

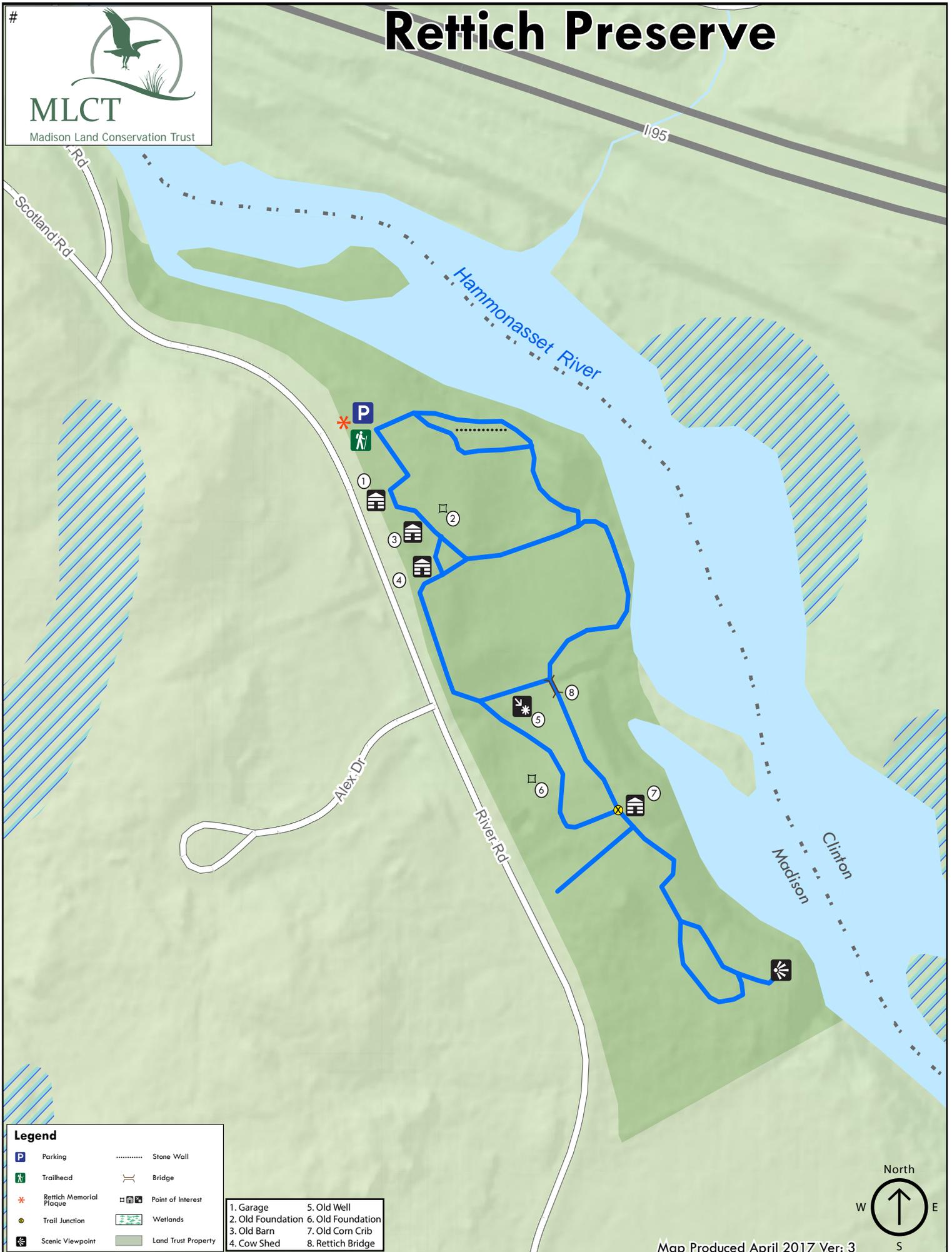
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MLCT

Madison Land Conservation Trust

# Rettich Preserve



### Legend

- Parking
- Trailhead
- Rettich Memorial Plaque
- Trail Junction
- Scenic Viewpoint
- Stone Wall
- Bridge
- Point of Interest
- Wetlands
- Land Trust Property

- 1. Garage
- 2. Old Foundation
- 3. Old Barn
- 4. Cow Shed
- 5. Old Well
- 6. Old Foundation
- 7. Old Corn Crib
- 8. Rettich Bridge



# Rettich Preserve

The Rettich Preserve, regarded by many as the crown jewel in our holdings, was donated to the Land Trust by Fred and Rosa Rettich in 2014. Fred's father and mother, Frank and Anna, purchased the land in 1906, after emigrating from Germany. For over 100 years the property was a single family working farm. Fred and Rosa kept a garden, fruit trees, grapes, chickens, and a few milk cows. They had a large hay field. Over the years, they added various structures, including corn cribs, a cow shed, and chicken coops. The Rettichs didn't want their beautiful, riverside farm to be broken up by developers. It was their vision to preserve the land as open space.

With your help, we've prepared the property for public use and conservation. Volunteers have cleared the land of unsafe buildings, debris and chemical hazards. And we have begun to restore vegetation to its natural state by clearing invasive plant species and allowing the fields to rest. Walking trails are in place for public enjoyment. And efforts are underway to attract VIP visitors – barn owls, bluebirds and pollinator species.

All of this work is made possible through the hard work of volunteers and your generous donations – as a private organization we do not receive state or town funding. There is still much to do to keep the Rettich Preserve open to the public.

## Permitted Activities:

The trails areas in the MLCT properties are for hiking only. Dogs are allowed, but must be leashed. Please pick up all animal waste. Contact the State Forest HQ for other activities allowed on their sites.



Photo by Peter Marteka of the Hartford Courant

Short Trail/property description of activities allowed and offered. How difficult it is to walk. **Word count:** 200

**GPS Directions:** 274 River Rd, Madison, CT 06443

**Category:** An easy walk fields and riverside property

**Start:** From the parking lot on

**Distance:**

**Approximate Time:** Less than 1 hour

**For more information about this walk contact:**

Madison Land Conservation Trust  
[www.madisonlandtrust.org](http://www.madisonlandtrust.org)



Madison Land Conservation Trust



founded 1964