

*An Easy-to-Follow Guide  
to these places →*



GOLDSTREAM PARK



SPECTACLE LAKE PARK



GAIL WICKENS TRAIL

*→ and many more →*

# HIKING TRAILS

Victoria and  
Southern Vancouver Island



*prepared by*

The Outdoor Club of Victoria



To Valerie with love  
from Jane

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Trails Information Society

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## Victoria and Southern Vancouver Island

*prepared by*

The Outdoor Club of Victoria

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## ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

To some people the word "hiking" signifies long, strenuous treks and walking for days on end with a huge back-pack, but you will find that most of the hiking trails described in this booklet are much shorter walks (although some longer day-trips are also included). The information is intended for the growing numbers of people among apartment-dwellers, visitors and newcomers to Victoria, and long-time residents who wish to explore the local lakes and woods and enjoy our parks and beaches.

Many people prefer to hike individually rather than join a hiking club. The Outdoor Club of Victoria therefore decided to prepare this guide to introduce you to areas which club members have known and loved over the years.

As we are not professional surveyors, and because base maps and similar data have frequently proved to be inadequate for our purposes, we cannot be held responsible for any discrepancies, inaccuracies or omissions in our sketch-maps and descriptions. Trails shown may be only approximate, as conditions vary constantly. Hikers always travel at their own risk, and it is up to the individual hiker to check current conditions by enquiring at offices of the appropriate authority or by asking local residents and officials. It is particularly important to do so before setting out on the longer trips. We intend publishing any revisions necessary to keep the information up-to-date, and would appreciate any information you can give us. Later, we hope to cover other areas of Vancouver Island.

In the main we have omitted descriptions of what you will see on the trails, as they can be revisited at different seasons of the year and each time will appear differently. You will find there are many beautiful days all through the year when you can enjoy these trails and beach hikes.

The Outdoor Club of Victoria was formed in 1942 by a group of Victorians interested in hiking together so that they could share the companionship of others with

similar interests and pool their knowledge of places to go. There are hikes nearly every weekend throughout the year, and monthly evening meetings with business reports and entertainment programs. In addition, many of the trails in Goldstream Park - including the Arbutus Ridge Trail, Gold Mine Trail, Prospectors and Riverside Trails - were constructed by the Outdoor Club of Victoria as centennial projects, under the leadership of Hugh Salmond and with the help of the Provincial Parks Branch. A quarterly trip list and other information about the club is available from club members; the current issue with telephone numbers to contact for a copy is available at the public library.

This is our first experience of producing a publication and we hope that minor faults will be forgiven. Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to all the Parks authorities in Greater Victoria, and to staff of the B.C. Forest Service, for information and assistance, and to everyone who has given us help and encouragement.

Victoria  
October 1972

JANE WADDELL



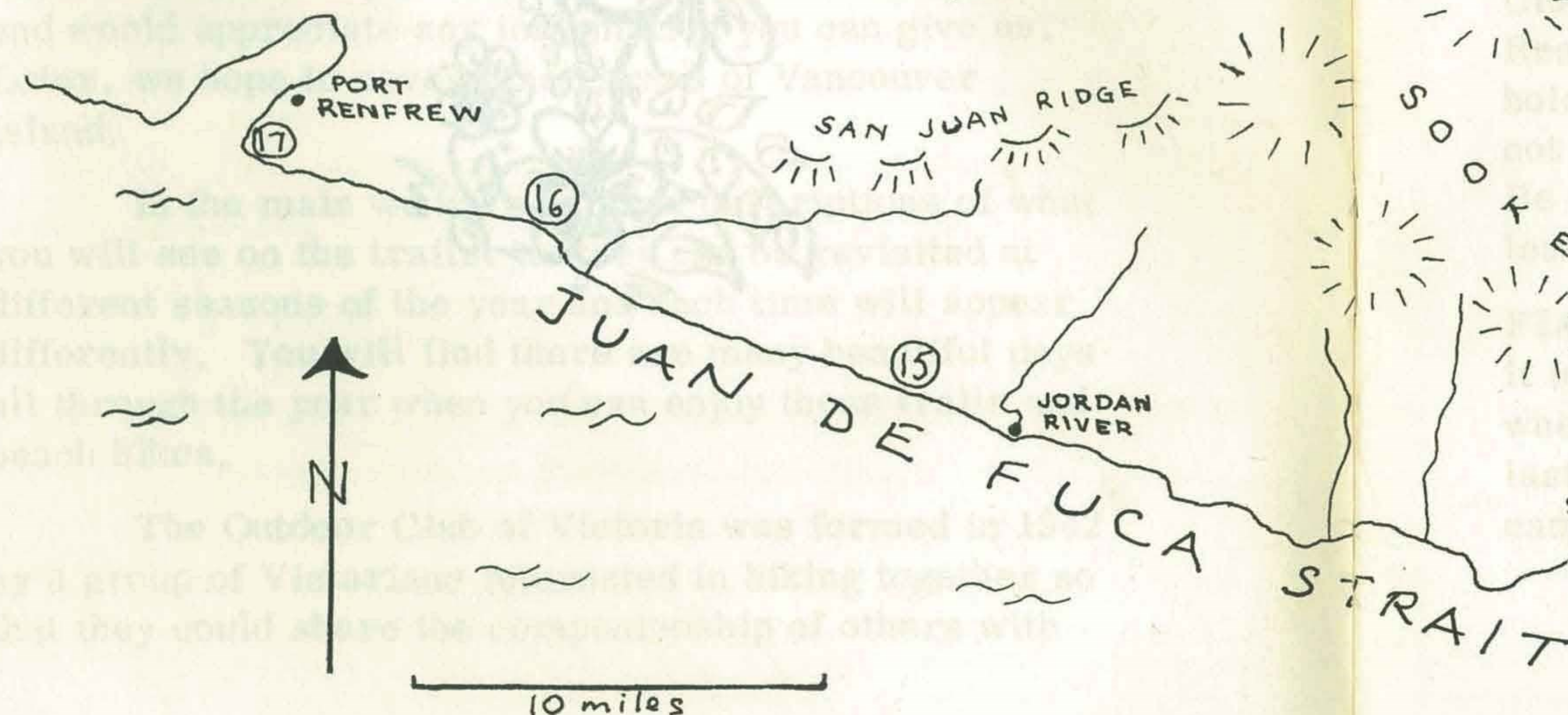


# TABLE OF CONTENTS

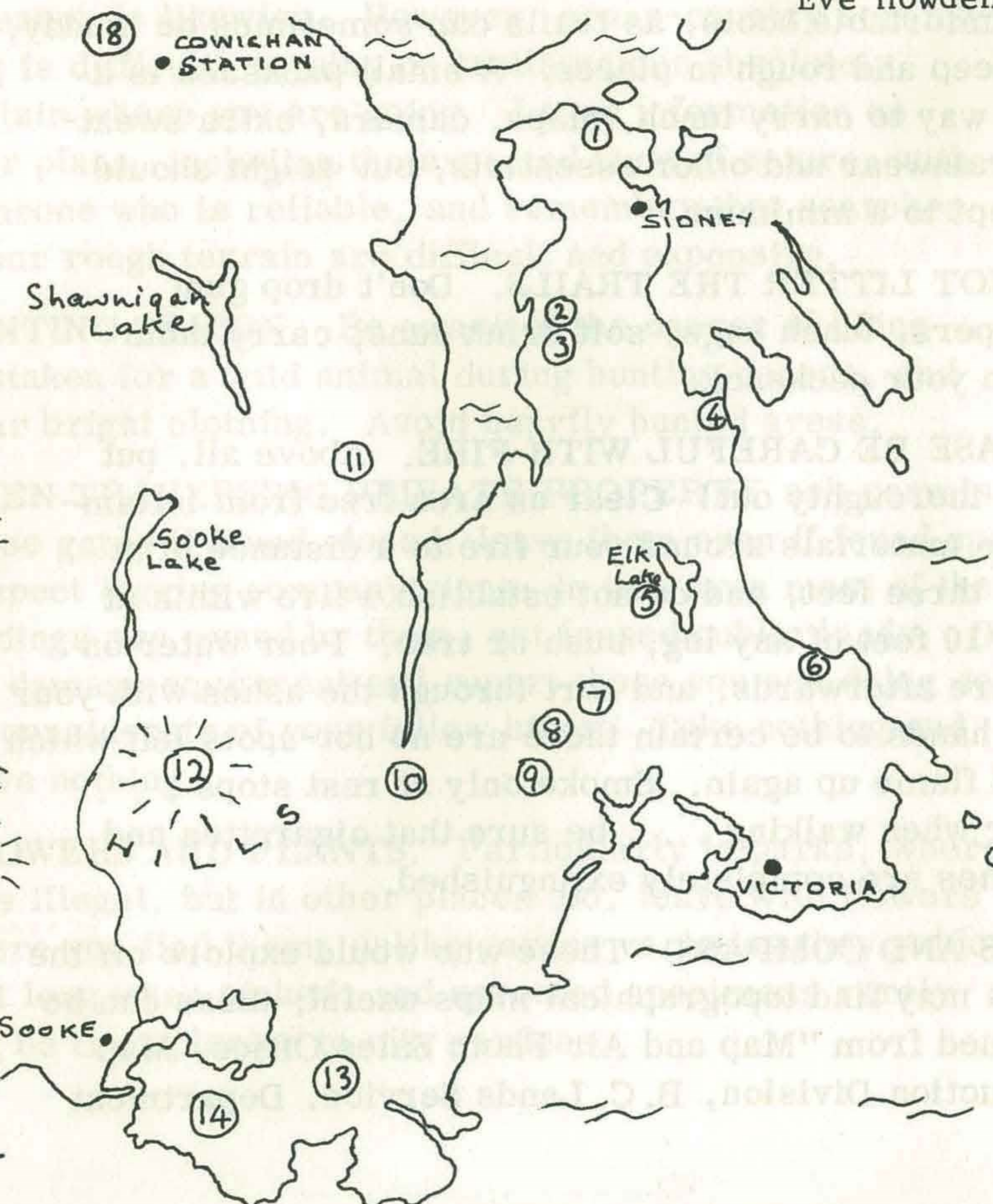
ABOUT THIS BOOKLET . . . Pages (ii) - (iii)

HINTS AND CAUTIONS, AND LEGEND Pages 1 - 3

No. on map below	Area	Official Agency or Owner	Information supplied by	Page
1	HORTH HILL PARK	Cap. Reg. Dist.	Jane Waddell	17
2	JOHN DEAN PARK, GAIL WICKENS TRAIL	Provincial Outside park	John Harris Dave Larkey	4
3	WILLOWS WAY	Saanich Mun.	John Harris	5
4	ISLAND VIEW BEACH	Cap.Reg.Dist.	Tom Lyus	17
5	ELK & BEAVER LAKES PARK, & BEAR HILL PARK	Cap.Reg.Dist. & Saanich	Jane Waddell Dave Larkey	11-12
6	MOUNT DOUGLAS PARK	Victoria City & Saanich	Mac Hunt	9-10
7	FRANCIS PARK & FREEMAN KING PARK		Jane Toms	6 - 8
8	THETIS LAKE PARK	Victoria City	Johnnie Clay	15-16
9	MILL HILL PARK	Cap.Reg.Dist.	Bill Burroughs	18
10	GOLDSTREAM PARK, MOUNT FINLAYSON	Provincial, Outside park	Hugh Salmond, Bob Spearing	13-14
11	SPECTACLE LAKE PARK	Provincial	Tom Lyus	23



No. on map below	Area	Official Agency or Owner	Information supplied by	Page
12	EMPRESS MOUNTAIN	B.C. Forest Products Ltd.	John Harris	24-27
13	MATHESON LAKE PARK	Provincial	Rex Murfitt	28
14	EAST SOOKE PARK	Cap.Reg.Dist.	Michael Gregson, Jane Waddell	19-22
15	CHINA BEACH PARK	Provincial	Mary Horel	28
16	SOMBRIO BEACH	TFL/Rayonier	Jane Waddell	31
17	BOTANICAL BEACH		John Harris	29-30
18	BRIGHT ANGEL PARK		Howard and Eve Howden	32





## HINTS AND CAUTIONS

of particular interest to those who wish to hike further afield.

**TRAILS.** While only some of the better known, well-established trails are described here, they may lead to other opportunities which can be pursued by the more experienced and more hardy. With the exception of the Gail Wickens', the trails are primarily footpaths; a few can be traversed by horses where permitted by park regulations. Riders should avoid disturbing the full width of trails at muddy spots. Trail bikes are prohibited in parks and most trails are too rough to negotiate with them. Old logging roads are more suitable.

**GOOD CLOTHING IS ESSENTIAL.** All these trails can be hiked in good walking shoes, but you will be better off in comfortable boots, as trails can sometimes be muddy, or steep and rough in places. A small packsack is a good way to carry lunch, maps, camera, extra sweater, rainwear and other essentials, but weight should be kept to a minimum.

**DO NOT LITTER THE TRAILS.** Don't drop gum wrappers, lunch bags, soft drink cans; carry them out in your packsack.

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE.** Above all, put fires thoroughly out! Clear an area free from inflammable materials around your fire to a distance of at least three feet, and do not establish a fire within at least 10 feet of any log, bush or tree. Pour water on the fire afterwards, and sort through the ashes with your bare hands to be certain there are no hot-spots left which could flame up again. Smoke only at rest stops . . . never when walking . . . be sure that cigarettes and matches are completely extinguished.

**MAPS AND COMPASS.** Those who would explore off the trails may find topographical maps useful; these can be obtained from "Map and Air Photo Sales Office, Map Production Division, B.C. Lands Service, Department

of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Room 110, 553 Superior Street, Victoria, B.C." The office is open 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. An aerial photograph is sometimes a useful companion to a map and can also be obtained from the above office. These often show details that are not visible on maps, and may be more up to date. Other maps may be obtained from parks agencies. A compass (and knowledge of how to use it), is also useful, since one loses direction easily and even on a trail it can be difficult to tell which way to turn.

**DO NOT HIKE ALONE.** The greatest danger is probably from slipping on loose rocks on moss-covered hillsides. The wise hiker travels with a friend in case of an accident. If lost, logging roads, of which there are an abundance, both new and abandoned, generally lead out if one follows them downhill, and streams do likewise. However, cross-country scrambling is difficult, so stay on trails unless absolutely certain where you are going. Leave information on your plans, including the expected time of return, with someone who is reliable, and remember that searches in our rough terrain are difficult and expensive.

**HUNTING SEASON.** Be aware of the danger of being mistaken for a wild animal during hunting season, and wear bright clothing. Avoid heavily hunted areas.

**WHEN TRAVERSING PRIVATE PROPERTY** ask permission. Close gates if found closed; leave them open if found open. Respect logging company signs; in this area most of their holdings are owned by them, not leased public lands. Do not damage equipment and report those you see doing so. Be considerate of your fellow hiker. Take nothing and leave nothing.

**FLOWERS AND PLANTS.** Particularly in parks, where it is illegal, but in other places too, leave wild flowers where you find them; unlike garden varieties they seldom last long when picked, and uprooted specimens rarely can be transplanted to city gardens.



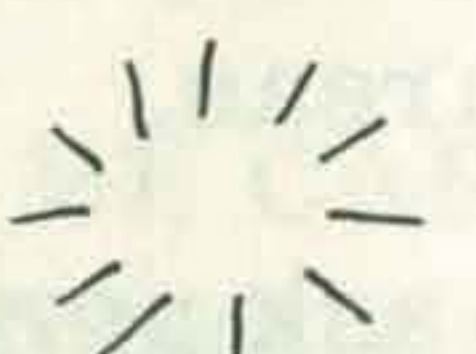


**MOSQUITOES AND OTHER FLYING PESTS** may be a nuisance and you may need to carry a repellent. Wasps should be avoided; they nest in the ground and in bag-like nests in trees. Poisonous or dangerous plants and animals are not a problem. Only the stinging nettle and devil's club may be encountered on Southern Vancouver Island, and contact with these is only irritating.

**DO NOT CHOP "BLAZES" INTO TREES.** They are unsightly and lead to infection by a variety of insects and diseases.

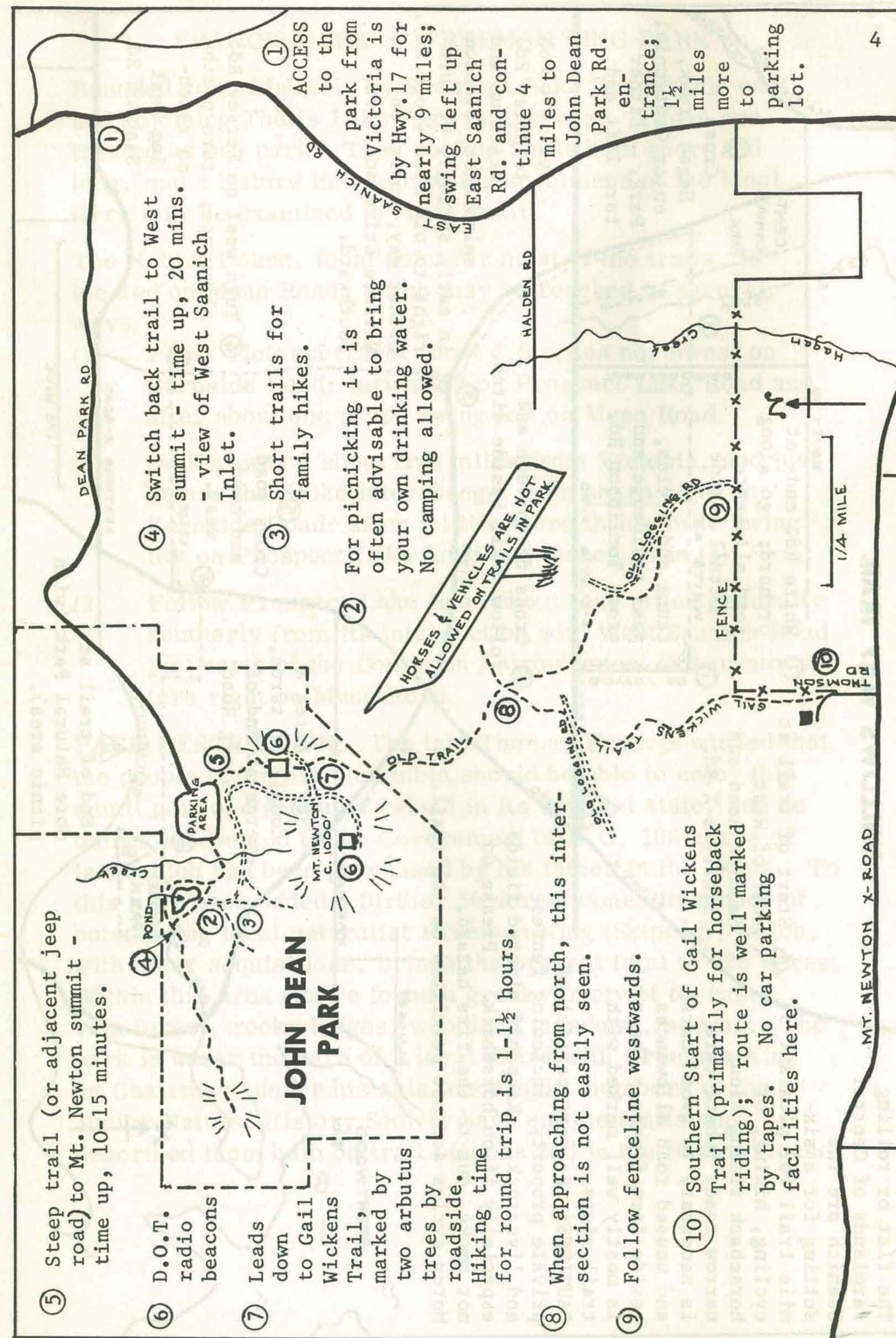
JOHN W. E. HARRIS

### LEGEND

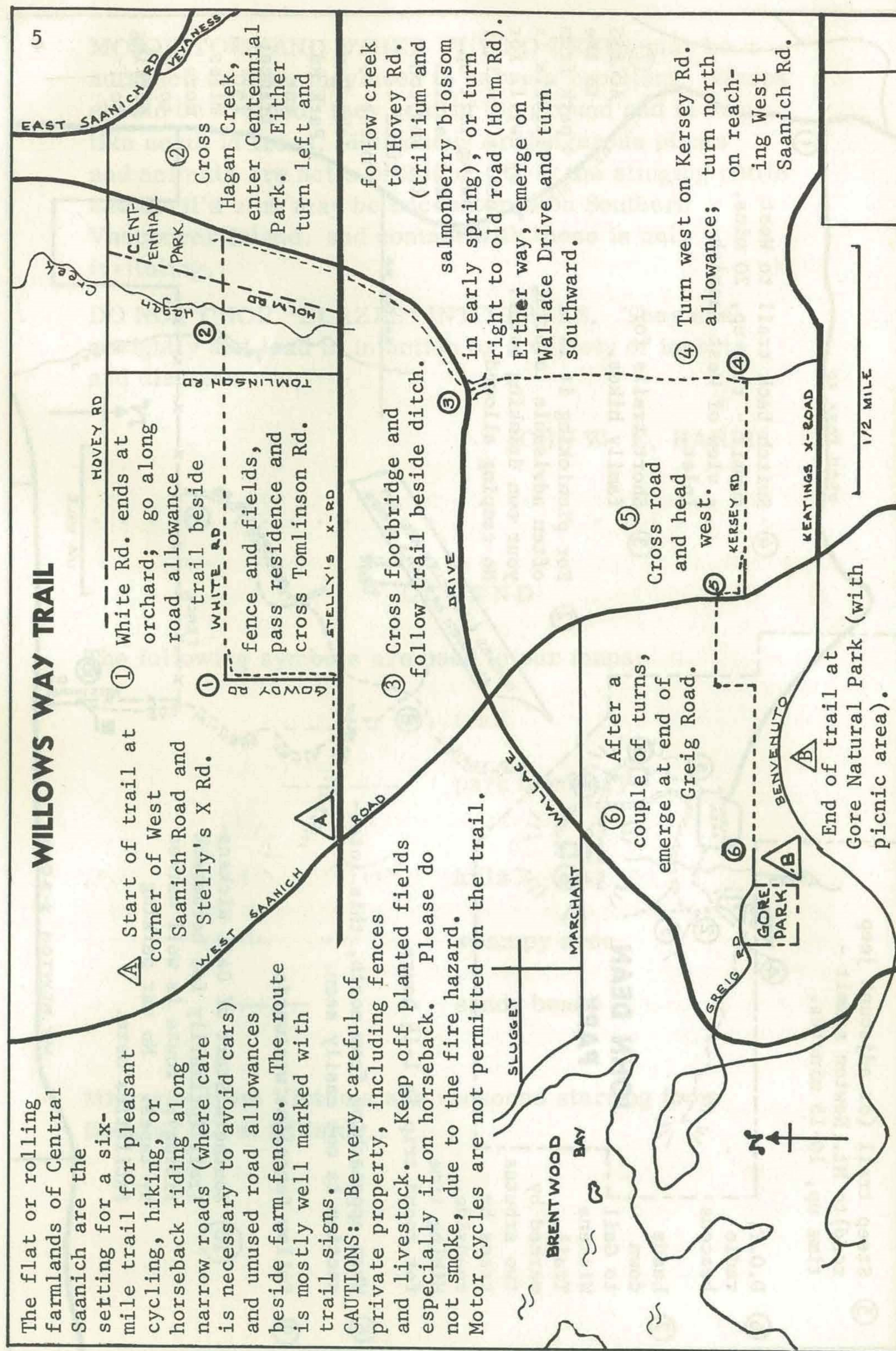
The following symbols are used in our maps:

- trail
- - - - - park boundary
-  hills
-  swampy area
-  sandy beach

Mileages from Victoria are reckoned starting from Douglas St. at Hillside.







## FRANCIS PARK - FREEMAN KING PARK

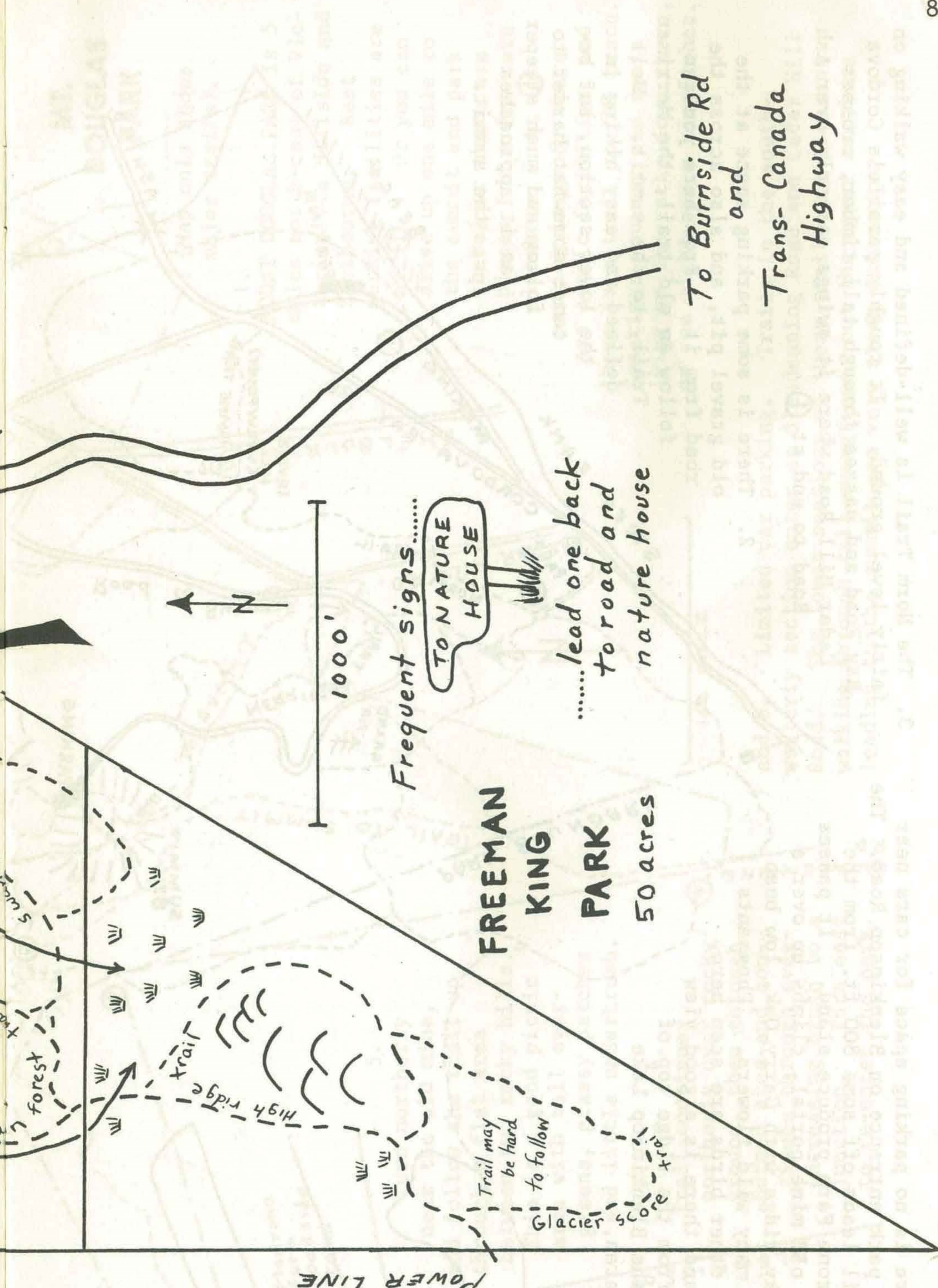
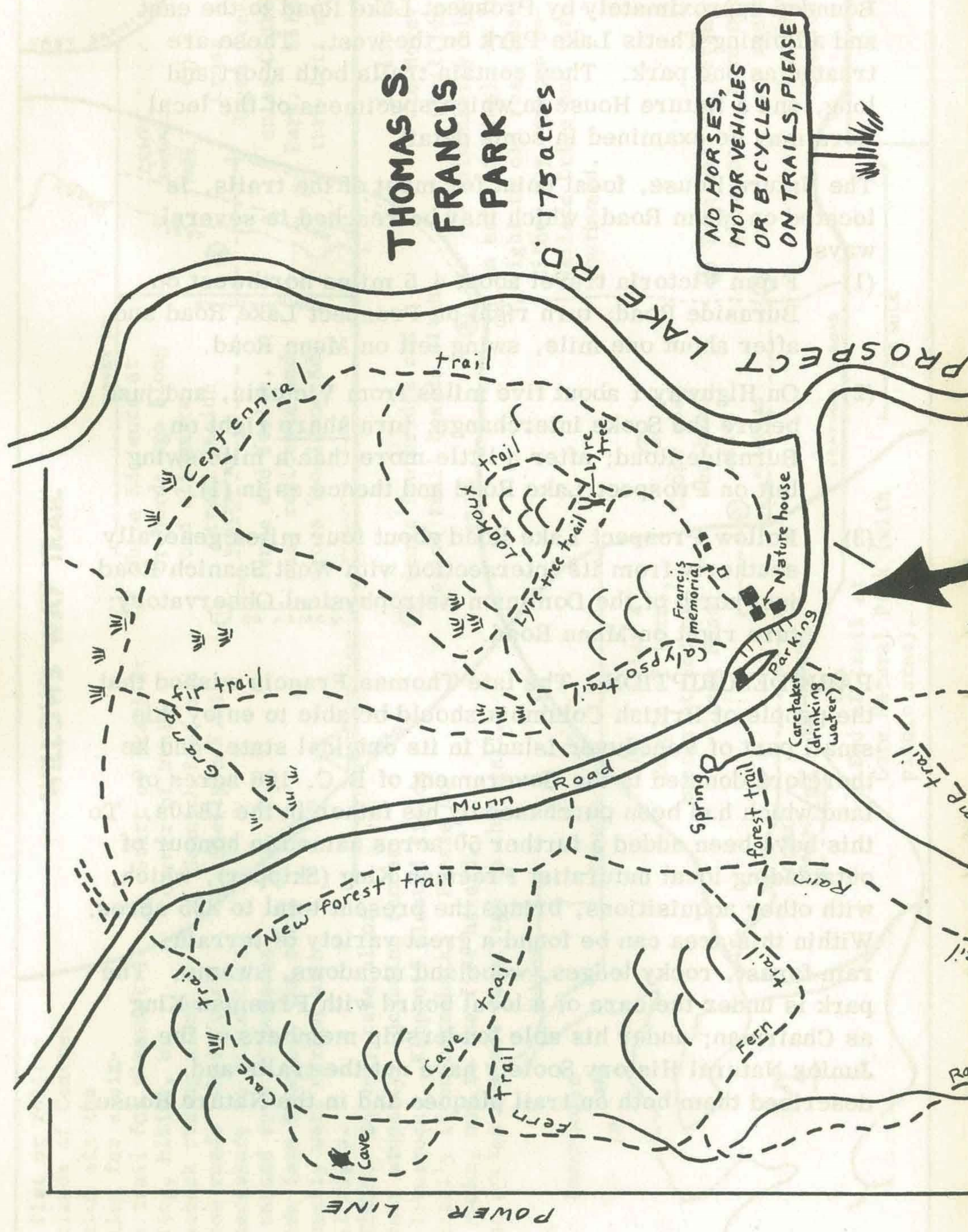
Bounded approximately by Prospect Lake Road to the east and adjoining Thetis Lake Park on the west. These are treated as one park. They contain trails both short and long, and a Nature House in which specimens of the local flora may be examined in some detail.

The Nature House, focal point for most of the trails, is located on Munn Road, which may be reached in several ways:

- (1) From Victoria travel about 4.5 miles northwest on Burnside Road; turn right on Prospect Lake Road and after about one mile, swing left on Munn Road.
- (2) On Highway 1 about five miles from Victoria, and just before the Sooke interchange, turn sharp right on Burnside Road; after a little more than a mile swing left on Prospect Lake Road and thence as in (1).
- (3) Follow Prospect Lake Road about four miles generally southerly from its intersection with West Saanich Road just north of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory; turn right on Munn Road.

**PARK DESCRIPTION:** The late Thomas Francis wished that the people of British Columbia should be able to enjoy this small part of Vancouver Island in its original state, and he therefore donated to the Government of B.C. 106 acres of land which had been purchased by his father in the 1840s. To this have been added a further 50 acres named in honour of outstanding local naturalist Freeman King (Skipper), which, with other acquisitions, brings the present total to 225 acres. Within this area can be found a great variety of terrain; rain forest, rocky ledges, woodland meadows, swamp. The park is under the care of a local board with Freeman King as Chairman; under his able leadership members of the Junior Natural History Society have cut the trails and described them both on trail plaques and in the Nature House.







4. There is no parking space for cars near the park entrance on Blenkinsop Road. The trail leads off some 800 ft. from the Madrona Farm produce stand. It passes the old mine portal, climbs up over a rocky ridge with Garry Oak, low bush and many wild flowers. Pheasants and other birds are seen here, and there is a good view from the ridge top of the Blenkinsop Lake area.

3. The Norm Trail is well-defined and easy walking on fairly level ground. It roughly parallels Cordova Bay Road and passes through tall timber, crosses Cedar Hill Road where it swings easterly over Ash Road to end at ①.

2. There is some parking space at the old gravel pit, and also across the road from it. From here you can follow an old trail, the Merriman Trail, to the summit. Well defined and easy hiking in the lower section, but becomes somewhat harder to follow and much steeper as it approaches the summit.

Madrona Farm Roadside Stand

5. Turn northerly near the old mine, and follow the trail up through a flat area between two rocky hills. This is a good picnic area with tall evergreens, grassy patches and little underbrush.

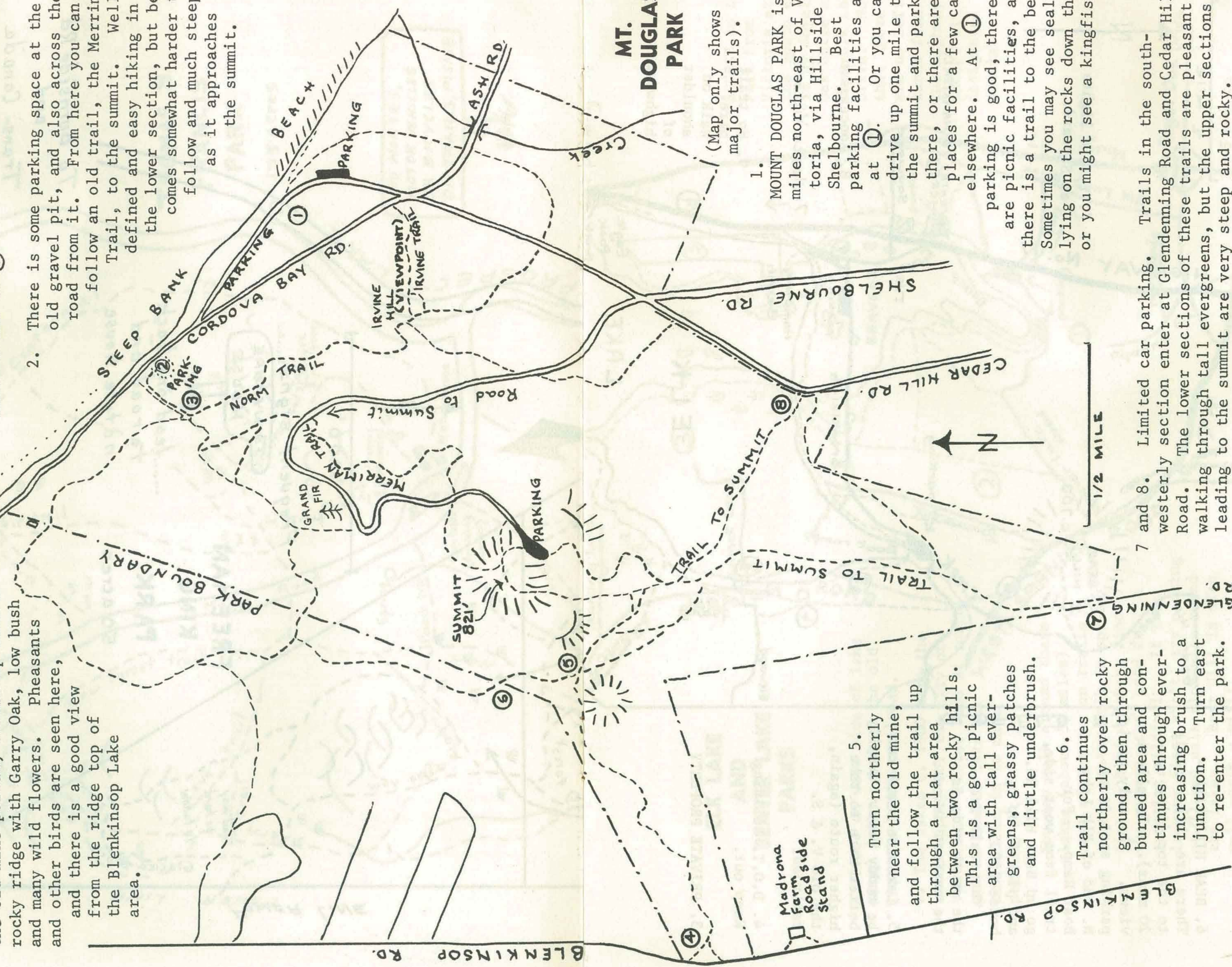
6. Trail continues northerly over rocky ground, then through burned area and continues through ever-increasing brush to a junction. Turn east to re-enter the park.

7 and 8. Limited car parking. Trails in the south-westerly section enter at Glendenning Road and Cedar Hill Road. The lower sections of these trails are pleasant walking through tall evergreens, but the upper sections leading to the summit are very steep and rocky.

## MT. DOUGLAS PARK

(Map only shows major trails).

1. MOUNT DOUGLAS PARK is 5 miles north-east of Victoria, via Hillside and Shelbourne. Best parking facilities are at ①. Or you can drive up one mile to the summit and park there, or there are places for a few cars elsewhere. At ① parking is good, there are picnic facilities, and there is a trail to the beach. Sometimes you may see seals lying on the rocks down there, or you might see a kingfisher.





# 6. BEAR HILL PARK -

There are three trails to the top (time up - 20 mins). Excellent views. The only good parking spot is at N. end of Elk Lake Boat Ramp. For trail from west side, go up Bear Hill Rd. and pick it up by house #5905.

The trail from the south side is the easiest ascent.

5. Lakeside trail can be muddy here. Usually better here to take higher route (again, the old V. & S. railroad.

4. D.O.T. Building - Keep out.

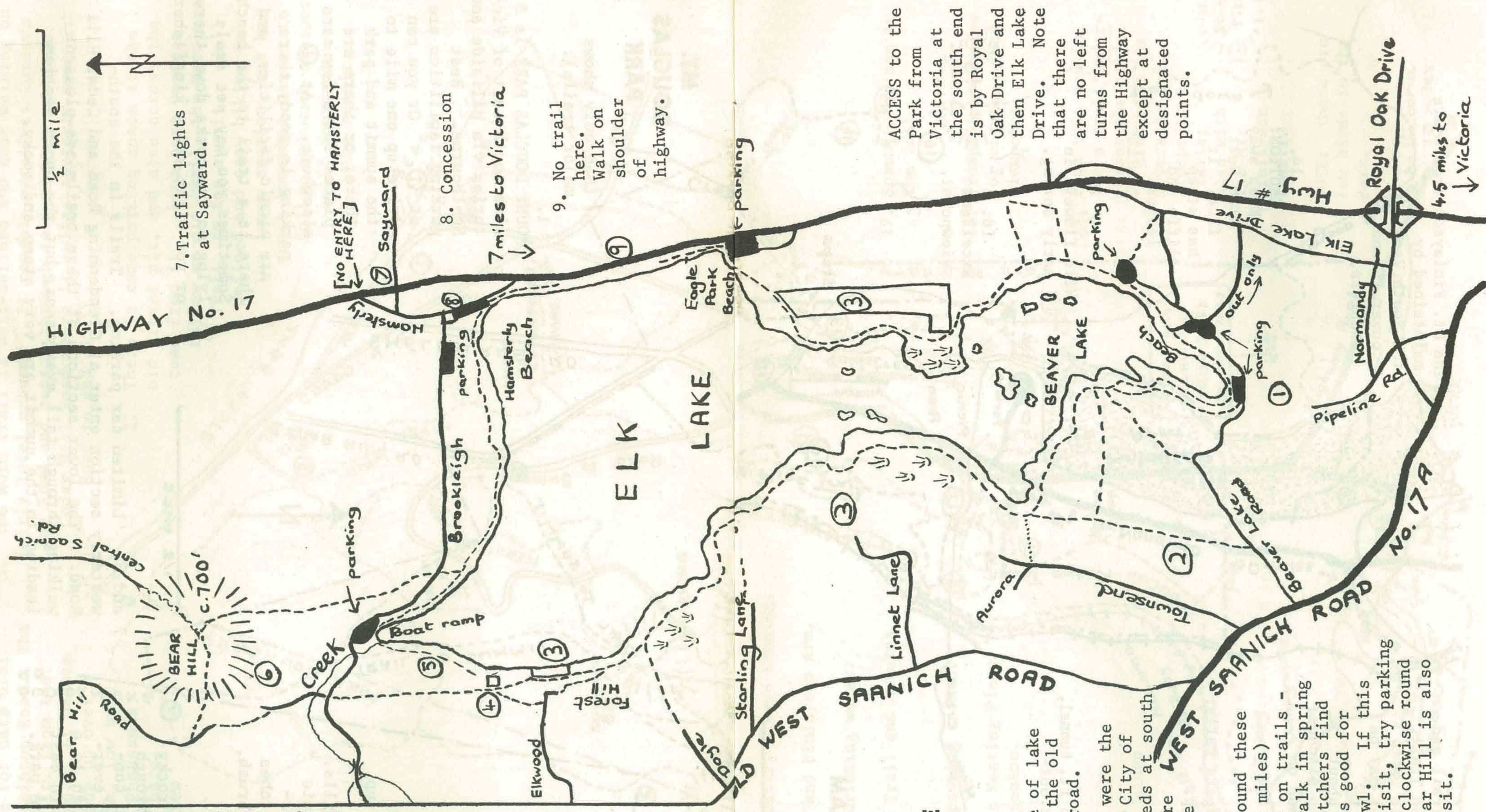
3. PRIVATE PROPERTY

# ELK LAKE AND BEAVER LAKE PARKS

2. Trail on west side of lake often follows bed of the old Victoria-Sidney railroad.

1. The lakes c. 1900 were the water supply for the City of Victoria. Filter beds at south end of Beaver Lake are now filled in to make parking lot.

You can walk around these lakes (about 5½ miles) most of the way on trails - a very pretty walk in spring time. Bird watchers find the swampy areas good for spotting wildfowl. If this is your first visit, try parking at ① and walk clockwise round the lakes. Bear Hill is also well worth a visit.



ACCESS to the Park from Victoria at the south end is by Royal Oak Drive and then Elk Lake Drive. Note that there are no left turns from the Highway except at designated points.



13. Start of Prospectors Trail and also leads to Finlayson Trail. Note that the latter is on private land and access may be restricted. Time up to summit - 45-60 mins., about two miles. Some steep pitches. Down trip should be made on north side.

12. Niagara Canyon and Niagara Falls. CAUTION! 150 ft. drop.

11. Squally Reach Lookout.

10. Old mine working. 65 ft. tunnel, 40 ft. shaft. Quartz outcroppings along trail.

## GOLDSTREAM PARK

1/2 MILE

9. Miners Spring - good water, always running.

8. View of Mt. Finlayson and Finlayson Arm.

7. Hidden Spring - pure drinking water.

6. Parking for Gold Mine Trail and Arbutus Ridge Trails.

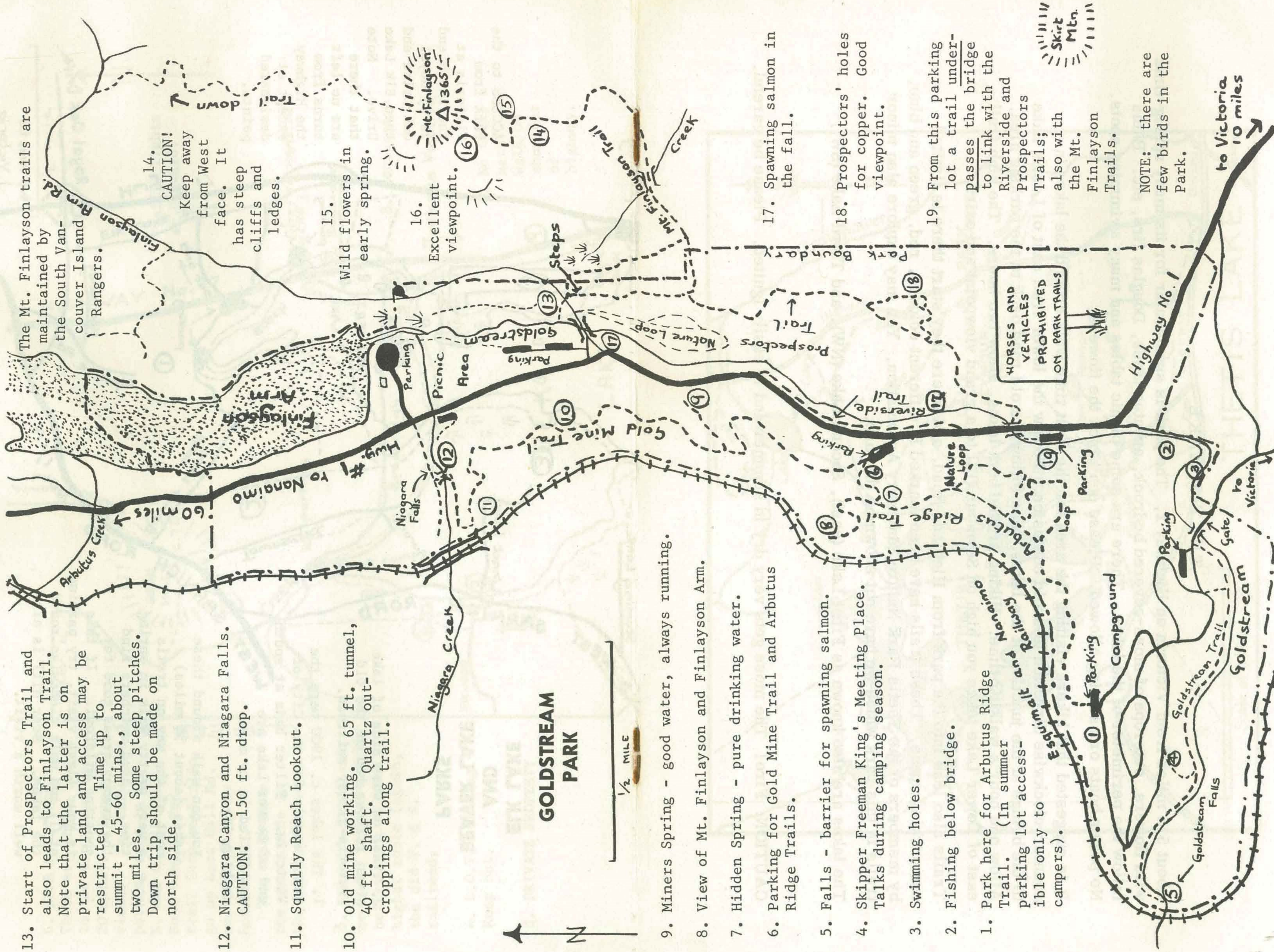
5. Falls - barrier for spawning salmon.

4. Skipper Freeman King's Meeting Place. Talks during camping season.

3. Swimming holes.

2. Fishing below bridge.

1. Park here for Arbutus Ridge Trail. (In summer parking lot accessible only to campers).



The Mt. Finlayson trails are maintained by the South Vancouver Island Ranger.

14. CAUTION! Keep away from West face. It has steep cliffs and ledges.

15. Wild flowers in early spring.

16. Excellent viewpoint.

17. Spawning salmon in the fall.

18. Prospectors' holes for copper. Good viewpoint.

19. From this parking lot a trail underpasses the bridge to link with the Riverside and Prospectors Trails; also with the Mt. Finlayson Trails.

NOTE: there are few birds in the Park.

to Victoria 10 miles



## THETIS LAKE

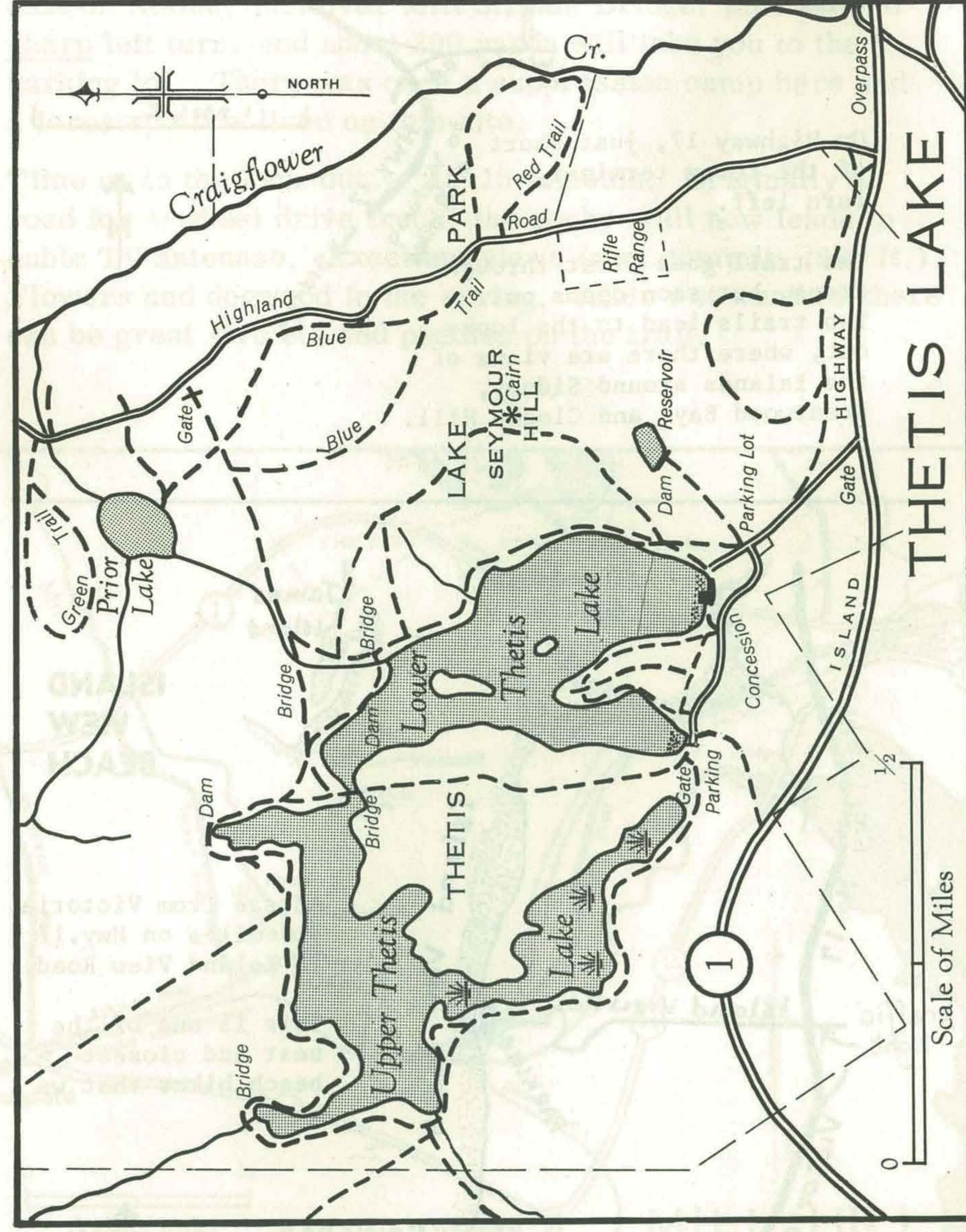
About 5.5 miles from Victoria on Highway 1. The park is spectacular for its many spring-time wild flowers, outcrops of moss-covered bedrock, arbutus trees, Douglas firs, etc. Paths follow the perimeter of the lakes. There are some picnic tables and many swimming spots. No power boats or camping allowed. Please don't pick the flowers.

It is suggested that hikers visiting the area for the first time walk around the lakes in a counter-clockwise direction to avoid confusion. Follow the lower trail east of Lower Lake to the bridge at the junction of the lakes, then follow the old road back to the parking area. Allow one hour's walking time. Hiking around both lakes, allow two hours. The high trail east of Lower Lake takes you high on Seymour Hill to a grand viewpoint and cairn.

Trails also lead into the park from Highland Road, and where they start there is limited car parking space. These trails have been marked in different colours, red, green and blue, by members of the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association. You may explore also minor trails in this park which we have not shown on the map.

The lakes are also known as First Lake (east), Second Lake (NW), and Third Lake (SW).

**CAUTION: Fire!** The moss gets very dry in summer and is easily ignited. Please be careful.

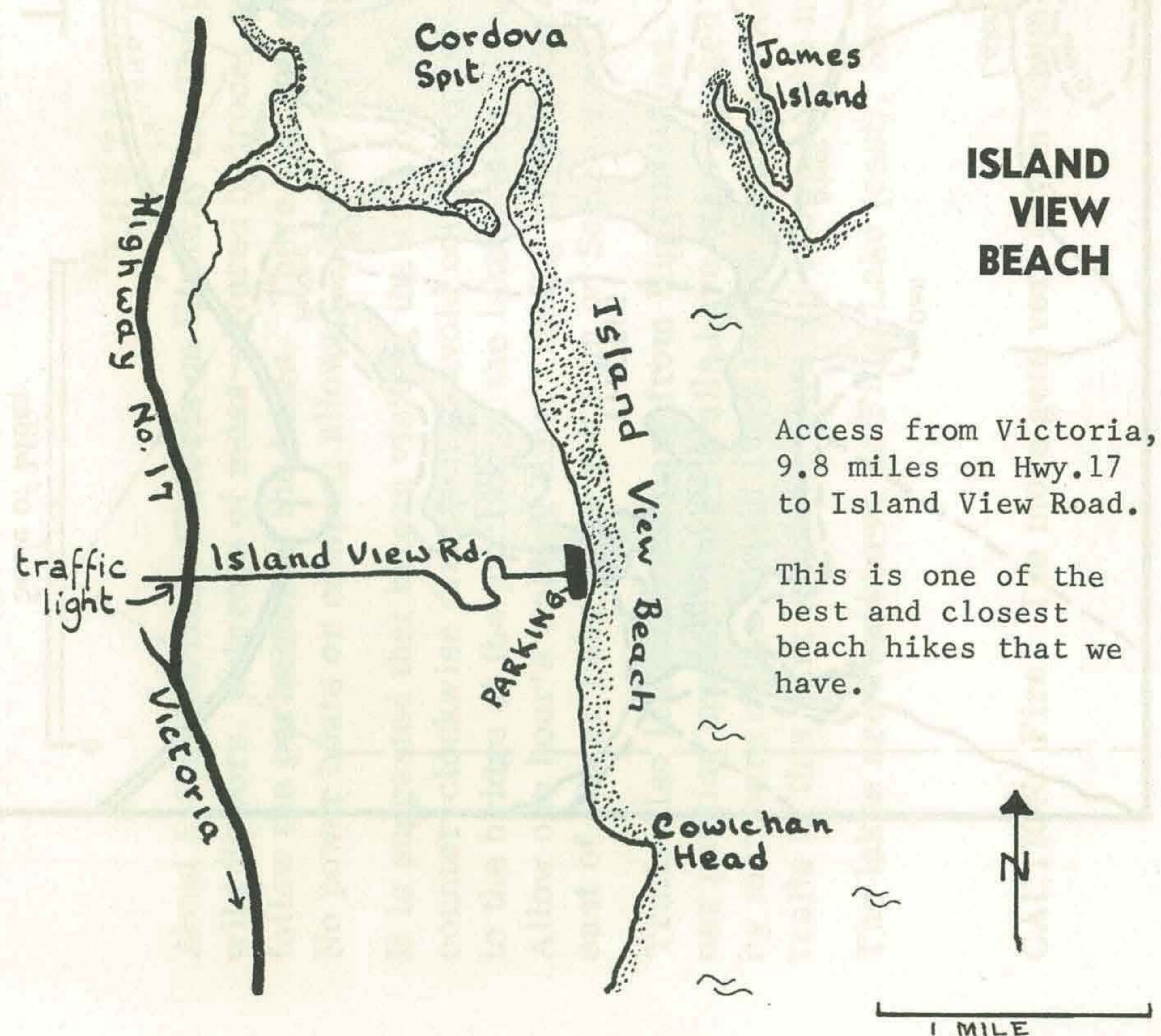
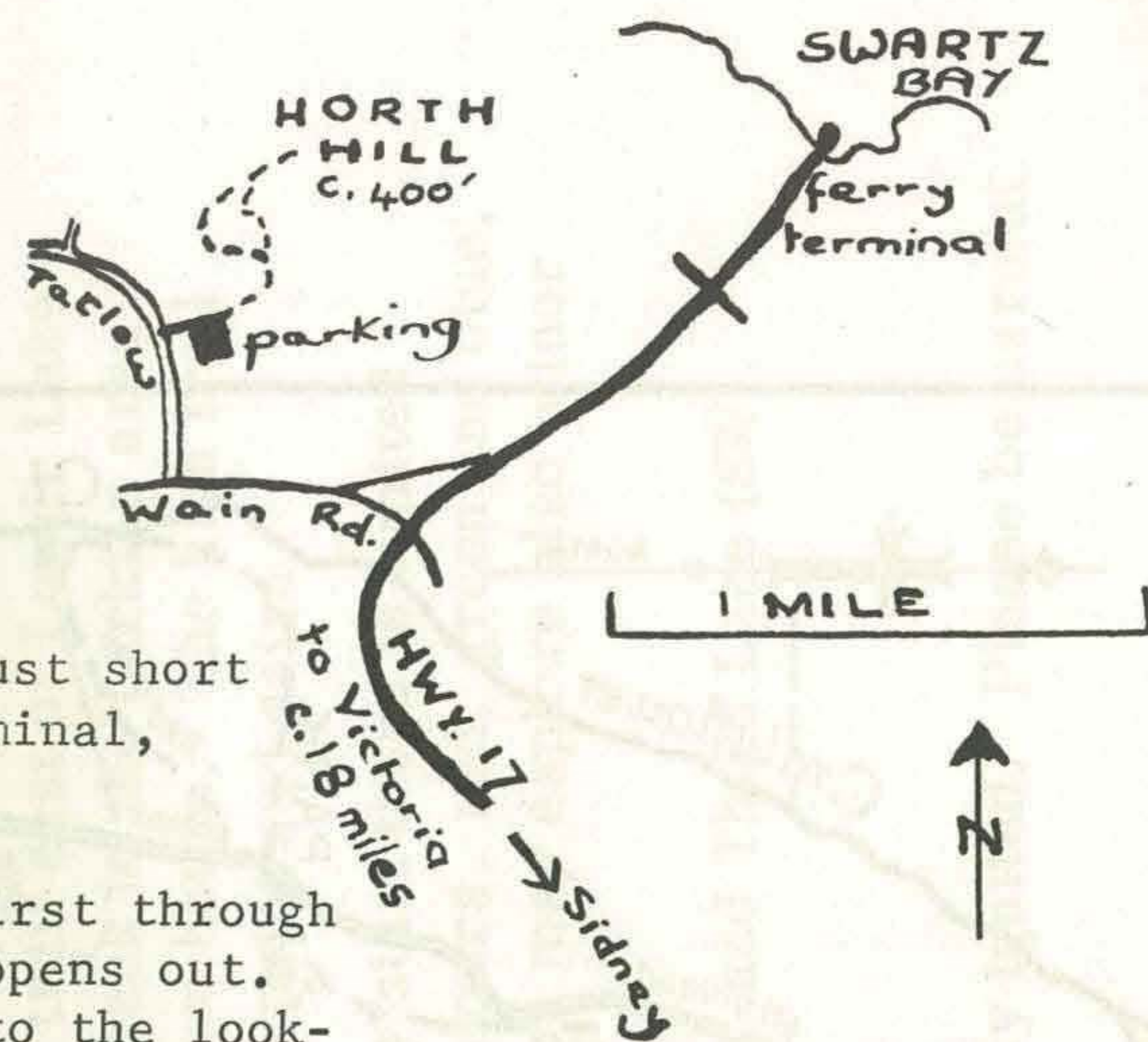




## HORTH HILL

On Highway 17, just short of the ferry terminal, turn left.

The trail goes first through trees, but soon opens out. Two trails lead to the look-out, where there are views of the islands around Sidney, Brentwood Bay, and Cloake Hill.



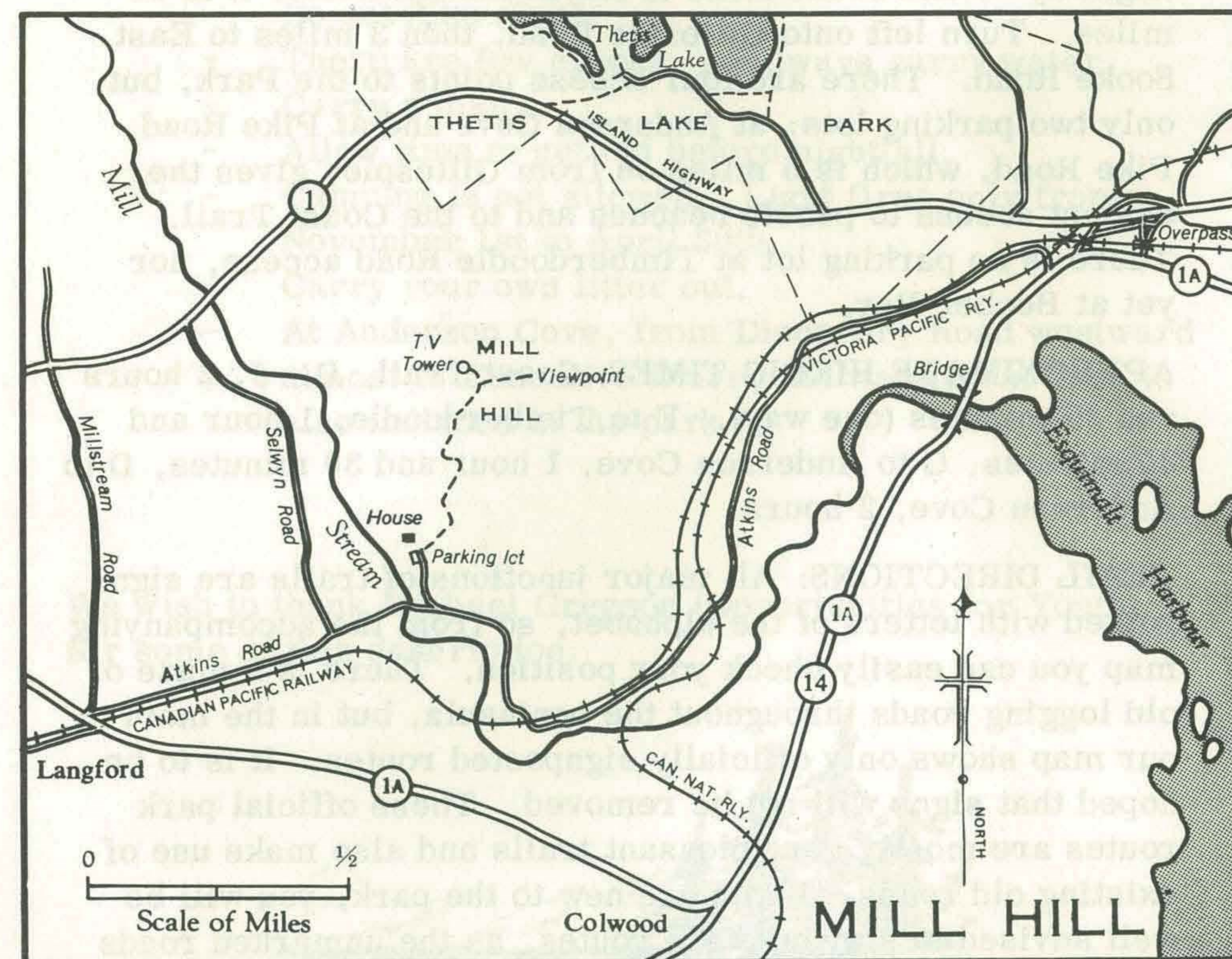
Access from Victoria, 9.8 miles on Hwy. 17 to Island View Road.

This is one of the best and closest beach hikes that we have.

## MILL HILL

From Victoria on Highway 1,  $7\frac{1}{3}$  miles to Millstream Road (blinking yellow light). Turn left, and then just before railroad crossing turn left again onto Atkins Road. Going east on Atkins, just over Mill Stream Bridge, take second sharp left turn, and about 200 yards will take you to the parking lot. There was once a suppression camp here and a forestry crew lived on this site.

Time up to the look-out - 10-15 minutes. Originally a road for 4-wheel drive truck, the rocky trail now leads to cable TV antennae. Excellent views from summit, (658 ft.). Flowers and dogwood in the spring. After wet weather there can be great rivulets and puddles on the trail.





## EAST SOOKE PARK

**DESCRIPTION:** This is a semi-wilderness park, very pretty in spring, and at least a hundred different species of wild flowers are to be found here. There are five inter-connecting trails, all well-cut, and these have been made safe by the construction of many ingenious bridges and steps. To help indicate the considerable walking distances involved in traversing the hills and valleys, on our map some contours are shown in grey, which give some idea of the terrain.

The Coast Trail is approximately five miles long; its scenery is magnificent, with good views of the Olympic peninsula - and the coast itself, with deep bays, cliffs and chasms, has an atmosphere of remoteness and adventure.

**DIRECTION FOR VEHICLE APPROACH:** From Victoria, via Highway #1 and Sooke Road to Royal Ensign Hotel, it is 18 miles. Turn left onto Gillespie Road, then 3 miles to East Sooke Road. There are four access points to the Park, but only two parking lots; at Anderson Cove and at Pike Road. Pike Road, which is 5 miles on from Gillespie, gives the easiest access to pebble beaches and to the Coast Trail. There is no parking lot at Timberdoodle Road access, nor yet at Becher Bay.

**APPROXIMATE HIKING TIMES:** Coast Trail, D - J, 2 hours and 30 minutes (one way). F to Timberdoodle, 1 hour and 30 minutes, G to Anderson Cove, 1 hour and 30 minutes, D to Anderson Cove, 2 hours.

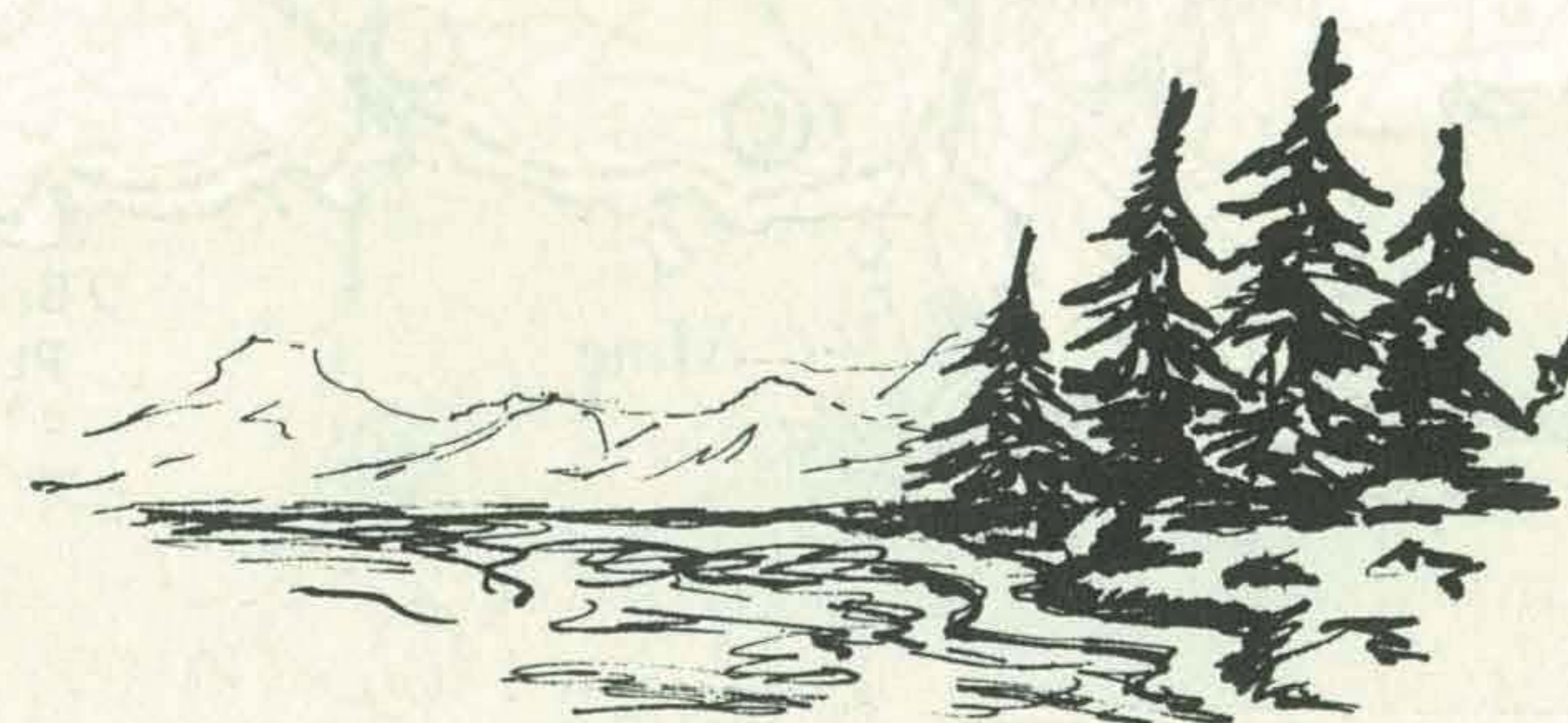
**TRAIL DIRECTIONS:** All major junctions of trails are signposted with letters of the alphabet, so from the accompanying map you can easily check your position. There is a maze of old logging roads throughout the peninsula, but in the main our map shows only officially signposted routes. It is to be hoped that signs will not be removed. These official park routes are mostly very pleasant trails and also make use of existing old roads. If you are new to the park, you will be well advised to stay on these routes, as the unmarked roads can be very misleading and frustrating. At the time of writing you must be alert to the fact that it is all too easy to get off the official routes accidentally onto these older roads.

Some land acquisitions at the eastern end of the park have just taken place, and more trails will be developed soon in the Becher Bay area, but at the time of writing much of the eastern end is still private land. It is not advisable at present to hike east of Cabin Point on the rough trail. Note that for emergencies there is a route to exit at Becher Bay Marina which crosses private land. In such a case, go past the old log cabin to a small cove behind the triangular island. A logging road runs out of the grassy slopes. This road is not officially signposted, but has been well marked with tapes by the owner of the marina who has effected several rescues in this area. It is about one hour on foot to the marina. This route is shown on our map.

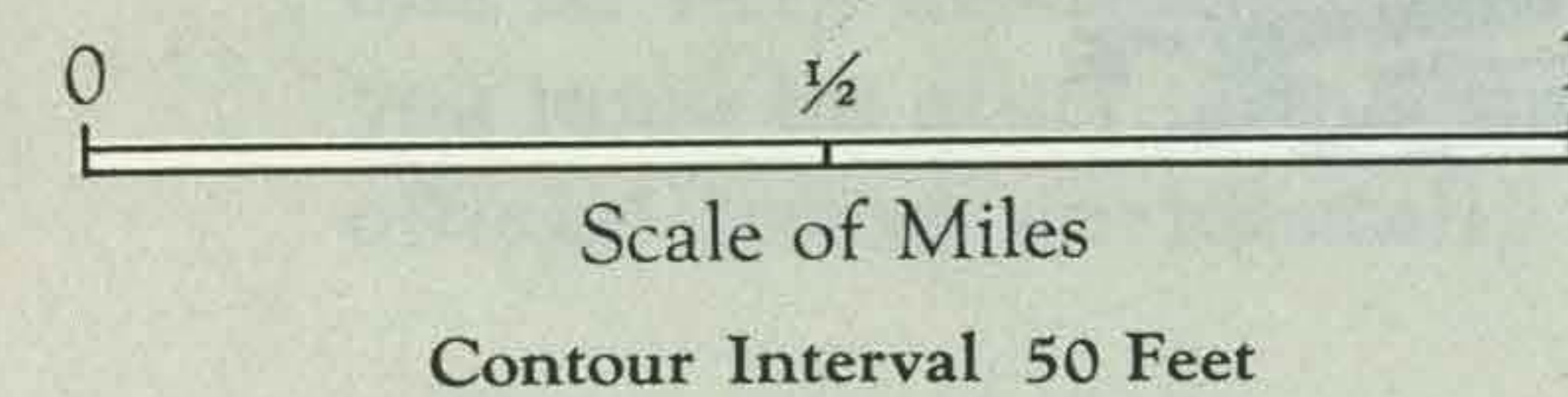
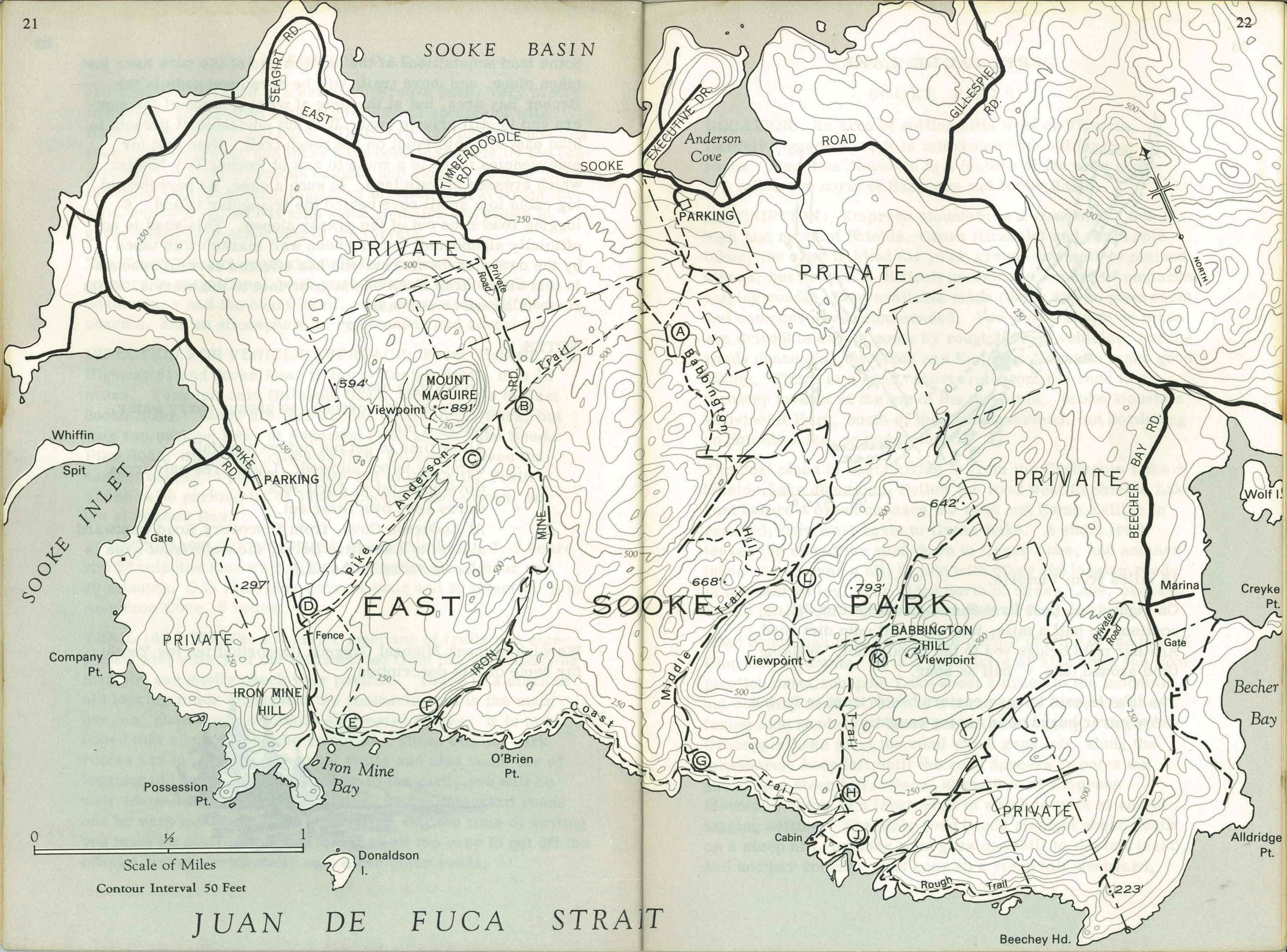
## NOTES:

- Do not hike alone.
- There are few creeks, so always carry water.
- Carry a map.
- Allow time to get out before nightfall.
- Camping is not allowed. Light fires only from November 1st to April 30th.
- Carry your own litter out.
- At Anderson Cove, from Discovery Road westward almost to Executive Drive, the waterfront area is also included in the park.

We wish to thank Michael Gregson (Opportunities for Youth) for some of this description.





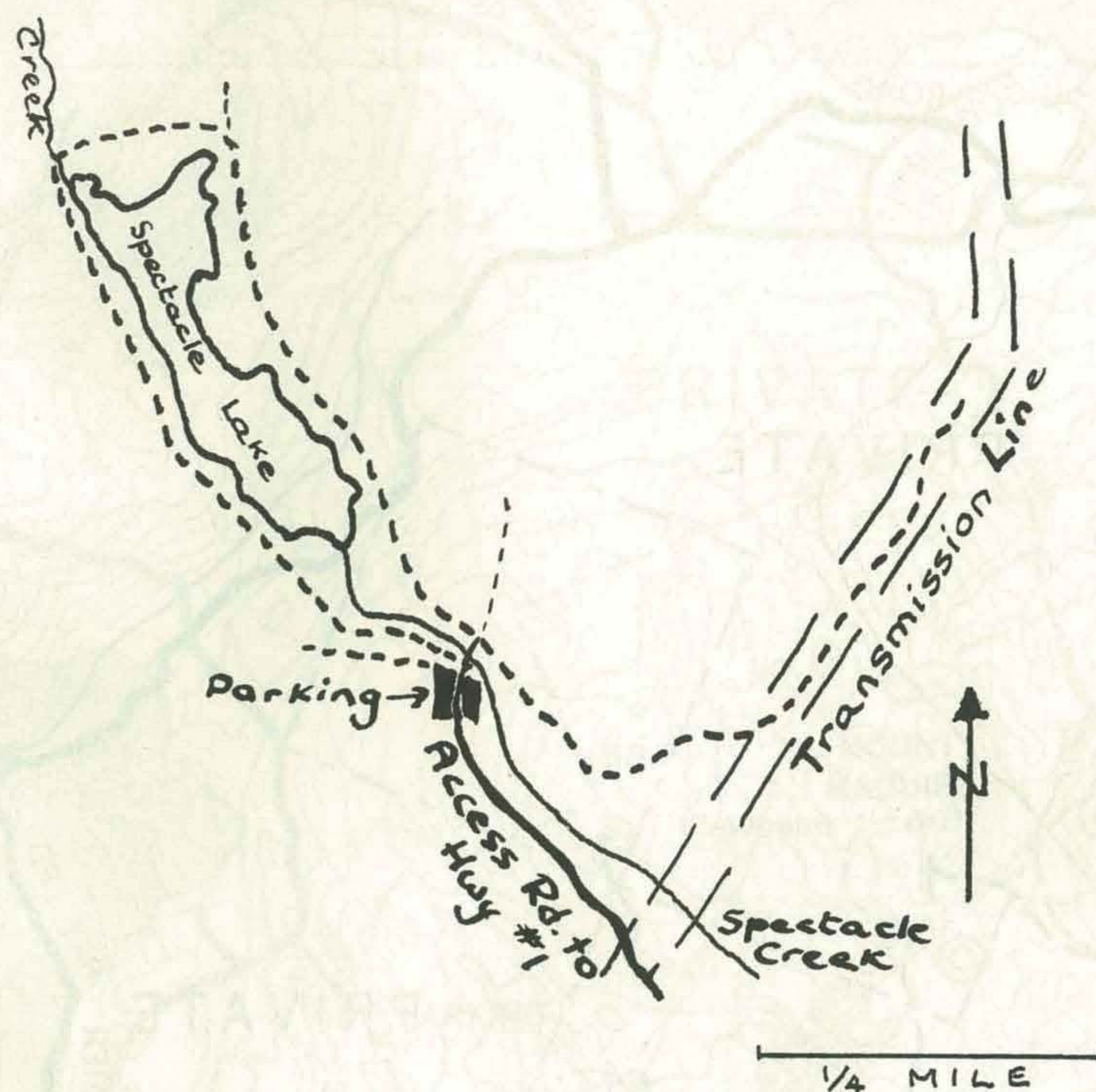


JUAN DE FUCA STRAIT

Beechey Hd.



## SPECTACLE LAKE



19 miles from Victoria.

On highway 1, past first Shawnigan Lake Cut Off, continue on half a mile, then turn left onto dirt road. Another mile brings you to the parking lot. Walking time around lake - half an hour.

The lake is said to have eastern brook trout in it, but we've never heard of any being caught.

## EMPRESS MOUNTAIN

## Sooke Hills

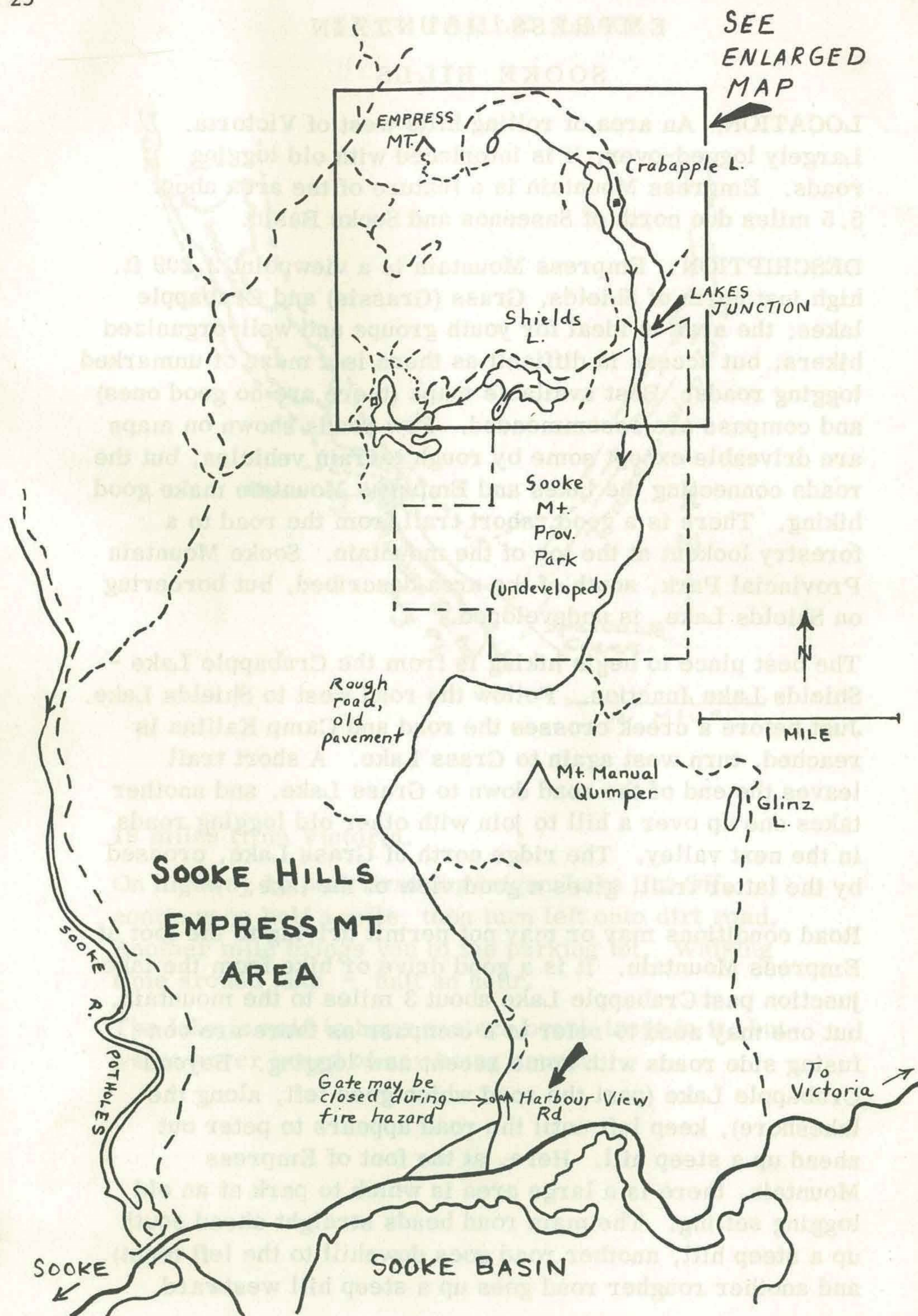
**LOCATION:** An area of rolling hills west of Victoria. Largely logged-over, it is interlaced with old logging roads. Empress Mountain is a feature of the area about 5.5 miles due north of Saseenos and Sooke Basin.

**DESCRIPTION:** Empress Mountain is a viewpoint 2,209 ft. high just north of Shields, Grass (Grassie) and Crabapple lakes; the area is ideal for youth groups and well-organized hikers, but access is difficult as there is a maze of unmarked logging roads. Best available maps (there are no good ones) and compass are recommended. Few roads shown on maps are driveable except some by rough terrain vehicles, but the roads connecting the lakes and Empress Mountain make good hiking. There is a good, short trail from the road to a forestry lookout at the top of the mountain. Sooke Mountain Provincial Park, south of the area described, but bordering on Shields Lake, is undeveloped.

The best place to begin hiking is from the Crabapple Lake - Shields Lake Junction. Follow the road west to Shields Lake. Just before a creek crosses the road and Camp Kalitan is reached, turn west again to Grass Lake. A short trail leaves the end of the road down to Grass Lake, and another takes one up over a hill to join with other old logging roads in the next valley. The ridge north of Grass Lake, crossed by the latter trail, gives a good view of the lake.

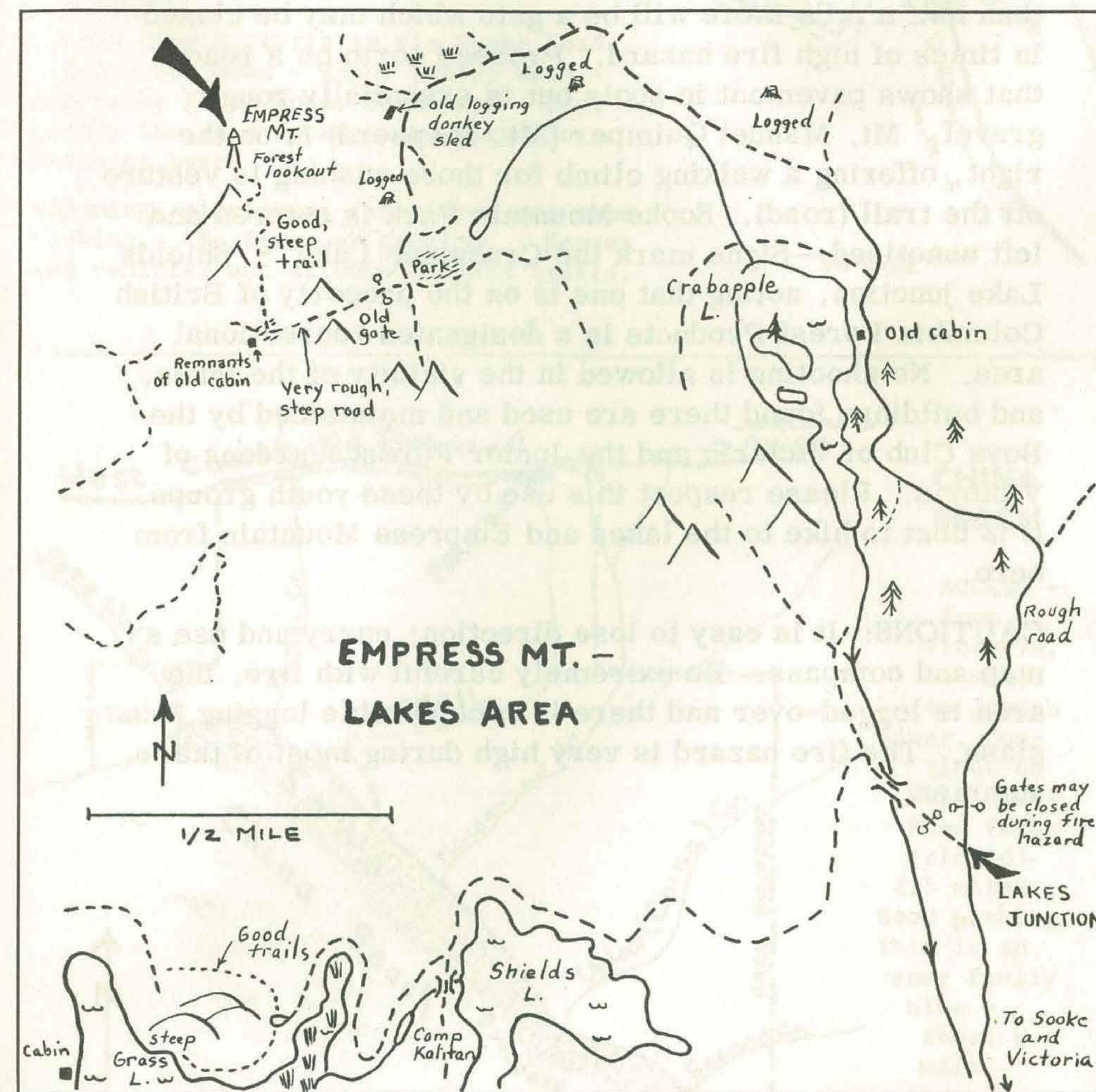
Road conditions may or may not permit driving to the foot of Empress Mountain. It is a good drive or hike from the lake junction past Crabapple Lake about 3 miles to the mountain, but one may need to refer to a compass as there are confusing side roads with some recent new logging. Beyond Crabapple Lake (past the road which goes left, along the lakeshore), keep left until the road appears to peter out ahead up a steep hill. Here, at the foot of Empress Mountain, there is a large area in which to park at an old logging setting. The main road heads straight ahead south up a steep hill, another road goes downhill to the left (east), and another rougher road goes up a steep hill westward.





Hike up this latter, past an abandoned metal pole logging gate. At the crest of the hill, where the road begins to drop into the next valley, look north for a trail up the mountain. Follow the trail over the rocks (with some old paint markers) to the forestry lookout at the top.

APPROXIMATE LENGTH: The rough road from Victoria - Sooke Highway 14 to the junction of the Shields-Crabapple

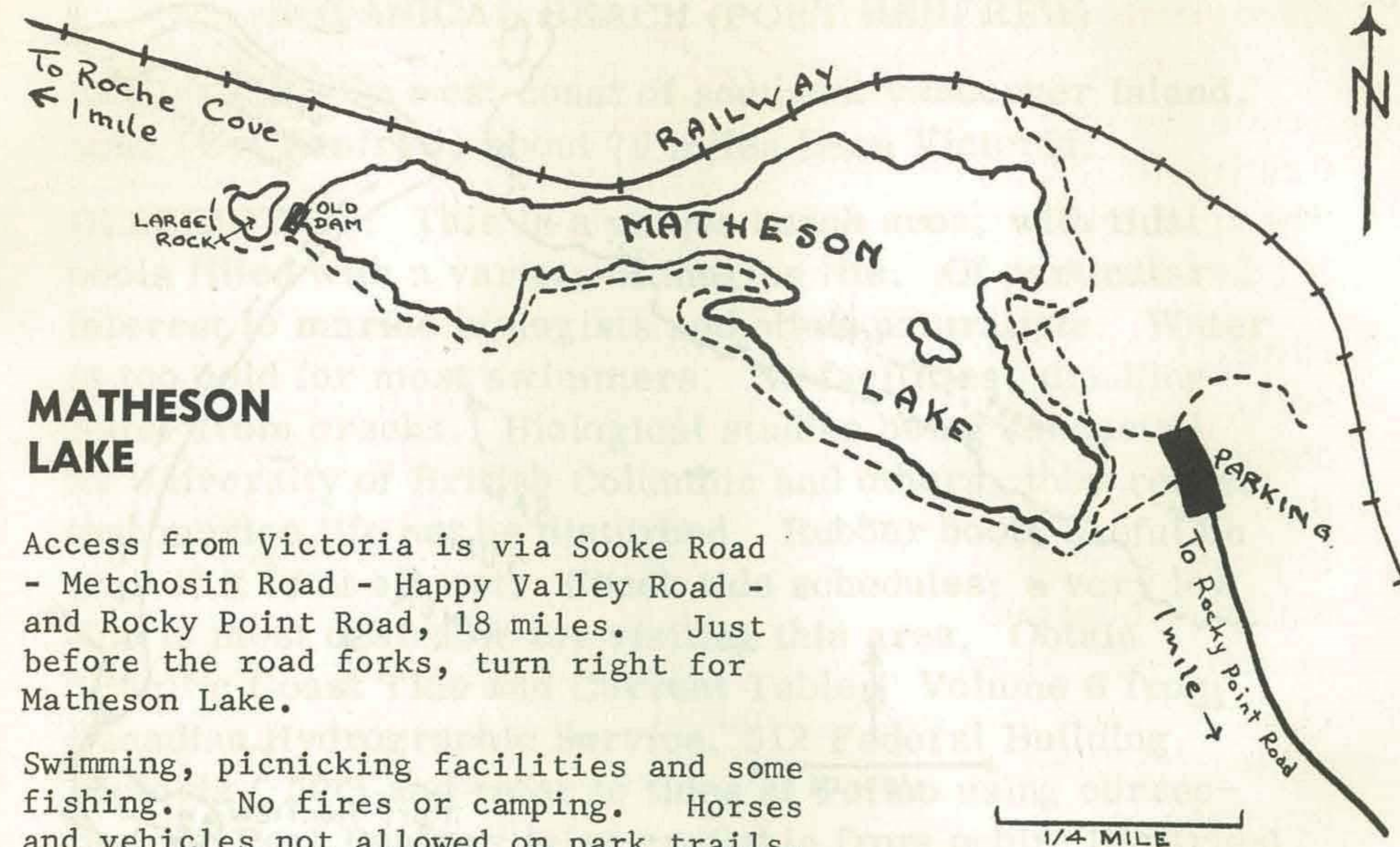




Lake roads is about 5 miles long. From there westwards it is about a mile to Shields Lake and another mile to Grass Lake. From the junction northwards it is about a mile to Crabapple Lake and a further 2 miles to Empress Mountain. The trail up Empress Mountain is steep but an easy climb if taken slowly; about one-third mile long.

**DIRECTION FOR VEHICLE APPROACH:** Drive towards Sooke from Victoria. Turn north on Harbour View Road about  $1\frac{2}{3}$  miles east of the Sooke River bridge. After less than half a mile there will be a gate which may be closed in times of high fire hazard. Proceed north on a road that shows pavement in spots but is essentially rough gravel. Mt. Manuel Quimper (Mt. Shepherd) is on the right, offering a walking climb for those wishing to venture off the trail (road). Sooke Mountain Park is entered and left unnoticed. Signs mark the Crabapple Lake - Shields Lake junction, noting that one is on the property of British Columbia Forest Products in a designated recreational area. No shooting is allowed in the vicinity of the lakes, and buildings found there are used and maintained by the Boys Club of Victoria and the Junior Forest Wardens of Victoria. Please respect this use by these youth groups. It is best to hike to the lakes and Empress Mountain from here.

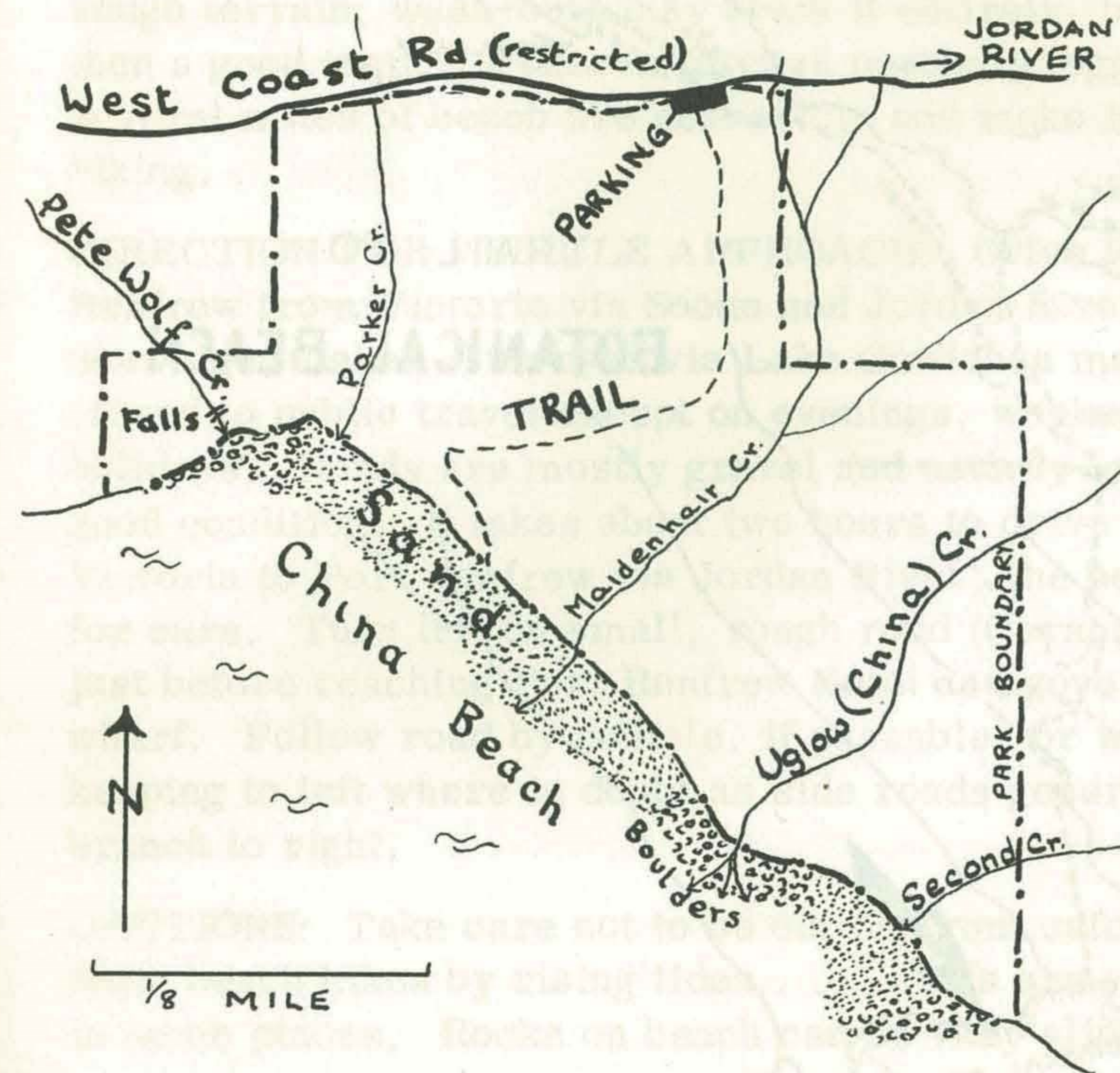
**CAUTIONS:** It is easy to lose direction; carry and use a map and compass. Be extremely careful with fire; the area is logged-over and there is considerable logging slash. The fire hazard is very high during most of the summer.



### MATHESON LAKE

Access from Victoria is via Sooke Road - Metchosin Road - Happy Valley Road - and Rocky Point Road, 18 miles. Just before the road forks, turn right for Matheson Lake.

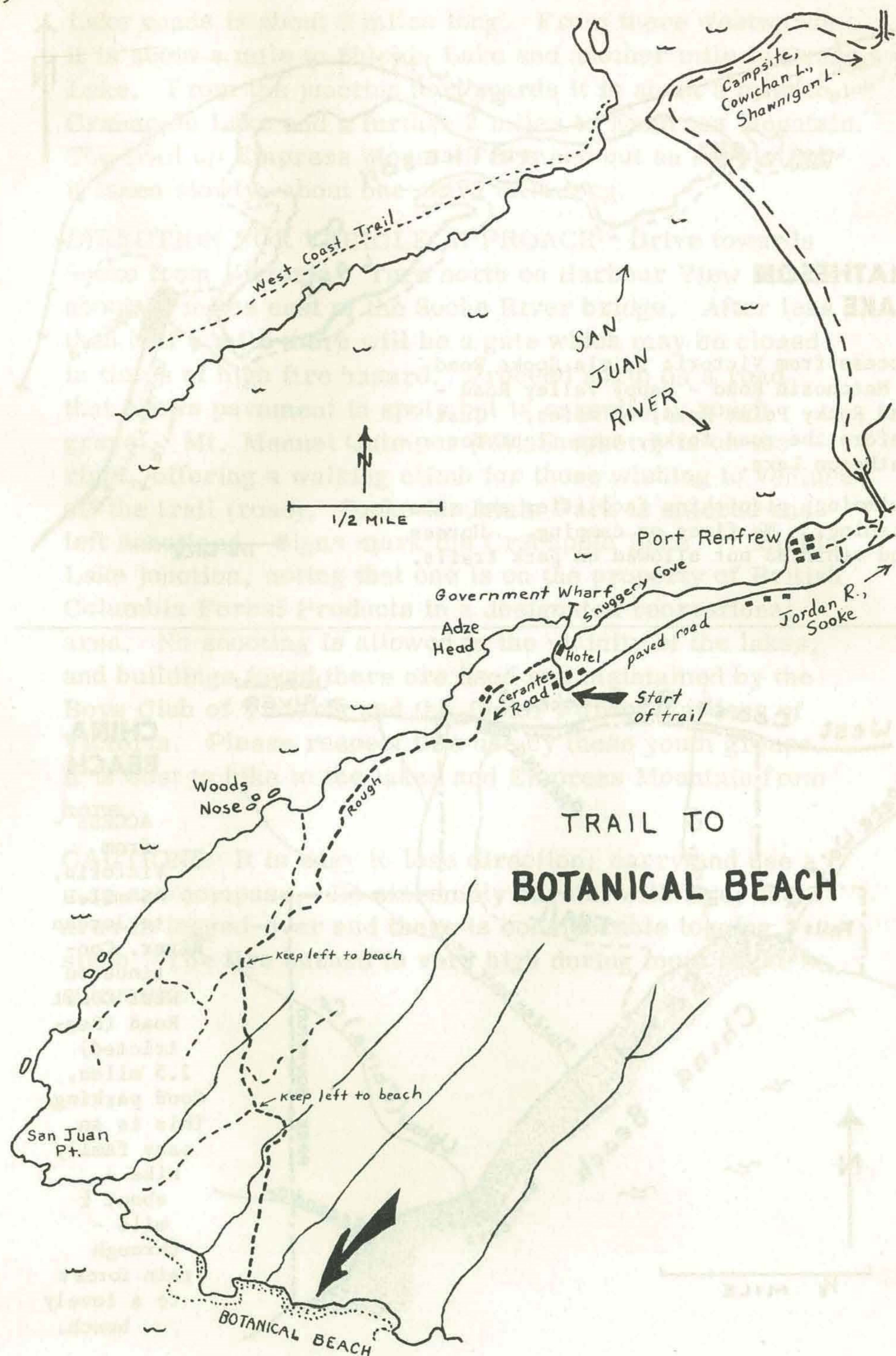
Swimming, picnicking facilities and some fishing. No fires or camping. Horses and vehicles not allowed on park trails.



### CHINA BEACH

ACCESS - from Victoria, 46 miles to Jordan River. Continue on West Coast Road (Restricted) 2.5 miles. Good parking. This is an easy family hike - about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile - through rain forest to a lovely beach.





## BOTANICAL BEACH (PORT RENFREW)

**LOCATION:** On west coast of southern Vancouver Island, near Port Renfrew, about 70 miles from Victoria.

**DESCRIPTION:** This is a unique beach area, with tidal pools filled with a variety of marine life. Of particular interest to marine biologists and other naturalists. Water is too cold for most swimmers. No facilities; drinking water from creeks. Biological studies being conducted by University of British Columbia and others; they request that marine life not be disturbed. Rubber boots useful on trail if it is at all wet. Check tide schedules; a very low tide is most desirable for visiting this area. Obtain "Pacific Coast Tide and Current Tables" Volume 6 from Canadian Hydrographic Service, 512 Federal Building, Victoria (.50¢) and refer to tides at Tofino using correction for Port Renfrew (also available from public libraries).

The road from Port Renfrew to beach, about 3 miles long, is rough and may only be passable to vehicles able to handle rough terrain; wash-outs may block it entirely, but it is then a good trail. It passes through partially logged area. Several miles of beach are accessible and make interesting hiking.

**DIRECTION FOR VEHICLE APPROACH:** Drive to Port Renfrew from Victoria via Sooke and Jordan River, or via Shawnigan Lake. The road via Lake Cowichan may be closed to public travel except on evenings, weekends and holidays. Roads are mostly gravel and usually in fair to good condition. It takes about two hours to drive from Victoria to Port Renfrew via Jordan River, the best route for cars. Turn left on small, rough road (Cerantes Road) just before reaching Port Renfrew Hotel and government wharf. Follow road by vehicle, if passable, or walk, keeping to left where in doubt as side roads generally branch to right.

**CAUTIONS:** Take care not to be cut off from safe return from beach hikes by rising tides . . . cliffs are very steep in some places. Rocks on beach can be very slippery.



## SOMBRIO

## BEACH

Access is by Sooke and Jordan River on West Coast Road (restricted). Turn off 14.5 miles past Jordan River.

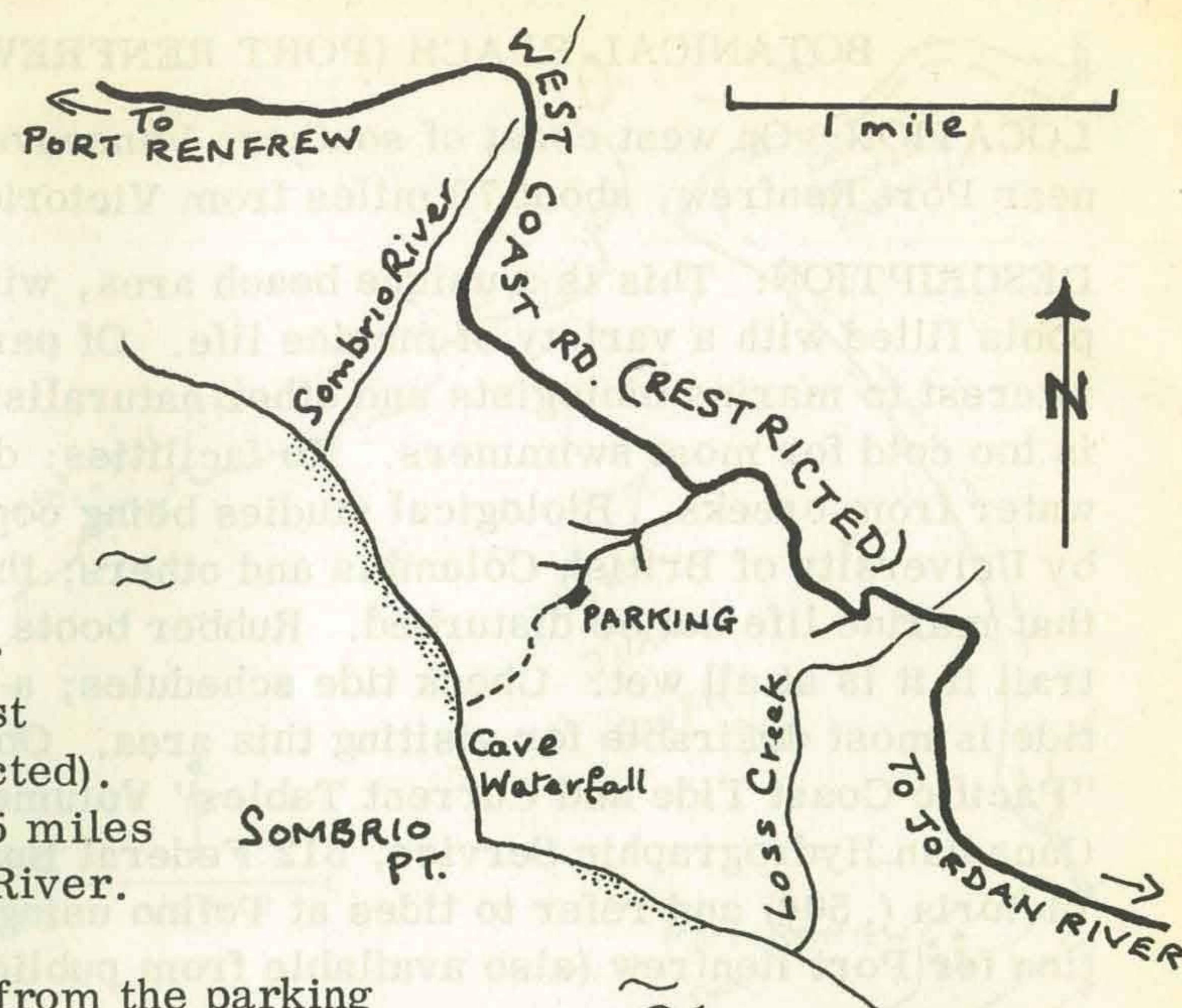
About 50 ft. from the parking area can be seen the first red marker tape on a 5 ft. stake. The trail, often rough and muddy, descends 400 ft. sharply and should not be undertaken by those in poor hiking condition. Time down, 10-15 minutes; up 20-30 minutes. Wear boots.

The beaches vary, some stone, others rocky with tide pools and in parts lovely sand where deer, mink and bear tracks can be seen.

At least two ships are known to have been wrecked on Sombrio Point. On the far side of the Sombrio River is a tree with the remains on it of the cable trolley used by the linesmen on the old life saving trail. Just upstream from here you can cross the river at low water and walk for another three-quarters of a mile - well worth the effort, as this is the better part of the sandy beach.

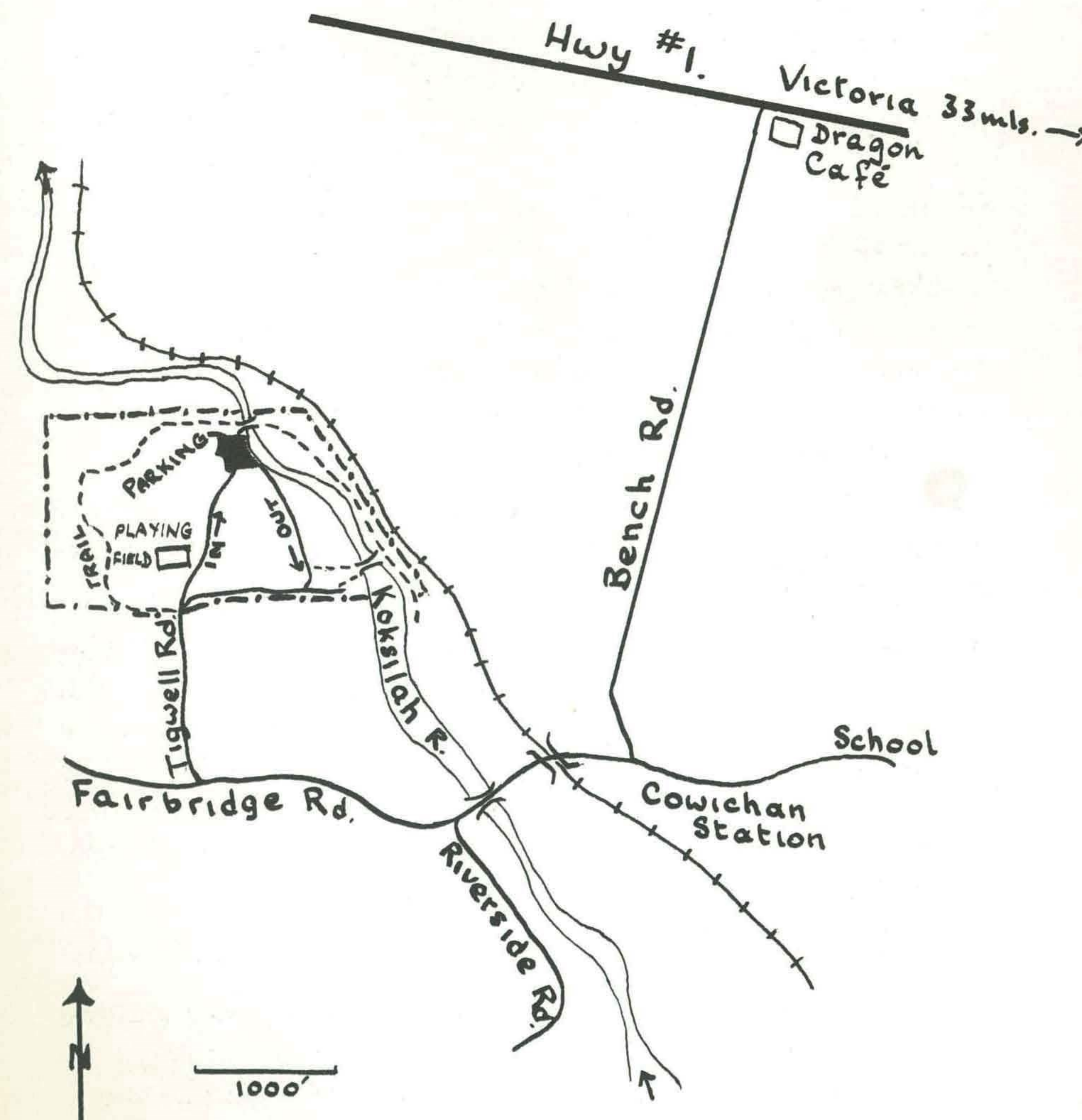
NOTES: Please respect this as a tree farm licence area.

In the vicinity of this trail, and more particularly on Loss Creek, there are two placer mining leases. Care should be taken not to bother the mining operations thereon.



## BRIGHT ANGEL PARK

BRIGHT ANGEL PARK (about 43 acres) is in the Fairbridge area, on both sides of the Koksilah River, about 1.5 miles drive south-west of Highway No.1. The 1967 South Cowichan Centennial Committee chose as their project a small park on the Koksilah River with a suspension bridge, which would be safe from the very high rise of the river in the winters. Excellent swimming; change houses; picnic facilities; half a mile walk along a trail through a lovely stand of virgin timber; fishing for steelhead trout in the spring.





*An Easy-to-Follow Guide  
to these places →*



GOLDSTREAM PARK



SPECTACLE LAKE PARK



GAIL WICKENS TRAIL

*→ and many more →*

# HIKING TRAILS

Victoria and  
Southern Vancouver Island



*prepared by*

The Outdoor Club of Victoria