

North Brook Hike



Length: a little over 1 mile

Map: NY-NJ Trail Conference *North Jersey Trails Map # 115*

Highlights

This hike is a great first hike for new campers at Camp. It is only slightly more than a mile while showing the hikers a natural area along one of the brooks that feed Lake Vreeland as well as several historic sites in Camp. On the hike you will loop through Camp seeing most of the primary areas of Camp on a comfortable short hike.

Trail Description

0.00 mi. The hike starts at the foot of the ramp leading up to the dam and dining hall from the parking lot. The hike starts at the trailhead of the Old Guard Trail. It is marked with two trail blazes over a single blaze, all of them are Green Tulip Leaf on White metal markers, this is the marker used as blazes on the Old Guard Trail.

0.01 mi. Near the top of the ramp, off to the left in the undergrowth you will see the original site of the Mother's Pavilion, HT 8.

0.03 mi. At the top of the ramp is the Dining Hall, HT 7, which was rebuilt in 1968 after a fire destroyed the original Dining Hall built back in 1926.

0.05 mi. On the left you will pass the Old Guard Campfire Ring, HT 28, site of many Camp ceremonies over the years since the founding of Camp.

0.08 mi. On the right is a trail up the hill to Mothercroft and the Old Guard Cabin. These buildings are two of the three oldest general use buildings in Camp, HT 6.

0.09 mi. Just slightly further along the trail is the third, the Library, also called Uncle's Cabin in honor of Frank Gray who was the namesake of Camp Glen Gray, he lived his final summers in the Library. On the lake side of the road in front of the Library is the starting point of the Camp Interpretative Trail.

0.14 mi. The Old Guard Trail leaves the camp road by turning to the left and entering the woods, continue to follow the Green Tulip Leaf on White blazes. The turn in the trail is shown with two blazes with the upper blaze leaning in the direction of the coming turn.

0.16 mi. As you follow the trail into the woods you will pass Hemlock Chapel, HT 27, on a point extending into Lake Vreeland with its namesake stand of hemlock trees. The trail turns right at the Hemlock Chapel, continue to follow the Green Tulip Leaf on White blazes.

0.18 mi. On the left is the footbridge over to the North Brook campsite, the trail turns slightly to the right, continue to follow the Green Tulip leaf on White blazes of the Old Guard Trail.

0.24 mi. You will now cross a camp road with the West Well to your left and the main camp road to the right, continue to follow the Old Guard Trail by following the Green Tulip Leaf on White blazes.

0.32 mi. Shortly you will pass the Troop 2 Verona Cabin on the right, just follow around the cabin by following the Green Tulip Leaf on White blazes of the Old Guard Trail.

0.37 mi. The Troop 5 Verona Cabin is the building you can see on the other side of the road.

0.39 mi. Across the road to your right is the Channel Cabin, named for the donor of most of the materials to build the cabin, Channel Stores was a now defunct home improvement chain.

0.52 mi. You now come to an intersection with the Schuber trail with its Orange blazes. You want to now follow the Schuber Trail's Orange Blazes by turning left across the bridge. The cabin just ahead to the right up the hill is Tindall Lodge. The stream you are crossing is North Brook which feeds Lake Vreeland.

0.54 mi. You will now be passing through the area that in 1810 was the Sanders family farm, HT 30.

0.62 mi. As you follow the Schuber Trail down the hill the Orange Blazes will curve around to the right.

0.66 mi. You will pass around a campsite named for Augie Schroeder, a Glen Gray camper who lost his life fighting for the USA in the Persian Gulf conflict.

0.70 mi. As you leave the campsite area the Schuber Trail rejoins the camp road.

0.75 mi. As you walk up the hill on the right is the John McMullen Field. This site is named for a long time supporter of Camp, starting as a camper over 60 years ago. The site is used as a campsite as well as the Camp archery range during special events.

0.82 mi. The trail crosses a bridge over West Brook that is another of the primary streams feeding Lake Vreeland. As you cross the bridge the camp road crossing the trail leads past the Bobcat Hollow campsite to the left and to your right is the Hawk Ridge campsite. Just continue straight ahead by following the Orange blazes of the Schuber Trail.

0.85 mi. On the left is the Price Cabin, HT 5. The cabin is on the site of the family home of the Post family.

0.92 mi. As you follow the road and the Orange blazes of the Schuber Trail you will pass between the two sides of the Stag Run campsite.

0.97 mi. On your right is the camp road that leads up to the Ramapo campsite. The trail that leads up to Matapan Rock also follows this road on the way out of Camp.

1.01 mi. The road crossing the trail at this point leads to the Gilwell campsite to the left and the Benedict Lodge on the right, just continue to follow the Orange blazes of the Schuber Trail down the hill.

1.06 mi. On the left is the Camp Amphitheater, HT 31. This area is the larger meeting place for campfires and other Camp-wide activities. The seating area holds 200 people which makes for a really big campfire. The Camp Interpretative Trail ends at the entrance to the Camp Amphitheater.

1.08 mi. Just past the entrance to the Camp Amphitheater you will cross the pipes that carry the South Brook in from your right on its way to Lake Vreeland.

1.10 mi. The open pavilion on the left is the Mother's Pavilion, HT 16. The floor contains the original compass rose from the Mother's Pavilion when it was below the dam near the parking lot. During a required re-construction of the dam the Mother's Pavilion had to be moved. Troop 1 from North Caldwell moved the compass rose here and re-built the pavilion dedicating it to Nancy Gasser's memory, a Boy Scout Leader from North Caldwell.

1.12 mi. Just past the Mother's Pavilion the Schuber Trail turns right when it joins the Millstone Trail. This turn takes the trails up to the top of Millstone Hill and over to Camp Tamarack, HT 19, and Skyline Drive. The cabin just up the trail is the Explorer Cabin, HT 32. However you want to continue walking straight ahead by now following the White blazes of the Millstone Trail and following along around the south side of Lake Vreeland.

1.13 mi. The Waterfront area is on both sides of the trail, the Camp boathouse is on the right and the access to the lake is on the left. If there is no Camp staff present when you are hiking please don't enter the Waterfront.

1.19 mi. The trail rises up a hill to a pretty view of the waterfront and Lake Vreeland on the left. On the right are the sites of two historic campsites from the early days of Camp, Upper and Lower Bluntville, HT 33. They are named for Robert Blunt, a former Scoutmaster from Cedar Grove who also served as Camp Director in the 1920's.

1.26 mi. The cabin on your left is the Rotary Cabin, HT 9, this building has been used as the Camp Hospital and Trading Post over the years, it is now a comfortable cabin that sleeps twelve campers. To your right is the historic Pattigumpus campsite that is now used as a campfire area for the campers using the Rotary Cabin.

1.31 mi. At the foot of the hill the Millstone Trail ends with three White blazes in the ending trailhead convention marking of a single blaze over two blazes. This is the end of the Millstone Trail and also the North Brook Hike.

The Hiking the Glen Project is the latest effort to encourage hiking in the Ramapo Greenway. The author gratefully acknowledges the efforts of the many Boy Scouts, their leaders and others who over past years have developed and maintained earlier versions of these sheets. While using the existing material the author remains completely responsible for this version. Further information about the Hiking the Glen Project is contained on the Hiking the Glen sheet that should be reviewed by all users for details about the specific hiking sheets.

The trails on these sheets are part of the North Jersey Trails network designed, developed and maintained by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. The trails are subject to changes at the discretion of the Trail Conference and its land management partners. The mileage references used on these sheets are approximate and are based on GPS readings from actual hikes of the route, your GPS readings as well as measured map distances will vary. Further information about the trail network is contained on Trail Map # 115 of the *North Jersey Trails* map set. The complete map set can be obtained at the Camp Glen Gray HQs or directly from the Trail Conference. Additional information about the Trail Conference is available at www.NyNJtc.org.

Camp Glen Gray is a weekend camping facility and as such the camp parking area is not available for use as a day hiking trailhead. The trails in the Ramapo Greenway area, including those described on this sheet, can be accessed for day hiking from trailhead parking areas on nearby public roads, the three closest to Camp Glen Gray are on Skyline Drive and Ramapo Valley Road/Route 202, details are on Trail Map # 115 of the *North Jersey Trails* map set.

© 2009-2011 by A.Y. Bentley, Jr. for The Old Guard of Glen Gray, all rights reserved. To make comments about this Hiking Sheet please use the Hiking Feedback Sheet available either in the Camp Glen Gray HQs or online at www.GlenGray.org or send your comments to info@HikingTheGlen.org. REVIEW February 11, 2011 nb-2