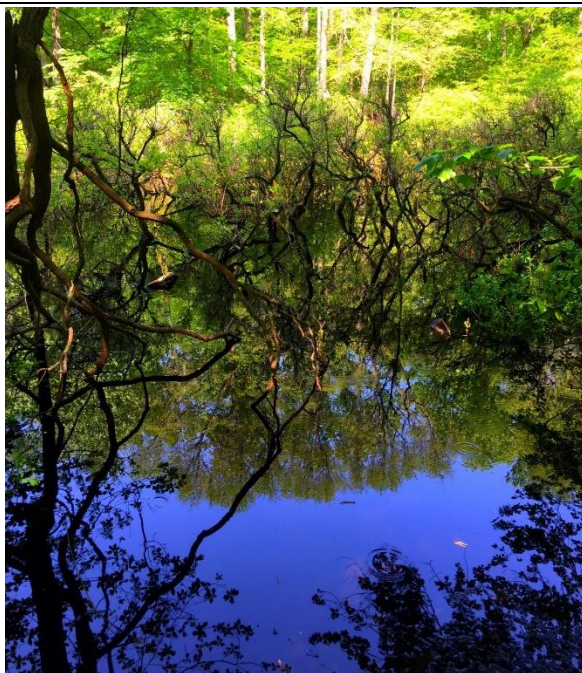




Area 25

WEST MOUNTAIN REFUGE: McMANUS SECTION



Pond on McManus Trail

Size: 28 acres

ACCESS/PARKING: Oscaleta Road, 0.4 mile from the intersection of Oscaleta and West Mountain Roads; Peaceable Hill Road. [GPS Address: 90 Oscaleta Road]

DIFFICULTY: Easy. 30 minutes.

FEATURES: The foundation ruins of an old farmhouse dating from the mid-nineteenth century are on this property. Three bridges cross streams and wetlands. One is a boulder bridge probably built by the farmer.

The trail passes by a variety of ferns, interesting rock formations, and a hillside of mountain laurel. A thicket provides habitat for many animals, including deer, grouse, and red fox.

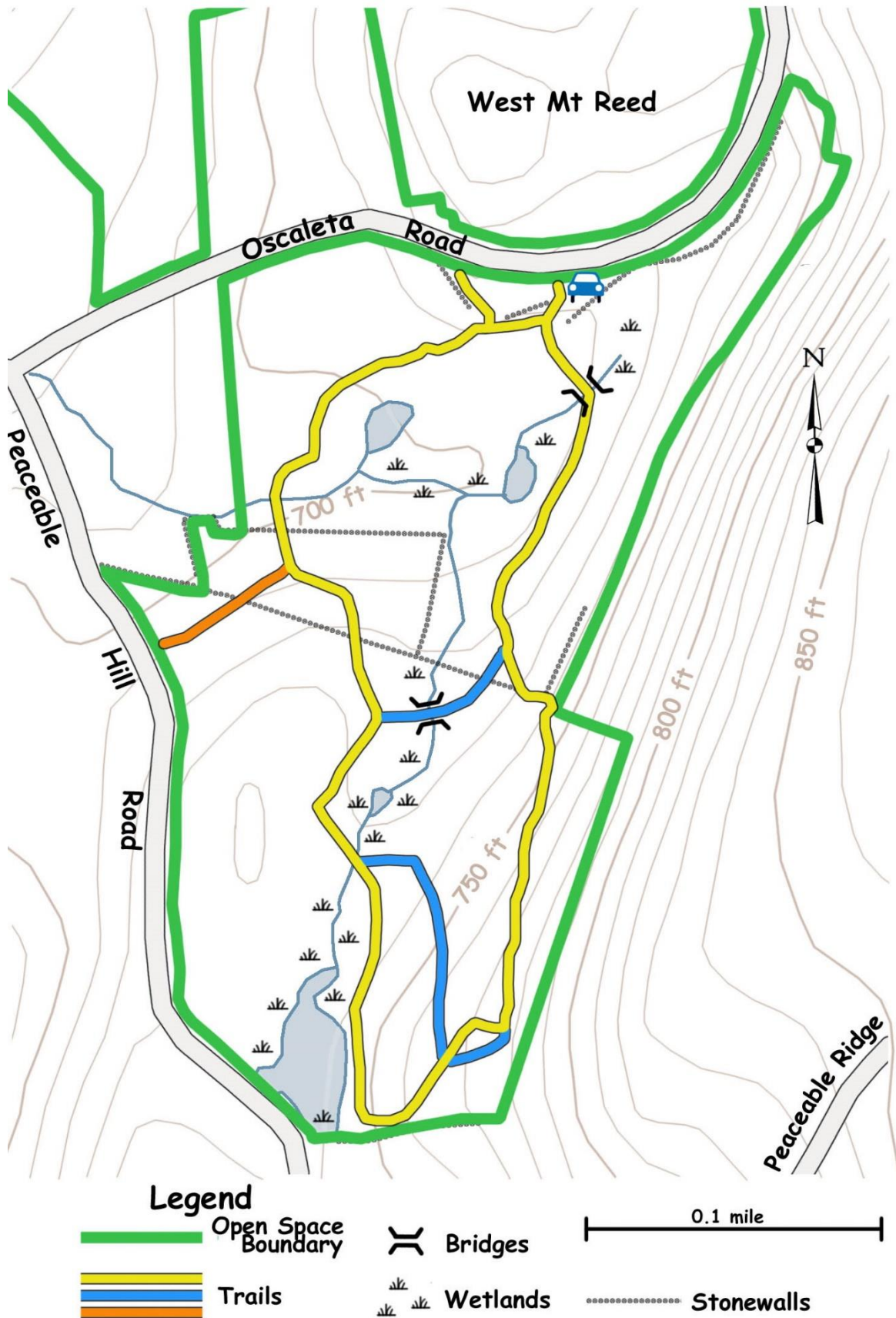
There is an overlook from the ridge. Wilson Brook runs across the land and flows to Pumping Station Swamp.

HISTORY: Ridgefield purchased this property in 1967 as part of a six-property "land bank" acquisition. This section of West Mountain Refuge was purchased from James McManus, Sr., by the Town of Ridgefield and, when rejected as an elementary school site, became town open space.



Area 25

WEST MOUNTAIN REFUGE: McMANUS SECTION





Area 25

WEST MOUNTAIN REFUGE: McMANUS SECTION

