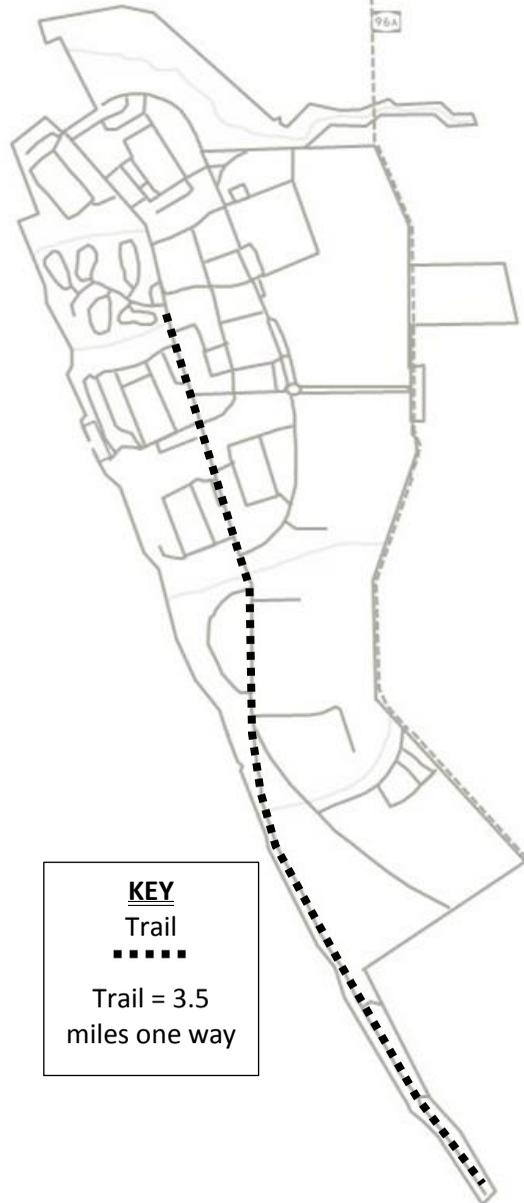
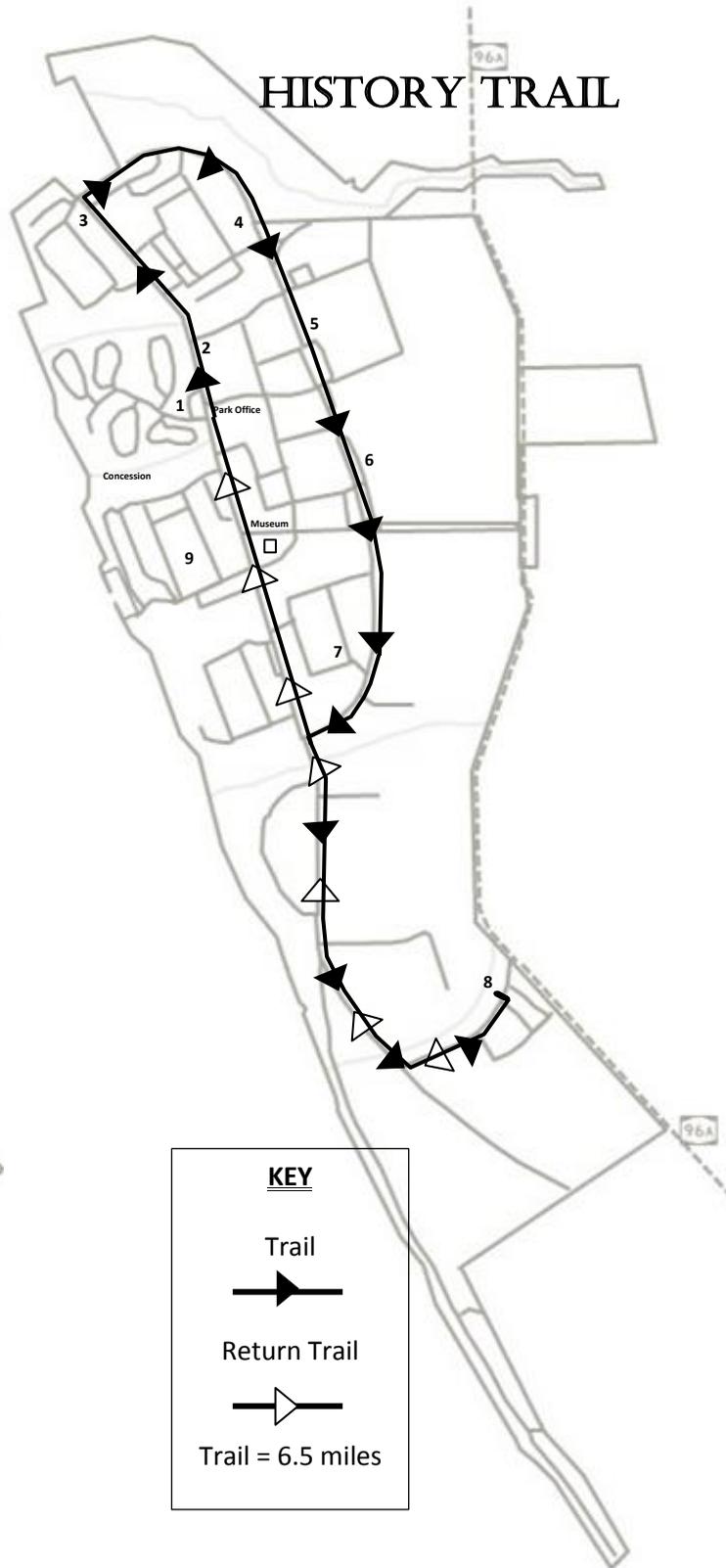


Lake Trail



HISTORY TRAIL



KEY

KEY

Trail



Trail = 3.5
miles one way

Trail



Return Trail



Trail = 6.5 miles



What's For Dinner?
Check out these great
campfire recipes

<http://www.artofmanliness.com/2010/07/20/cooking-around-the-campfire-9-easy-and-delicious-foil-packet-recipes/>

What Kind of tree is
that?



<http://www.arboday.org/trees/whattree/>



Sampson State Park

6096 Route 96A,
Romulus, NY 14541

Office:

(315) 585-6392

Trail Guide



History

Prior to World War II the area within Sampson's boundaries was predominantly farmland but the outbreak of war brought a need for facilities to train military personnel for the war effort. On May 14, 1942 President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved construction of a Naval Training Station. The base was named in honor of a local native, Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, from Palmyra, NY, a hero of the Battle of Santiago during the Spanish-American War.

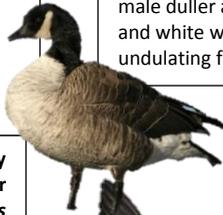
At the peak of construction, there were 15,500 people employed here. The base was constructed in 270 days, contained 498 buildings, over 50 miles for roadway, covered over 2500 acres, and cost \$56 million. The largest drill halls were 600 feet long and 120 feet wide. The base closed in May of 1946 after training 411,000 sailors.

During the Korean War the land was converted to the Sampson Air Force Base and over 300,000 airmen received their basic training here from November 1950 until April 1956. In 1960 the land was transferred to New York for use as a State Park. Former military buildings, drill halls, parade grounds, and roadways have given way to grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees on flat, rolling woodlands surrounding ravines.

Sampson served the U.S. Air Force as a recruit training base during the Korean War 1950-1956. Recruits at Sampson came from all over the Eastern United States. Sampson AFB was also home of the largest USAF Hospital.

Canada Goose

Branta Canadensis
Brownish body with black head, long black neck, conspicuous white cheek patch. The smaller Brant has a shorter neck and lacks white cheek patch. The Cackling Goose is smaller, darker, shorter-billed, and found mainly in the West.



American Goldfinch

Spinus tristis
Smaller than a sparrow. Breeding male bright yellow with a white rump, black forehead, white edges on black wings and tail, and yellow at bend of wing. Female and winter male duller and grayer with black wings, tail, and white wing bars. Travels in flocks; undulating flight.



Wild Turkey

Meleagris gallopavo
Unmistakable. Dusky brown, barred with black, with iridescent bronze sheen; head and neck naked, with bluish and reddish wattles; tail fan-shaped, with chestnut, buff, or white tail tips. Male has spurs and long "beard" on breast. Female smaller, lacks spurs and usually "beard."



Downy Woodpecker

Picoides pubescens
A sparrow-sized, black and white woodpecker. Small red patch on nape in males. Similar to Hairy Woodpecker, but smaller and with short, stubby bill.



Eastern Bluebird

Sialia sialis
Bright blue above and on wings and tail; rusty throat and breast; white belly and undertail coverts. Female similar, but duller.



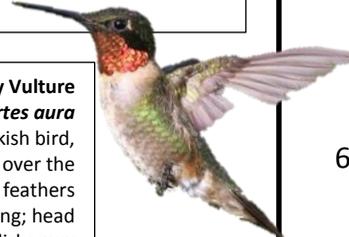
Tree Swallow

Tachycineta bicolor
Sparrow-sized. Metallic blue or blue-green above and clear white below. Young birds are dull brown above but may be distinguished from Bank and Northern Rough-winged swallows by their clearer white underparts.



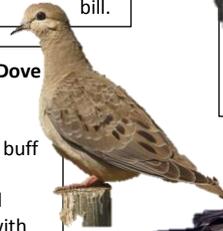
Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Archilochus colubris
Tiny. Needle-like bill. Metallic green above, white below; male has brilliant, iridescent red throat. Immature male lacks red throat. Female green above, with white throat and breast, buff sides, and white-tipped outer tail feathers.



Mourning Dove

Zenaidura macroura
Soft, sandy buff with a long pointed tail bordered with white. Black spots on wings.



Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura
Eagle-sized blackish bird, usually seen soaring over the countryside. Flight feathers silvery below. Tail long; head small, bare, and reddish; gray in immatures.



Osprey

Pandion haliaetus
A large, long-winged "fish hawk." Brown above and white below; head white with dark line through eye and on side of face. Wing shows distinctive bend at "wrist." At a distance, can resemble a gull.



Red-tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis
A large stocky hawk. Typical light-phase birds have whitish breast and rust-colored tail.



Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis
Male bright red with crest, black face, stout red bill. Female buff-brown tinged with red on crest, wings, and tail.



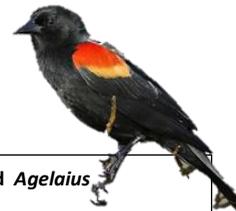
Blue Jay

Cyanocitta cristata
Bright blue above with much white and black in the wings and tail; dingy white below; black facial markings; prominent crest.



Red-winged Blackbird

Agelaius phoeniceus
Smaller than a robin. Male is black with bright red shoulder patches. Female and young are heavily streaked with dusky brown



Want more bird identifications?

<http://birds.audubon.org/birdid/quick-guide>

History Trail Map

1. Park Office F (Farragut) Unit, the 3rd Regiment: When Sampson was a Naval Base this building was used as a warehouse. Camping loops 1-5 are in the former F Unit.
2. K (Kidd) Unit: Where they had advanced school
3. G (Gilmore) Unit 5th Regiment
4. H (Hill) Unit: This was a ship barrack for the soldiers who came off the ships
5. Fenced in Compound N (Store House) Unit: This area was used for railroad shipping, receiving and storing the majority of supplies that came into Sampson. Many of the soldiers also came in by rail this way.
6. A (Administration) Unit: Former bus station building. Also this is where soldiers came to be processed. There were up to 67 buses transporting civilians and military personal a day
7. C (Callaghan) Unit: Famous for having the largest drill hall in all of New York 600 feet long and 120 feet wide.
8. Pioneer Cemetery: The oldest person here is Clarissa Van Vleet. She died in 1799 at the age of 83. The youngest is only 20 days old
9. E (Edwards) Unit: the drill field is modern day loop 6. Loop 6 still has the same shape and size as it did in 1942.