

## Fieldstone

**Summary:** A moderately easy, forested loop in a quiet corner of Stow. The trail features several huge trees veiled by immature second growth. The main challenge on this half-hour route is the trail's uneven footing.

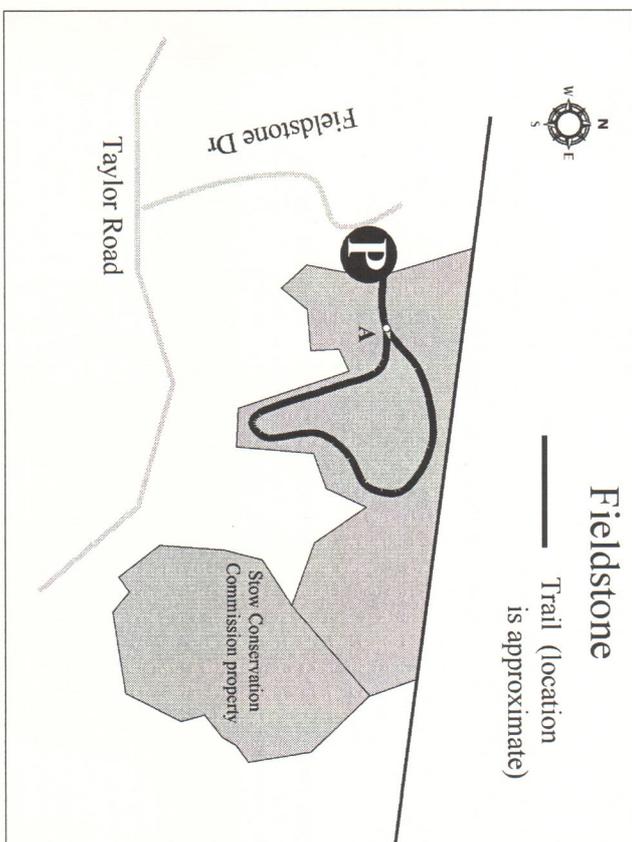
**Trailhead Location:** From the junction of Taylor Road and Boxborough Road, head northwest on Taylor about 2 miles, then turn right onto Fieldstone Drive. A grassy area 0.2 miles up on the right has space for 2-3 cars.

**History:** The Stow Conservation Trust purchased Fieldstone from Charlie Lord. Four 5-acre house lots were sold by the Trust to individuals to fund the Trust's purchase, and the remaining approximately 50 acres became the Fieldstone Property.

**Suggested Route:** Head east into the woods from the parking area, passing between two private yards. Continue straight, across a deeply worn wide track, now overgrown. At a trail junction, just past a stone fence (junction A on map) continue straight.

Bear left at an apparent Y-junction (the trail to the right quickly dead-ends) and continue downhill. You'll pass by a huge pine closely surrounded by less mature second-growth. The trail grows briefly steeper, then levels and begins a long wide curve to the right. The trail drops further downhill before beginning a rolling ascent past a private home to the left. Continue to bear right, away from the house and the road beyond, to stay on the trail.

The trail curves around a huge old oak and crosses a fallen stone fence. A more well-defined fence soon parallels the trail to the left as you return to A. Turn left at the junction, through the gap in the stone fence, and return downhill to the parking area.



I have need of the sky,  
I have business with the grass,  
I will up and get me away where the hawk is wheeling  
Lone and high,  
And the slow clouds go by,  
I will bet me away to the waters that glass  
The clouds as they pass,  
I will bet me away to the woods.

*I have Need of the Sky* – Richard Hovey (1864-1900)