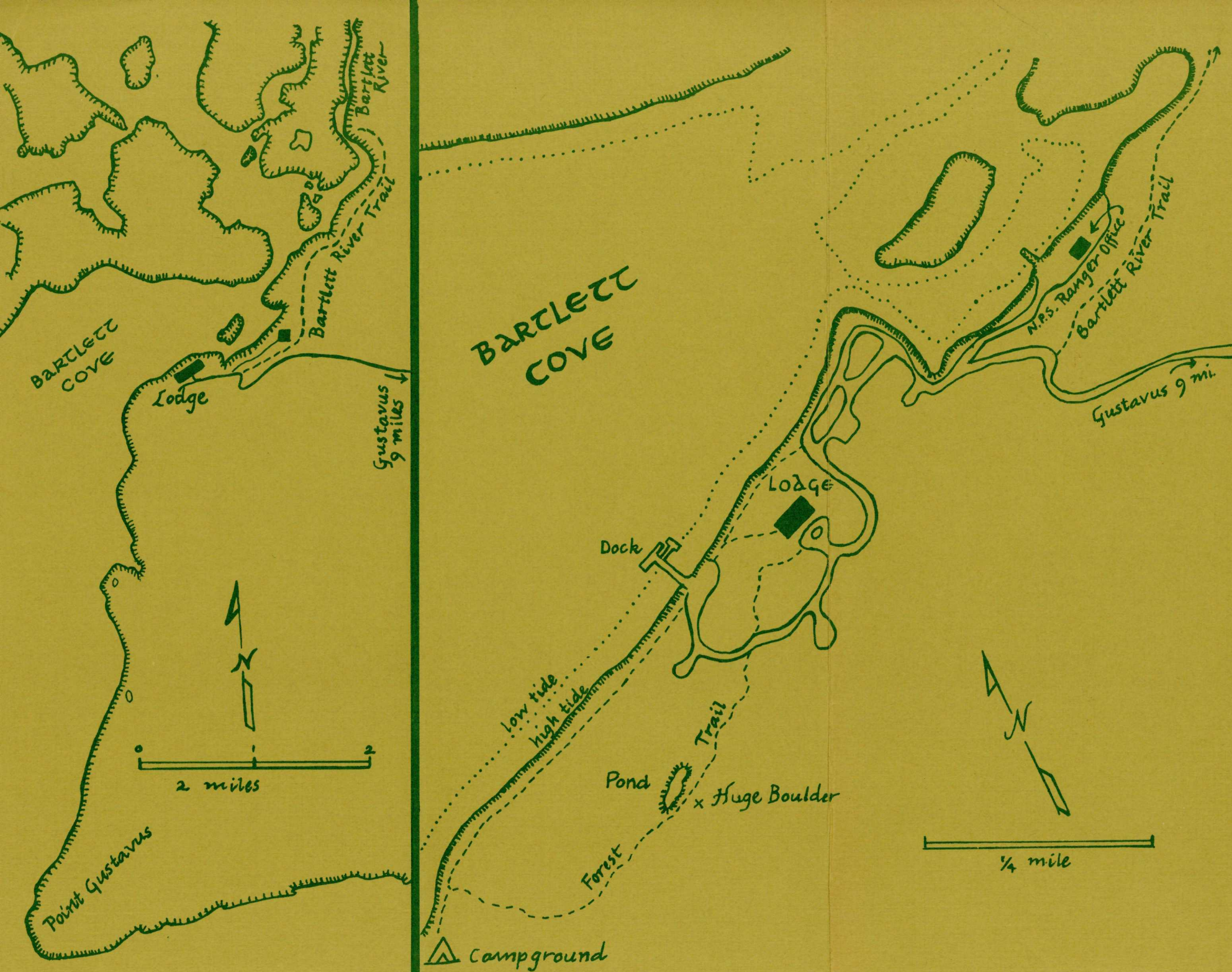


# Discover Bartlett Cove

*A New Land*



Here less than two hundred years ago stood the snout of a 100 mile-long glacier. Though icebergs now seldom dot the waters of Bartlett Cove (the nearest tidewater glacier is 40 miles away) the animals, plants and landscape continue to recover from the effects of the Neoglacial Ice Age.

This folder suggests ways to see Bartlett Cove, a small part of Glacier Bay. You may wish to look alone, with a small group, or as a part of a naturalist-led walk or talk. Whatever the method, the beauty of Bartlett Cove, and the events that take place here are well worth discovering.

## TRAILS

There are two maintained hiking trails near Glacier Bay Lodge; both are easy walking. You may find use for the following gear at times:

- \* water repellent footwear
- \* rain coat and hat
- \* insect repellent
- \* binoculars
- \* camera and fast film or tripod

Box lunches are available at the Lodge to take on longer hikes.

*Forest Trail.* About 3/5 mile long, this nature trail begins at the Lodge and ends at the dock.

If you could walk a mile back home, this trail is easy. There are a couple of benches along the way.

The trail winds through the pond-studded spruce/hemlock forest for one

half mile, then descends to the beach. From that point, a right turn will bring you back to the Lodge.

In May and June, when the spring bird migration is at a peak, the trail is full of bird song. June and July are the best times for northern flowers. August is the month for bright mushrooms and berries.

*Bartlett River Trail.* Allow a half day for this five mile round trip. The trail is not hard, but has a few hills, and a few muddy spots after heavy rains.

The trail meanders along a tidal lagoon, through the forest, then emerges and ends on the Bartlett River estuary. Ducks, geese, and other water birds concentrate during migration in tidal areas. Watch for coyotes along the beach, and porcupines and red squirrels in the forest. Salmon run upriver during the latter part of the summer.

## OFF-TRAIL HIKES

*Nearby Beach.* Walk past the dock on the beach as far as you wish; it'll be easy to find your way back. The tidal strip is a natural trail, for wildlife and people. Watch for land birds on the forest's edge and waterbirds offshore. Flowers are profuse in mid-summer on the beach meadows. At low tide, the low beach can be worth a look for marine life. Check with a naturalist or at the Lodge desk for the daily tidal schedule.

*Gustavus Road.* This little-used road is a beautiful route through the spruce forest and out onto the muskeg flatlands

beyond the limits of the last glacial advance. The Gustavus bus will drop you off anywhere you choose for a hike back to the Lodge.

*Other Possibilities.* Many interesting areas are accessible by boat. On STRAWBERRY ISLAND the cabin and other remnants of a fox farm are still visible 40 years after they were abandoned. From POINT GUSTAVUS it is an easy one day hike, 7 miles, along the beach to the Lodge. Boats and air charter are available through the concessioner. Opportunities for camping or picnicking are nearly limitless.

## CONDUCTED ACTIVITIES

*You and the Ranger-Naturalist.* Naturalist-led hikes, films and evening programs are scheduled daily. The enclosed insert lists times and locations. It is a good idea to check the "Naturalist Activities Board" placed in the Lodge for subjects and special events.

## MORE INFORMATION

Those visitors who want to know more about the natural events of Glacier Bay can find out in several ways. Concession and park employees can help, or will refer you to someone who can. Natural history exhibits and publications are located upstairs at the Lodge. Topographic maps, nautical charts and other publications may be purchased through the Alaska Natural History Association in the same area. The National Park Service library, located at the Ranger Office, is open between 8 A.M. and 6 P.M. daily.

Please leave all plants, animals, and shells as you found them for others to enjoy . . . next year . . . next generation.



Published by the  
Alaska Natural History Association  
in cooperation with  
Glacier Bay National Monument,  
National Park Service,  
United States Department of the Interior