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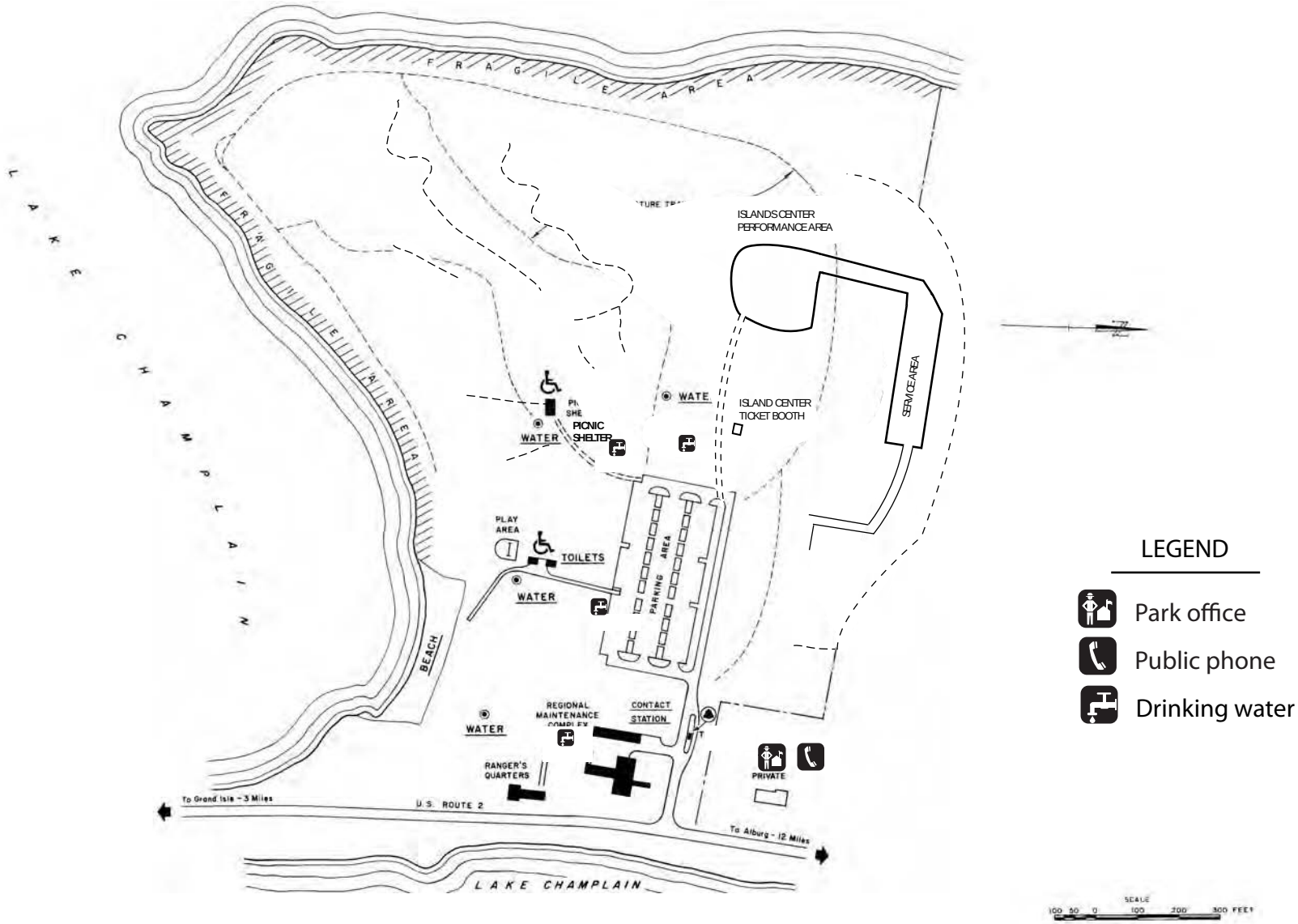
Knight Point State Park

North Hero, Vermont

FORESTS, PARKS & RECREATION
VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES



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Knight Point State Park

Welcome to Knight Point on North Hero Island. Knight Point opened as a state park in 1978, but its history goes back much further. John Knight, the Point's first resident, began ferry service between the islands in 1785. His family operated a ferry until the first bridge opened in 1892. The historic Knight Point house is a parks staff residence. The wooden frame wing is a reconstruction of the Knight Tavern, an inn built in 1790 for travelers crossing between the islands. The brick section of the building, added to the tavern in 1845, has an unusual two-story porch.

Knight Point State Park is home to the Island Center for Arts and Recreation, a community-based non-profit group working to promote and encourage use of the splendid natural setting that is Knight Point as a venue for cultural and recreational programs and events. Past events at the Center have included performances by Herrmann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions, the Vermont Shakespeare Company, and the Vermont Mozart Festival. For information on current season events and performances, contact the Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce (802) 372-8400.

While expansive lawns and meadows make up much of this 54-acre day use park, the forest along the lakeshore is a significant natural feature. In addition to stands of mature, windswept oak and maple on the point, hickory and hophornbeam are found farther inland. Tight clusters of cedar trees enhance the beauty and wildlife cover of the area.

The cobbled shoreline, west of the swimming beach and extending around the point, is a State Natural Area. It's the largest undisturbed example of this type of natural community on Lake Champlain, and is home to an unusually diverse group of uncommon plant species.

A trail loops around the point and offers scenic lake and shore vistas, plus intimate opportunity for close-up nature and forest viewing. A connecting path cuts through the meadow for those wishing to shorten the walk. Both trails are wide and easy to follow.

The land you can see south of Knight Point is Grand Isle. The channel between the islands is known as "The Gut" and is one of only three navigable routes between the main body of Lake Champlain, and the lake's "inland sea," east of the drawbridge. Because it is spanned by a draw bridge, this is the only passage suitable for sailboats and large cruisers. There is usually plenty of boat traffic to watch from the beach.

Getting There – Knight Point State Park is four miles north of Grand Isle Village and three miles south of North Hero Village on US Route 2.

Knight Point State Park Amenities:

- Swimming beach
- Picnic and group facilities
- Boat rentals

Recreating and Sightseeing in the Area:

Grand Isle

- The Hyde Log Cabin State Historic Site
- Grand Isle State Fish Hatchery

Isle LaMotte

- St. Anne's Shrine
- ancient coral reef

North Hero- North Hero State Park
Milton - Sand Bar State Park
Alburgh - Alburg Dunes State Park

For more information, contact:
Knight Point State Park
44 Knight Point Road
North Hero, VT 05474
(802) 372-8389 (operating season)
Or
Vt State Parks Reservations Center
(888)409-7579 9am-4pm Mon-Fri
www.vtstateparks.com

This document available upon request in large print, Braille, and audio cassette.
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Knight Point State Park Map & Guide

Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day
swimming
boat rentals
picnicking & group events
Islands Center for the Arts facility

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Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation