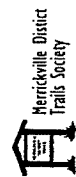
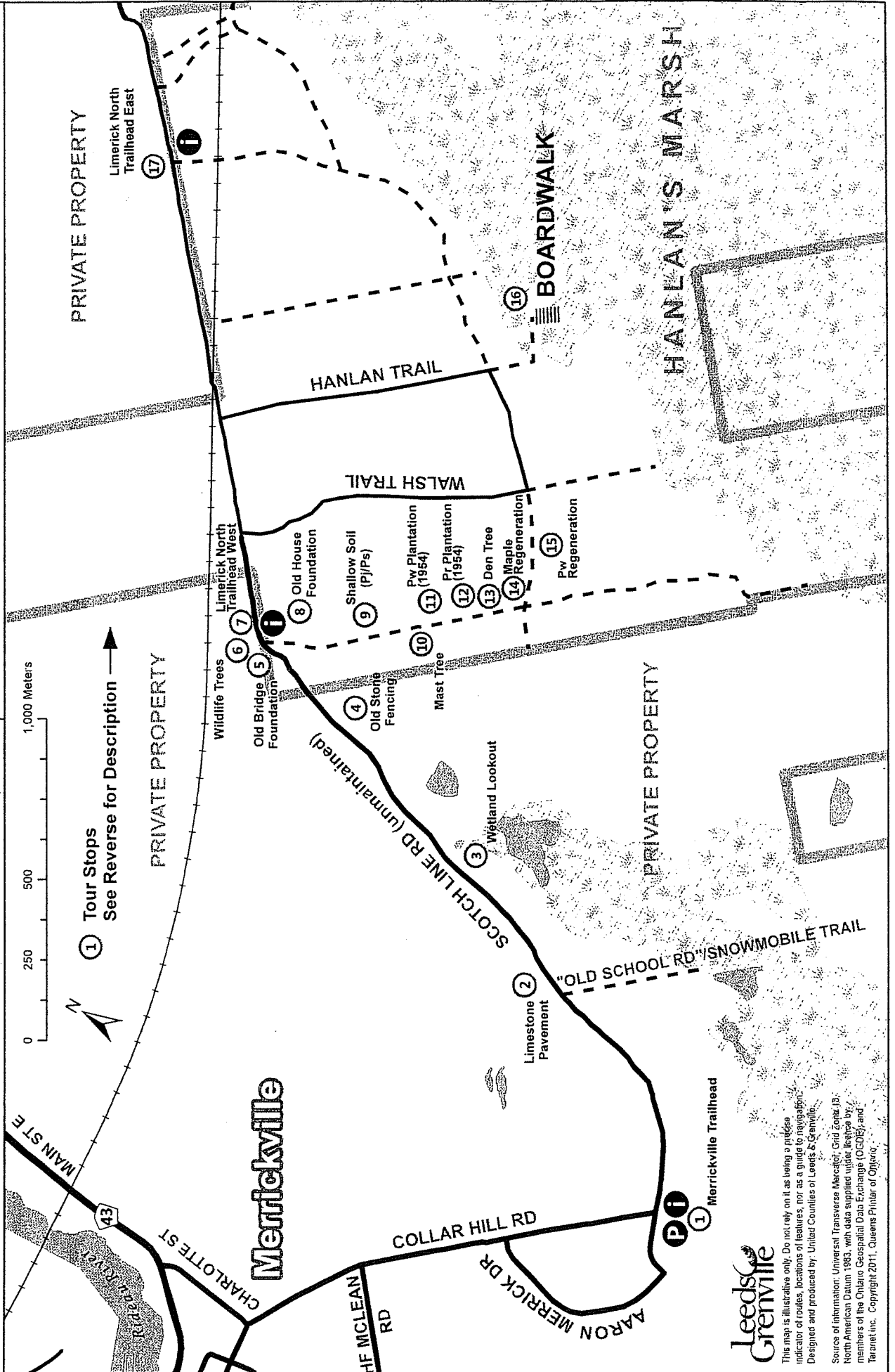


MERRICKVILLE - LIMERICK FOREST TRAIL



- County Road
- Municipal Road
- 911 Access Route
- Access Road
- Boardwalk
- Forest Trail
- Limerick Forest Boundary
- Information Kiosk
- Parking Lot



This map is illustrative only. Do not rely on it as being a precise indicator of routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation. Designed and produced by: United Counties of Leeds & Grenville.
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MERRICKVILLE – LIMERICK NORTH TRAIL

1. MERRICKVILLE TRAILHEAD (Lilac Corners)

- trail runs NE, 2.1 km to Limerick Forest

2. LIMESTONE PAVEMENT

- may be seen in many locations; one large, obvious area on Scotch Line just east of the Old Schoolhouse Rd
- the exposed rock is a natural limestone pavement, which underlies this entire area
- made out of "dolostone", a limestone with a high percentage of magnesium, it dates from 500 million years ago
- the area is wet part of the year and parched dry at other times and attracts specialized plants and animals
- poor site re nutrition – evidenced by stunted vegetation

3. WETLAND LOOKOUT

- approximately 1.2 km from trailhead; bench overlooks wetland (part of Wolford Bog)
- good evidence of changing water levels which affects local flora and fauna

4. OLD STONE & CEDAR RAIL FENCING

- good example of the old styles of fencing used by the original settlers in the area

5. OLD BRIDGE FOUNDATION

- remnants of an old bridge may be seen on north side of Scotch Line Rd, just at entrance to Limerick Forest

- water levels and directional flow have changed since this bridge was originally built

6. WILDLIFE TREES (1 on left side of Scotch Line Rd., as you enter Limerick, and the other directly across trail (east) of bench)

- these 2 large partially dead trees are refuges for many wildlife species
- rodents, invertebrates, insectivores and fungi feed on them; seasonal cavity-dwellers like birds, raccoons, bats and owls hide in them; once down, the *windfalls* may serve as *nurse logs* for other trees to grow on, or continue to decay into soil and nutrients

7. LIMERICK NORTH TRAILHEAD (West)

- NW entrance into the "Scotch Line" block of Limerick Forest; this area may also be accessed from the east via Bolton Rd.
- map kiosk built by Friends of Limerick volunteer Larry Murray; imagery supplied by United Counties of Leeds & Grenville – taken in fall of 2008
- Limerick North is comprised of 2 blocks; this one, i.e., adjacent to Scotch Line Rd and a second block directly south, accessed via Craig Rd, (west from Bolton Rd); together they total >1100 ha's
- approximately 1/3 of Lim North is planted with red, jack, Scots and white pine as well as white spruce
- limited growth potential in most of Lim North dictates that the majority of the plantations here will be managed to revert back to natural mixed wood stands

8. OLD HOUSE FOUNDATION

- the foundation of an old settlers home may be seen in the bushes just NE of the trailhead-kiosk
- this homestead is thought to have been home to the "Wiley" family

9. SHALLOW SOILS – SCOTS (Ps) & JACK (Pj) PINE PLANTATION

- the very shallow soil over limestone may be seen in this location
- Ps & Pj planted as they can survive (but not prosper) on dry, shallow sites; in an effort to stabilize and protect what little soil was on site; however the lack of growth and survival due to poor growing conditions is apparent

10. MAST TREE

- a large red oak tree growing on the west side of the trail supplies acorns to various wildlife species and as such, is called a "mast" tree
- mast trees are a valuable resource for wildlife and are left in plantations regardless of species, to help support wildlife populations & to act as seed trees for next generation of trees

11. WHITE PINE (Pw) PLANTATION

- planted in 1954; thinned a number of times to promote the growth of healthy and vigorous trees; last thinned in August 2007
- Pw planted here as the soil is deeper than area just north where Pj and Ps was planted
- the roots of Pw are able to force their way through the fractured limestone

12. RED PINE (Pr) PLANTATION

- also planted in 1954 – last thinned in August 2007
- red pine chosen as the soil depth has gradually increased, however soil moisture availability remains low

13. DEN

- an old hardwood tree died and fell in this location many years ago (east side of the trail, on edge of plantation)
- it now provides a valuable "escape" and/or sleeping "den" for various species of wildlife

14. MAPLE REGENERATION

- abundant natural regeneration of maple may be seen on edge of plantation, east side of trail
- large seed tree located on other side of trail
- natural regeneration similar to this will form the basis of the next generation of trees in Limerick North

15. WHITE PINE (Pw) REGENERATION

- abundant natural regeneration of white pine can be seen on both sides of the trail as you walk east towards the boardwalk - seed source form various Pw trees in surrounding plantations

16. BOARDWALK - WOLFORD BOG

- also known as Hanlan's Marsh or Hanlan's Bog; approx. 1500 ha in size
- is a Provincially Significant Wetland and an ANSJ (Area of Natural Scientific Interest)
- consists of 3 wetland types – 26% bog, 72% swamp, 2% marsh
- vegetation consists of many species depending on location, water levels and flow, nutrients and climate
- the boardwalk was constructed in Feb. 2010 by volunteers from the Merrickville District Trails Society, the Friends of Limerick and the 1st Merrickville Venturers; funding was provided by Action Plan Canada, Loblaw Companies Canada and the United Counties

17. LIMERICK NORTH TRAILHEAD (East)

- access to Limerick Forest North via Bolton Rd.