

TRAIL AROUND MIDDLEBURY

Whether you're in the mood for a contemplative stroll, a long, challenging run, a bike ride or an afternoon ski, the TAM has something for everyone. Check out the descriptions below, which generally follow the trail in a clockwise direction. *Which section will you explore next?*

1 Middlebury College Trails: 4.4-4.6 mi
Begin on South St. by the Middlebury College baseball fields, just north of Porter Hospital.

Follow the TAM signs west through the woods behind the Middlebury College Golf Course, occasionally emerging onto the green. The wide, graveled trail is rolling, with a few quick steep hills. Upon crossing Route 30, you enter the Colin O'Neil Class of '97 Trail, which was designed and built by senior Environmental Studies students in conjunction with MALT. This section runs downhill through a wooded area, then wends through meadows and fields, climbing a short hill and passing a cow enclosure at the top before intersecting Route 125. Across 125, a wet route and a drier route, more suitable for spring usage, split. Take the dry route to the right to pass by the Middlebury College Organic Garden and see what's growing! When the wet and dry routes converge beyond the Garden, the trail dives briefly into forest before emerging amongst cow pastures and finally intersecting Route 23.

2 Jackson Trail: 1.6 mi
Begin at the TAM parking area on the south side of Route 23, 1.3 mi north of where it intersects Route 125 in downtown Middlebury.
 Climb a stile on the north side of Route 23 and traverse a small wetland via boardwalk. Follow the trail into a small gorge through which a seasonal stream runs, and follow the stream bank north. Don't be surprised by frog belches

emitting from a pond along the way! After a mile, the trail emerges into a field before intersecting Hamilton Rd.

3 The Blue Trail: 3.8 mi
Begin at the intersection of the Blue Trail with the main TAM, 0.5 miles south of the Hamilton Rd. parking area.
 The Blue Trail, built during the summer of 2012, is an exciting new expansion of our trail system through Weybridge. Follow the trail west through a patchwork of pastures, cropland, and intermittent woodlands. After crossing James Rd., continue straight down Bittersweet Falls Rd. and look carefully for where the trail turns left back into fields. Take a detour down a side trail to check out Bittersweet Falls. After crossing Bittersweet Falls Rd., the trail follows a wide farm road, then forks off to the left, skirting fields before turning right onto a second farm road and following it north to Rt. 23, with stunning views of the surrounding farmland and the Adirondacks along the way.

4 Johnson Trail: 0.9 mi
Begin at the TAM parking area at the junction of Hamilton Rd. and Sheep Farm Rd. in Weybridge.
 Meander along the edge of a field north of Hamilton Rd, and enjoy the pond and restored wetland favored by various waterfowl, muskrats, and songbirds to the left of the trail before it enters the woods. Continue for a pleasant, easy walk through to Morgan Horse Farm Rd.

5 Otter Creek Gorge Preserve: 0.7-1.9 mi
Begin at the parking area on Morgan Horse Farm Rd, 0.2 mi north of the junction with Hamilton Rd.
 Previously, this land was the main holding of a separate land trust, whose three trustees, Willard T. Jackson, Linda O. Johnson and Steven Rockefeller, gifted the Preserve to MALT. The Preserve is an important natural heritage site that showcases Champlain Valley ecosystems. The three predominant natural communities are Valley Clayplain Forest,

Transition Hardwoods and Limestone Forest, and Bluff Cedar Pine Forest. Climb a stile by the parking area and follow a fence line-- don't be surprised if you find yourself amongst cows! The Preserve can also be accessed via a northern trail. The two routes are connected by a cross trail. Both northern and southern trails wind through woods on mostly flat terrain with a few short hills down towards Otter Creek. Look out for Red Eft newts on the path in the summer. Cross Otter Creek Gorge, or Belden Falls, on the Don and Peggy Arnold Bridge. This gorge is the site of a Green Mountain Power hydroelectric station-- visit the bridge when the dam boards are lower or the river is high and hear the water thundering over the falls beneath your feet.

6 Wright Park: 1.8 mi
Begin at the Don and Peggy Arnold Bridge. You can park in the area off Belden Falls Rd. and follow the gravel road beyond the parking lot up to the bridge.

The 150 acres that now comprises Wright Park was given to the town of Middlebury in 1982 by Willard T. Jackson in honor of his Middlebury College classmate Charles R. Wright. This park is riddled with old trails, so keep a sharp eye out for the yellow TAM signs to stay on the right track! The trail parallels Otter Creek as it flows south into Middlebury, winding through beautiful forest over gently rolling terrain. There are a few options for higher and lower trails, and take note that in the northern portion of the Park, bikes are only permitted on the eastern TAM route.

7 Chipman Hill: 2.0 mi
Begin at the Washington St. Ext. Parking.
 If you're looking for more strenuous exercise, Chipman Hill, which used to be the site of Middlebury College's downhill ski area in the 1940s and '50s, makes for a brisk hike or a challenging run; it is also a favorite mountain biking destination. Follow the trail along the edge of a field before entering the woods. Keep an eye out for yellow TAM signs on the way

up as there is a network of other trails all over the hill. Near the top, the TAM intersects with an access road; continue left to the top of the hill which is marked by the radio tower. Or at the intersection take a right, a short ways up the road is a beautiful spot to take a rest and enjoy the view east over the Green Mountains. From the summit of Chipman Hill, the TAM continues down the road, cross the gate onto Spring-side Rd.

8 Means and Battell Woods: 1.7 mi
Begin at the parking area on Seminary St. Extension.
 The trail north into Means Woods follows an old town road, then forks off to the left and winds through the woods back behind the Aurora School. When you exit the woods next to the school, follow the Peterson Terrace, a paved road, straight for 200 yards down to Washington St. Ext, where the Chipman Hill trail picks up.

Walking south from the parking area into Battell Woods, follow the TAM signs carefully to avoid getting lost on the myriad other trails the TAM intersects. If you're feeling adventurous, Battell Woods is a wonderful place to explore. Can you find the log teepee? A higher, dry route suitable for spring walks diverges briefly from the original TAM trail, but the two converge shortly thereafter and eventually leave the forest, descending into farmland once owned by the Sabourin family. Follow the TAM signs along the edge of a field down to Route 7.

9 Jeffrey Murdock Nature Preserve: 0.5-0.7 mi
Begin on Route 7 across from G. Stone Motors.

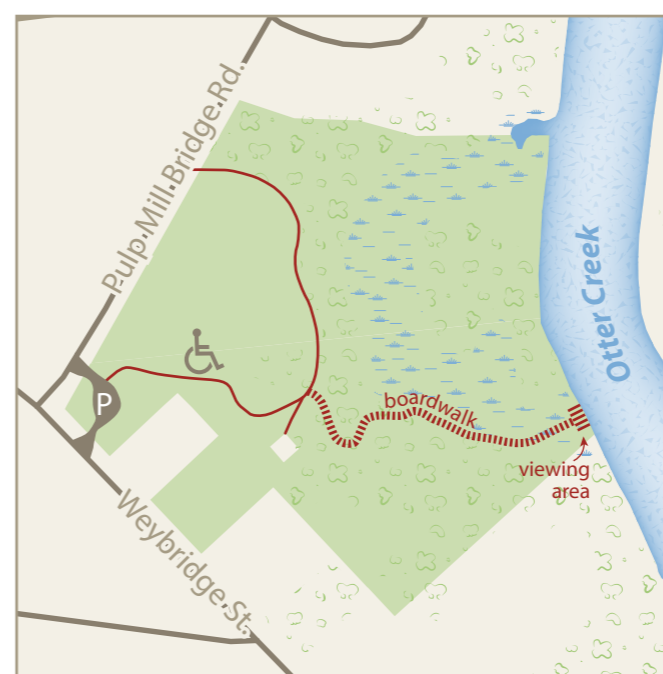
This short segment links Route 7 to Middlebury Union Middle School on Middle Rd. There are options for a direct route to the school, as well as a longer loop that goes deeper into the 16-acre Preserve. Explore a small cave at the northern end of the Preserve and a dedication plaque near a rock outcrop; notice the huge, old oaks and hickories throughout these woodlands. The trail approaches the school from behind, skirting the playing field and cutting through the parking lot to Middle Rd.

Boathouse Bridge: 0.9 mi
 Just north of the middle school on Middle Rd, the trail cuts west across a network of boardwalks through wetlands alive with frogs. After crossing Creek Rd, you enter onto Middlebury College land on a trail bordered by playing fields on one side and Otter Creek on the other. The trail crosses the creek on the Boathouse Bridge, passing the site of the former Middlebury College boathouse. The trail crosses railroad tracks and winds behind another set of playing fields before reaching South St.

Winter Uses of the TAM
 Much of the TAM is perfect for a winter excursion via cross-country skis or snowshoes. In **Wright Park** you will likely see many types of tracks such as rabbit and grouse, and possibly evidence of beaver activity. The section of the TAM around the **Middlebury College golf course** is ideal for cross-country skiing and is well-used in the winter. Please stay on the marked trail and do not ski onto the golf course itself. Because it goes past a pond that attracts wildlife, the **Johnson Trail** makes a good short outing through a pleasant realm of open fields and woods.

OTTER VIEW PARK

Inset from reverse



Since 2006, Otter View Park has been maintained as a public park that provides recreational and educational opportunities for the community, as well as protects and enhances the valuable natural resources existing on the property. Come explore the park's universally accessible paths to enjoy wildlife observation and some especially spectacular bird watching.

WELCOME TO THE TRAIL AROUND MIDDLEBURY!

The TAM is a project of the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT). This 18-mile path, marked with yellow signs, encircles the village of Middlebury and links several hundred acres of town land and conserved properties, as well as schools and other local landmarks.

The trail is open year-round to area residents and visitors alike. The TAM's continuing success is owed greatly to the generous permission of private landowners whose property the trail crosses. Please stay on the trail and treat the land with care.

Call the MALT office at (802) 388-1007 with questions, comments, or a heads-up if you find obstructions in the trail.

Rules of the Trail

- Bring food and plenty of water for extended hikes
- Wear clothing and footwear appropriate to the season and your activity
- Wear bright colors if walking along a road
- Choose a route that is within your ability
- Let someone know your plans and stick to them
- Lock your car at the trailhead and keep valuables out of sight
- Keep dogs under restraint at all times and avoid taking them on cross-country ski trails
- Pack out what you pack in and leave what you find
- Respect the land and wildlife; be considerate of other trail users
- Avoid using the TAM when it's excessively wet, which damages the trails

Biking on the TAM

We only manage certain sections of the TAM for mountain bike usage; other sections are susceptible to damage if used by Mountain bikers, so please bike only on trails specifically marked as bike-accessible.

See you on the trail!

Many Thanks to our Local Sponsors!



Fraga & Lilja
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MIDDLEBURY MOUNTAINEER

DOWNTOWN MIDDLEBURY

Sponsors and MALT office



Middlebury Area Land Trust

A project of the



GUIDE

&

MAP

Map Notes & Info

Maps available at

Town of Middlebury Recreation Department Office, Addison County Chamber of Commerce, Ilsley Public Library, The Bike Center, Skihaus, Forth N Goal Sports, and the MALT office.



Addison County Transit Resources

Use ACTR to get to the TAM! Conveniently located stops are shown on the map. Hike point to point and don't worry about backtracking to your car. For more information and a full list of stops, visit www.actr-vt.org or call (802)-388-ACTR.

Disclaimer

THIS MAP IS INTENDED AS A GUIDE ONLY. ANY USER OF THE MAP BEARS RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS OR HER OWN SAFETY. LIKE MANY OTHER SPORTS, HIKING, SNOWSHOEING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING, AND TRAIL RUNNING HAVE INHERENT RISKS, AND THE MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST, INC. IN NO WAY GUARANTEES THE SAFETY OR FITNESS OF THE TRAILS FOR THESE OR OTHER USES. EVERY TRAIL USER MUST BE PREPARED TO MAKE HIS OR HER OWN ASSESSMENT OF TRAIL AND WEATHER CONDITIONS AND WHETHER HIS OR HER OWN ABILITY AND THAT OF HIS OR HER COMPANIONS WARRANTS USE OF THE TRAIL.

Geographic Information

Datum: North American Datum (NAD) 1983
 Projection: Vermont State Plane

Data Credits

Land Cover: National Land Cover Dataset
 Roads: State of Vermont E911 Board
 Property boundaries: compiled by MALT and Middlebury College
 Hydrologic data: Vermont Center for Geographic Information
 TAM and other trail data: compiled by Emma Loizeaux
 Data processing, design and layout: Emma Loizeaux & Melake Getabecha

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Cartography by: Emma Loizeaux and Melake Getabecha

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Thank you!

Visit us at www.middlebury.org or get in touch via phone at (802) 388-1007 or email at info@maltvt.org and let us know how you can help support our programs!

- Educational programs
- Office support/meetings
- Special events
- Serving on a MALT committee
- Membership development
- Monitoring conservation easements
- Trail work
- Opportunities include
- Volunteer
- Sponsorship of land conservation efforts
- Invitations to MALT membership events
- Assistance with land conservation
- Subscription to newsletters
- Benefits include

Become a Member

SUPPORT MALT!

The Middlebury Area Land Trust is a member-supported non-profit conservation organization formed in 1987. Our mission is to conserve, promote, and manage land as natural, open, and working landscapes in Addison County. MALT also provides and supports recreational, educational and cultural opportunities for the community. MALT has helped conserve more than 2,600 acres in Middlebury and the surrounding communities.

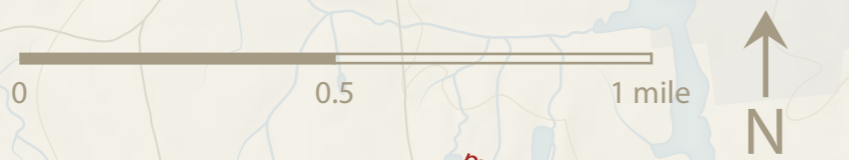
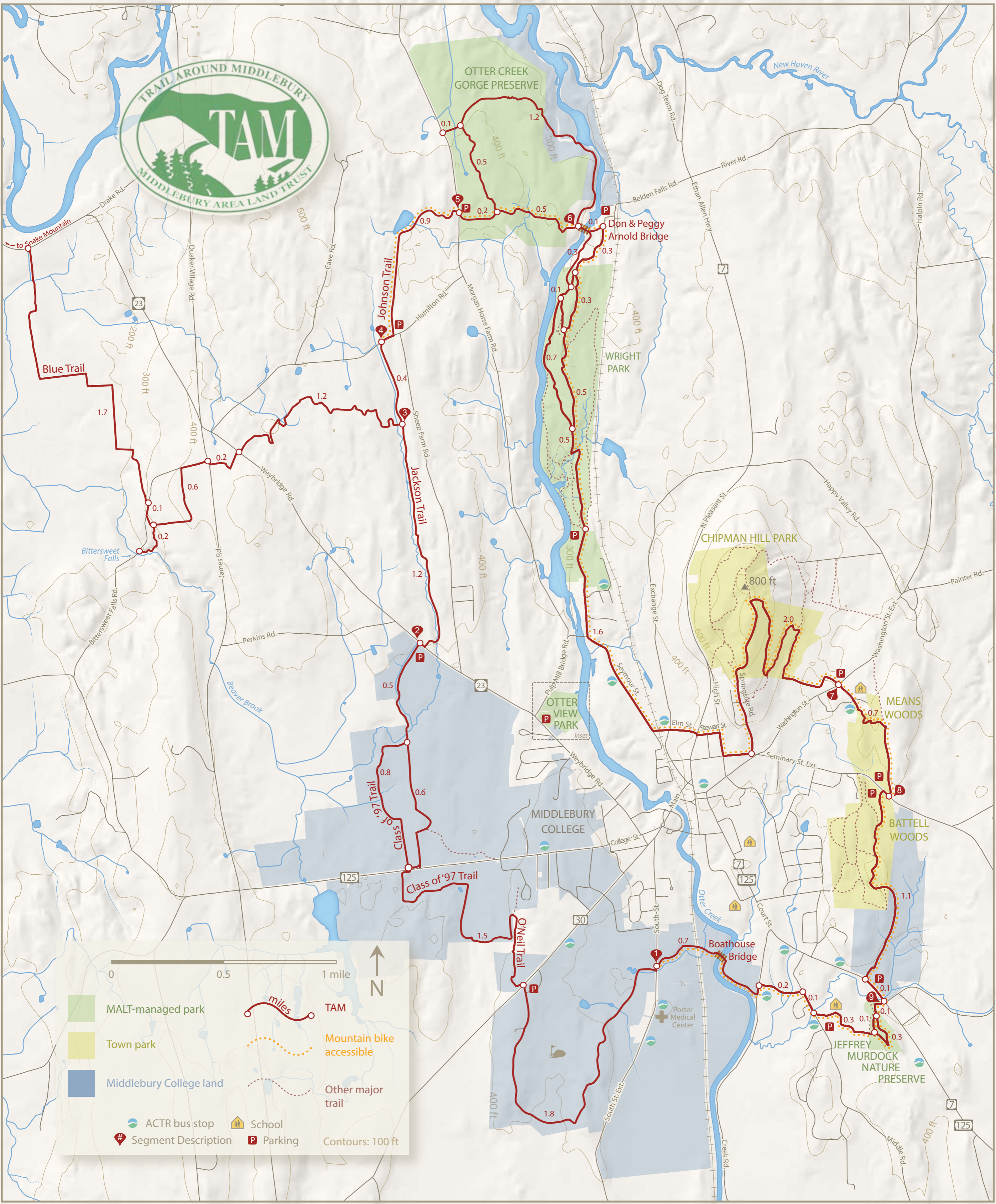
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MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST





	MALT-managed park		TAM
	Town park		Mountain bike accessible
	Middlebury College land		Other major trail
	ACTR bus stop		School
	Segment Description		Parking
Contours: 100 ft			