Samuel Hatch in the 1800s. The uplands are dominated by areas of Beech and Pine, while the swamp historically had been dominated by White Cedar, widely used for construction and roof shingles. The Loring Farm Trust sold 14 acres to the Town in 1977. At that time three other lots that were held under the Town were transferred to Conservation. The conservation land connects the neighborhoods on the corner of Grove and Prospect Streets, to the Edgewood Park neighborhood. Hornstra Farm lies to the west of the property. Several old unmaintained woodland trails lead to the edges of these fields and to the swamp. Burnt Plain Swamp, a large wetland complex spanning over a hundred acres, abuts the site to the east and contains a trail crossing to connect the Hatch Lots trails to the Simon Hill and Bowker St trails. A tributary stream runs through the Hatch Lots and connects to the Burnt Plain Swamp off site.

Trail Distances

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| H1 - 0.34 miles (Parking) | SHB1 - 0.27 miles (Parking) |
| H2 - 0.30 miles | SHB2 - 0.13 miles |
| H3 - 330 feet | SHB3 - 338 feet |
| H4 - 0.11 miles | SHB4 - 0.22 miles |
| H5 - 285 feet | SHB5 - 210 feet |
| H6 - 0.22 miles | SHB6 - 0.22 miles |
| H7 Burnt Plain Swamp Crossing - 0.26 miles | SHB7 - 470 feet |
| H8 - 0.20 miles | SHB8 - 0.25 miles |
| | SHB9 - 0.36 miles |
| | SHB10 - 0.14 miles |
| | SHB11 - 0.14 miles |

Simon Hill - Bowker

In the early days of South Scituate a Mr. George W. H. Litchfield owned a shoe shop on Norwell Avenue. When this closed the shoe makers from that area would hike their way from Bryant's corner by way of Bowker Street over Simon's Hill and on to Prospect Street. They hung their lanterns on a post in front of the Henry Main House on Prospect Street. They then would walk to Assinippi to catch the trolley to Rockland where they worked in a shoe factory located there. At night they would reverse the morning trek. It is said that all one could see were the lighted lanterns coming and going over the hill. It is also written that the "Shoemaker Trail" was considered a town road until Bowker Lane became a town road in 1870. At that time the road was extended from Main Street to Grove Street. The Shoemaker trail still exists today from the base of the hill on Bowker Street to Prospect Street. Simon Hill has many other trails on it, all of these created as trails by the Native Americans and then widened by early settlers. *Taken from "Foot Trails" contained in the Norwell Atlas by Professor William Gould Vinal.