

# Friendship Hill

National Historic Site  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Trail Map



## The Friendship Hill National Recreation Trail

### Welcome!

The trails at Friendship Hill offer a glimpse of the natural world on the Allegheny Plateau. Through the two centuries since Albert Gallatin first settled here, the land has seen many owners. When Albert Gallatin first came to this area in 1784, the Monongahela River effectively marked the far edge of the American frontier. Gallatin believed the rich land of the Western Country held the key to his wealth. Farming, logging, mining and the development of transportation have all left their imprint here. Now the land is being managed to evolve into the woods and meadows similar to those Gallatin knew so well.

You are invited to explore the park's trails. Stay on marked trails and watch for the trail markers at important intersections. The trails have steep and slippery spots; please use caution, especially with children along. This is a natural and historic area, set aside for this and future generations. Please use it thoughtfully.

### Main Loop Trail Description

The *Main Loop (Green) Trail* begins and ends near the Gallatin House and main parking lot. Walking south from the house, the trail passes the grave of Gallatin's first wife, Sophia. It continues through a grove of trees reminiscent of the climax forest Gallatin would have known. Approximately ½ mile farther, the trail descends the bluff on a series of steep switchbacks; the *South Run Waterfall* is on the left mid-way down. At the base of the bluff the trail follows an old farm road, crossing *Rhododendron Run* which drains the valley below Sophia's grave. Two waterfalls are visible from the bridge. Farther along the trail large boulders have tumbled down the bluff, covering the old road. This is part of the slow but steady erosion process of the river. Nearby is a small circular brick structure built into the side of the river bank, which was used as a gauge for water depth at one time.

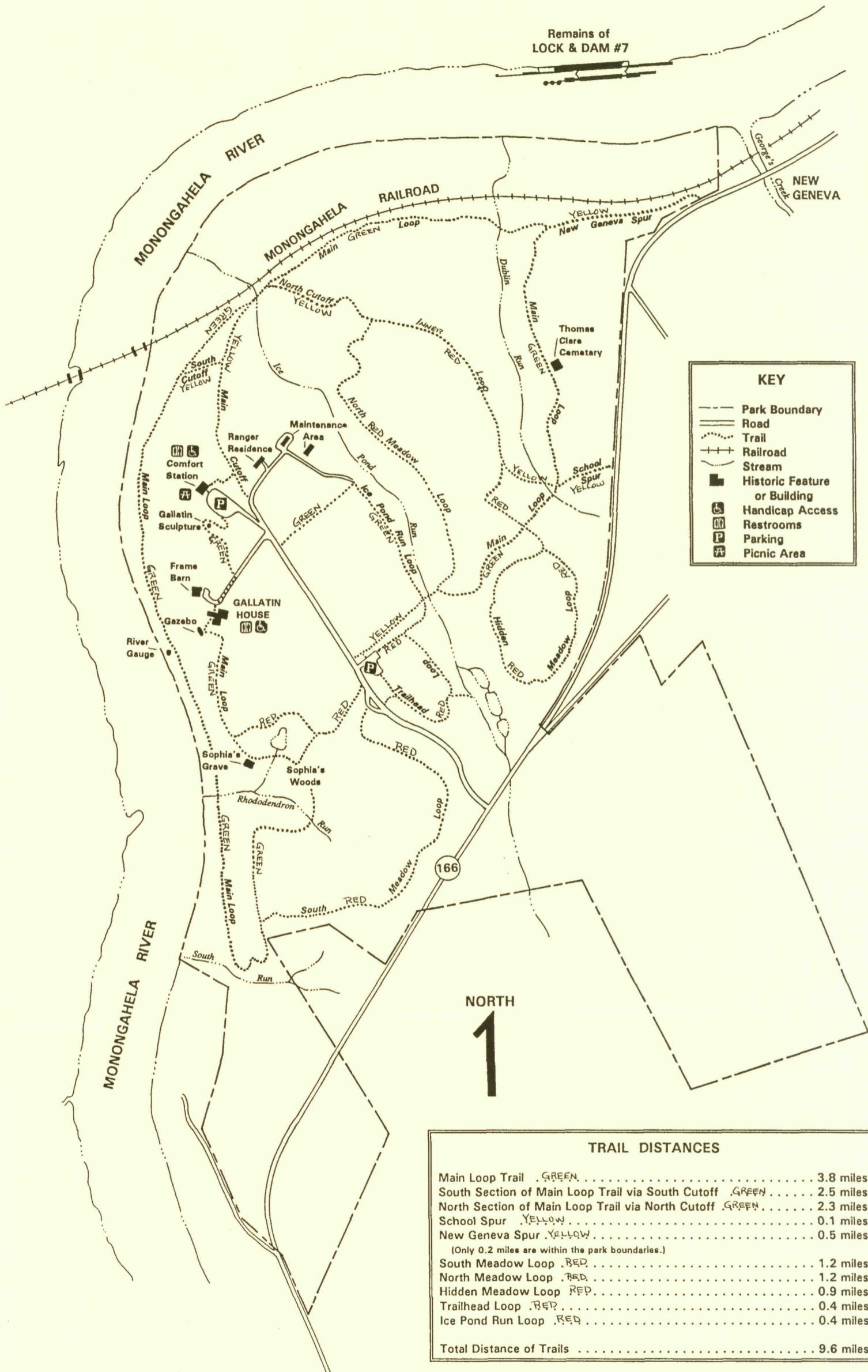
You will next come to the intersection of the *South Cutoff (Yellow)*. This spur trail connects with the *Main Cutoff (Yellow)*, which leads to the main parking lot. A little farther along the *Main Loop (Green)* is another intersection with the *Main Cutoff (Yellow)*. This intersection lies in an open area where two gas pipelines and *Ice Pond Run* cross the trail. If you walk a short distance up *Ice Pond Run*, you'll come to perhaps the prettiest of the park's seven waterfalls.

Shortly beyond *Ice Pond Run*, the *North Cutoff (Yellow)* goes up the hill to the right, gradually climbing through the woods and passing along the edge of a small valley until it joins the *North Meadow Loop (Red)*. The *Main Loop (Green)* continues along to the left, paralleling the railroad and river, passing through pleasant forest, and crossing *Dublin Run*. Shortly beyond *Dublin Run* you will come to another intersection. Here the *Main Loop (Green)* makes a hard right turn up the hill. The other trail (yellow) is the spur which leads into New Geneva. Approximately ½ mile farther up the *Main Loop (Green)*, the Thomas Clare Cemetery may be seen on the left. Thomas Clare, a neighbor of Gallatin's, once owned this section of the park and called it *Dublin*.

The trail soon intersects with the *School Spur (Yellow)*. A short distance farther is the intersection with the *North Meadow Loop (Red)* to the right and the *Hidden Meadow Loop (Red)* to the left. The *Main Loop (Green)* continues ahead, once again crossing the gas pipelines and *Ice Pond Run*. It then turns right down a wooded lane alongside *Ice Pond Run* and comes up through the meadow ending at the entrance to the main parking lot.

### Cross- Country Skiing

During times of adequate snow cover, the park's trails can be used for cross-country skiing; offering opportunities for various skill levels. The *South Meadow Loop*, *Trail Head Loop*, and *Hidden Meadow Loop* have gently rolling terrain, ideal for beginners. The *Main*, *North Meadow Loops*, and *Cutoff* have steep to moderately steep descents in places and are more for the intermediate and advanced skiers. Please practice skier etiquette and safety at all times.



**KEY**

- Park Boundary
- == Road
- ... Trail
- +++ Railroad
- ~ Stream
- Historic Feature or Building
- ♿ Handicap Access
- ♻ Restrooms
- P Parking
- ☀ Picnic Area

NORTH  
1

**TRAIL DISTANCES**

Main Loop Trail .GREEN . . . . .	3.8 miles
South Section of Main Loop Trail via South Cutoff .GREEN . . . . .	2.5 miles
North Section of Main Loop Trail via North Cutoff .GREEN . . . . .	2.3 miles
School Spur .YELLOW . . . . .	0.1 miles
New Geneva Spur .YELLOW . . . . .	0.5 miles
(Only 0.2 miles are within the park boundaries.)	
South Meadow Loop .RED . . . . .	1.2 miles
North Meadow Loop .RED . . . . .	1.2 miles
Hidden Meadow Loop .RED . . . . .	0.9 miles
Trailhead Loop .RED . . . . .	0.4 miles
Ice Pond Run Loop .RED . . . . .	0.4 miles
<b>Total Distance of Trails . . . . .</b>	<b>9.6 miles</b>