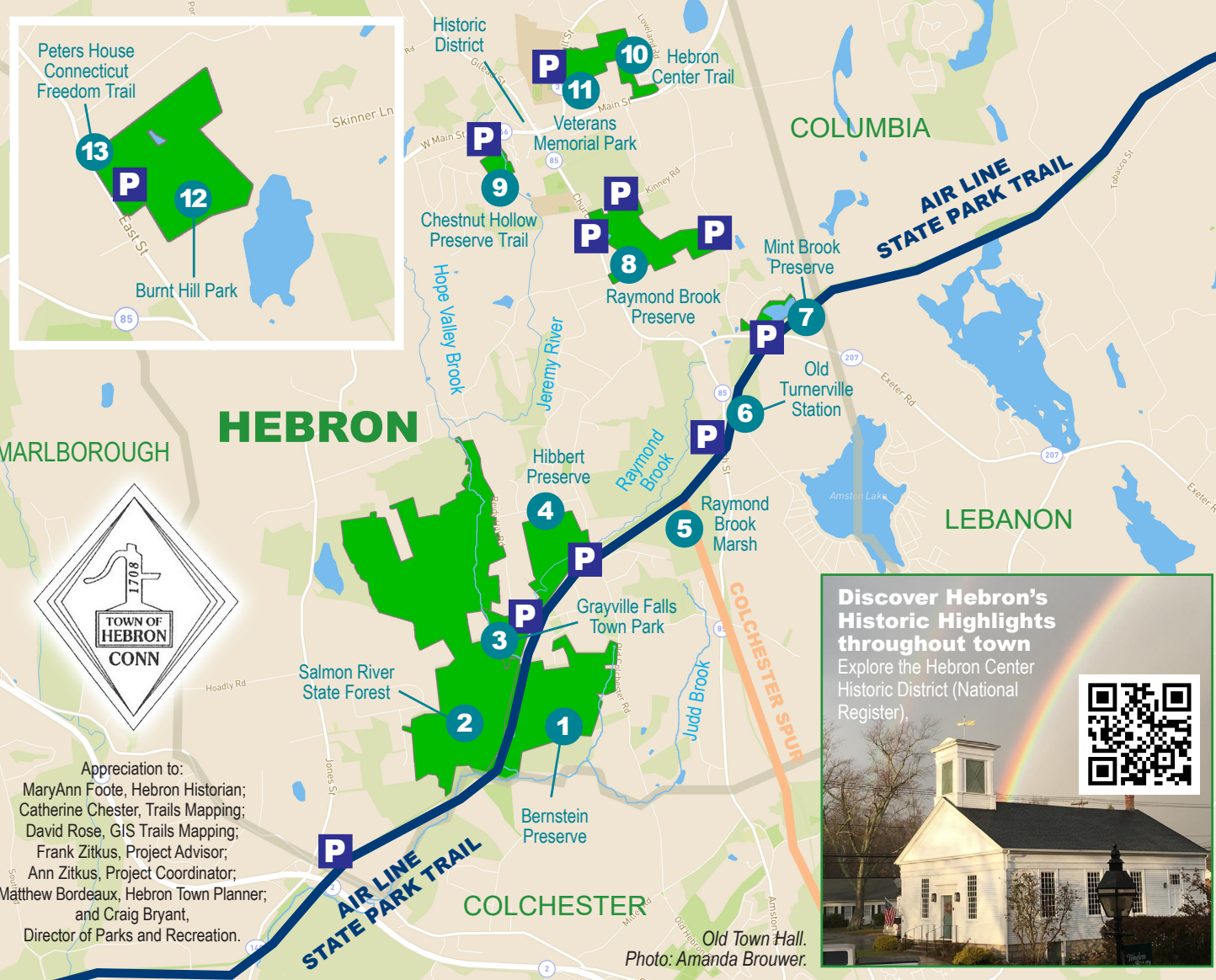


# ALONG THE AIR LINE TRAIL: AIR LINE STATE PARK TRAIL



Appreciation to:  
 MaryAnn Foote, Hebron Historian;  
 Catherine Chester, Trails Mapping;  
 David Rose, GIS Trails Mapping;  
 Frank Zitkus, Project Advisor;  
 Ann Zitkus, Project Coordinator;  
 Matthew Bordeaux, Hebron Town Planner;  
 and Craig Bryant,  
 Director of Parks and Recreation.

**Discover Hebron's Historic Highlights throughout town**  
 Explore the Hebron Center Historic District (National Register).

*Photo: Amanda Brouwer.*

**1. Bernstein Preserve**  
 Access, east side of ALT: just north of Judd Brook Bridge, a "Y" junction path leads into the southern part of this 215-acre town nature preserve. Path follows the old Air Line rail line "wye" spur, made to transport quarried materials during construction of the Air Line Railroad! Multiple historical stone bridge foundations line Judd Brook, testimony to massive efforts of early 1900's to fill beneath two spectacular features on ALT: the 137-ft. high by 1,108-ft. long Lyman Viaduct in Colchester and the 60-ft. high by 1,380-ft. long Rapallo Viaduct in East Hampton!

**2. Salmon River State Forest**  
 273 acres of Salmon River State Forest reserved to become "Old Forestland" contains historic dam site; confluence of Judd Brook into Jeremy River.

**3. Grayville Falls Town Park**  
 35-acre park. Access from ALT: via steep embankment into forest, leads to hemlock grove, Raymond Brook's cascading waterfalls. Bridge over brook leads to open field, picnic tables, horseshoe pits, trails. Old mill site within park.

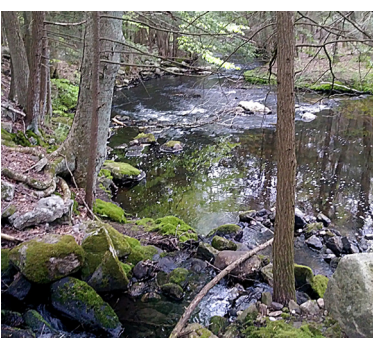
**4. Hibbert Preserve**  
 310 Old Colchester Rd, Amston  
 Access from ALT: Teal Trail (tree paint, near bench, not far from Grayville Rd.) leads to Raymond Brook and 1800's dam site within this 82-acre town nature preserve. Accessway off Old Colchester Road: Main Blue Trail (tree paint), leads from Old Colchester Rd. to 1800's damsite with features along way. White Trail parts shortly from beginning of Blue Trail; leads to 1700's mill site on Raymond Brook, giant glacial erratic boulder.



**5. Raymond Brook Marsh**  
 One of the largest inland wetland complexes in eastern Connecticut; here is a rare opportunity to traverse through the middle of an exceptional wildlife habitat.



**6. Former Turnerville Station**  
 Site of former freight depot and passenger station.



**7. Mint Brook Preserve**  
 15-acres. Trail system around Mint Brook Marsh; site of historical Wilcox Saw Mill. Instrumental in plans to connect ALT to Hebron Center through Raymond Brook Preserve.

**8. Raymond Brook Preserve**  
 116-acre town park, area of Hebron's first colonial settlements of 1704. Historic "wagon roads" lined by elder native trees, gravel trail system, pond, old mill site, agricultural fields, picnic tables, demonstration pollinator garden, diverse forest, bridge over Raymond Brook. Trail connection planned between the ALT and Hebron's Center via this Preserve.

**9. Chestnut Hollow Nature Preserve**  
 Chestnut Hill Rd, Amston. 20-acres. Hiking trails parallel Jeremy River. Specimen trees, identification signs, historic Old Town Pound.

**10. Hebron Center Trail**  
 connects with the Hebron Center Historic District, commercial center, and...

**11. Veterans Memorial Park**  
 playscape, trail, public restrooms, active rec

**12. Burnt Hill Park**  
 148 East St, Hebron, 171-acre Multi-use Town Recreational Park includes walking trails, pavilion, restroom facilities, active recreation fields, pond.



## HEBRON

**13. Peters House**  
 Visit the Peters House, town-owned historic house and designated site on Connecticut's Freedom Trail. Commemorates one of the most dramatic freedom stories in Connecticut history, in 1787 Hebron! See [hebronthistoricalsociety.org](http://hebronthistoricalsociety.org) for this story and much more early history.



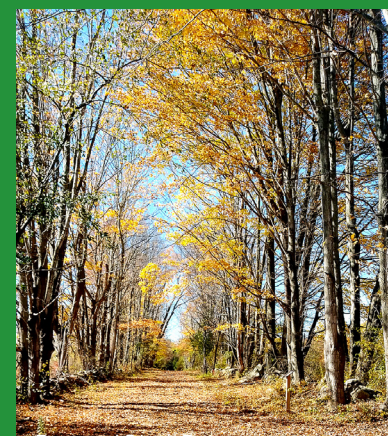
Nine of Hebron's 11 earliest School Houses remain, 2 of which, Burrows Hill & Gull Schools, can be visited by contacting the Hebron Historical Society. View remains of early settlers' sawmills, gristmills, and damsites along streams on town preserves, some near the Air Line Trail.

## AIR LINE STATE PARK TRAIL HEBRON

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## Hebron's early days

In the area of land now called Raymond Brook Preserve, colonist William Shipman built his homestead in 1704-05. His father, Edward, was one of the "Saybrook Legatees" bequeathed land by Attawanhood, or Joshua, Native American Mohegan. In 1676, Attawanhood, son of Sachem Uncas, willed land to the Legatees in appreciation for the English settlers' assistance to the Mohegans against the Narragansett tribe. More settlers followed colonist William Shipman and Hebron became Connecticut's 41st town on May 26, 1708.



## Hebron's Natural Attractions

From early days to now, Hebron's gently rolling hills and extensive, clean waterways have fostered farming. Agricultural Offerings today include dairy; horse riding; berry picking; sugar houses (for maple syrup); organic produce; and tree farms. Two exceptional Golf Courses & Specialized Campgrounds are in Hebron.

Rich in Passive Recreation Opportunities, Hebron's portion of the Air Line Trail, to the south, is surrounded by Town Preserves and State Forest. The 1500-acre Gay City State Park is in the north, and the State's Holbrook Pond, within 240-acres of Salmon River State Forest, is nearer Hebron's center. Discover passive recreational opportunities in between!



## Public Amenities

Includes EV charging stations, public restrooms, water bottle refill station, pavilion, playscapes, picnic tables.

## Food, Drink, Lodging

Find delicious food & drink throughout Hebron's Center and beyond, including seasonal outdoor, and lodging at Amston's historic mansion near the Air Line Trail.

## Events

Exciting Events Year-Round! Maple Festival in March, Juneteenth and Hebron Day celebrations in June; summer's farmers markets, guided hikes, and free Concerts on the Lawn; Lion's Hebron Harvest Fair in Sept.; Harvest Moon Festival in October; and more!



## Air Line Trail & Town Preserve Tips

- Fully Accessible parking: Church Street, Rte 85; Grayville Road (limited); and Old Hartford Road.
- Horse Trailer Access: Rte. 85 and Grayville Falls Town Park parking area (Grayville Road).
- Take only Pictures, Leave only Footprints.
- Town Preserves follow Connecticut State Park rules unless otherwise noted.
- Preserve Wildlife: Please Stay on Trails, Enter with Clean Shoe/Wheel Treads.
- Open dawn to dusk.
- Contact Hebron Parks & Recreation Department for more info.

Visit [ALSPTregion.org](http://ALSPTregion.org)