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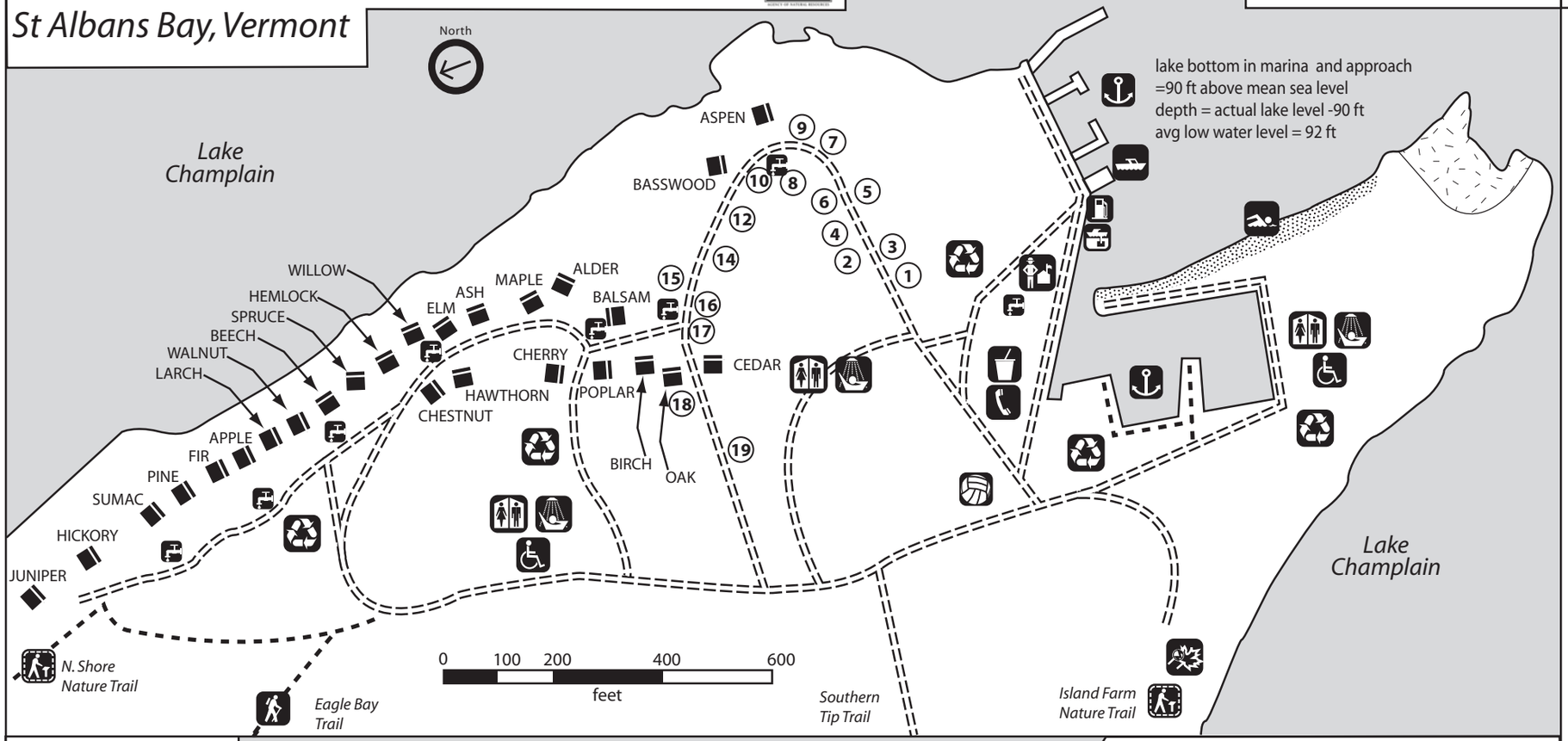
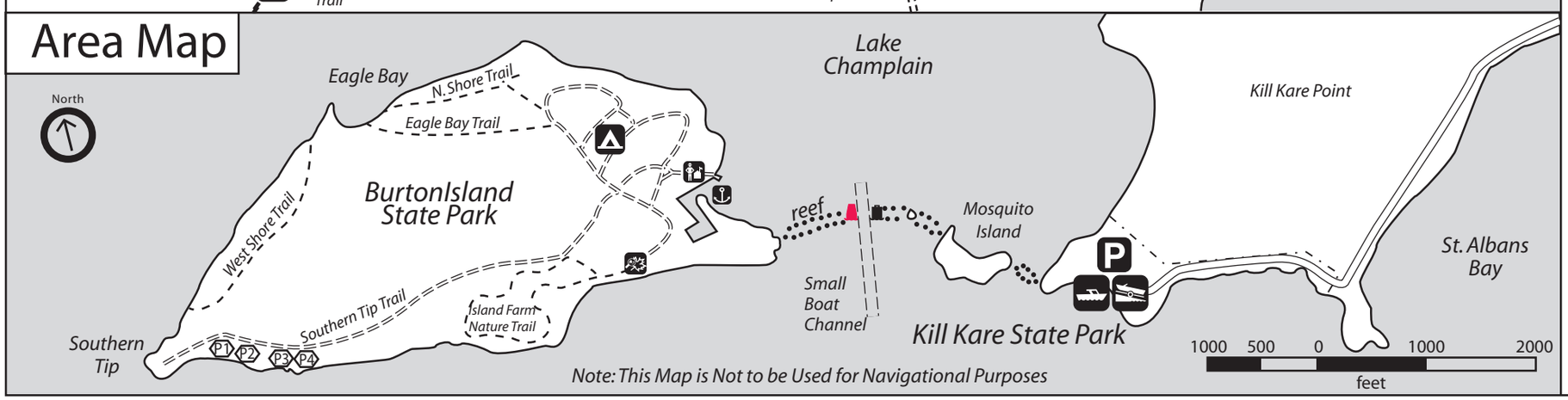
Burton Island State Park

St Albans Bay, Vermont

Campground



Area Map



Legend

- Mult-Use Trail: foot and bicycle traffic
- Foot trail only
- Park office
- Campsite
- Prime lean-to
- Restrooms
- Showers ($)
- Wheelchair accessible facility
- Drinking water
- Trash/Recycling center
- Concession and store
- Public phone
- Swimming area
- off-leash dog park
- Nature Center
- Self-guiding trail
- Hiking trail
- Marina
- Gasoline
- Boat Sanitary Station
- Parking
- Boat launch
- Passenger Ferry Available
- Park boundary

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Burton Island State Park

Burton Island is a 253-acre park off the southwestern tip of St. Albans Point in Lake Champlain's 'Inland Sea'. The park is accessible only by boat, with the state's passenger ferry making the 10-minute from Kill Kare State Park.

18th century maps refer to this as the "Isle of White." Jesse Welden, an early St. Albans settler and agent for Ethan and Ira Allen, is attributed with clearing and farming the island. As recently as 1874, Lake Champlain navigation charts label it "Potter's Island," though C.C. Burton, a farmer on the mainland, was using the island for pasture by the 1840's. Sidney Burton owned the island through the early 1900's and leased it to tenant farmers who raised were cows, pigs, sheep and chickens. Crops included beans and peas. Remnants of the island's agricultural past such as fence lines and stone piles, rusted farm implements and the foundation of the old barn are still visible.

Sidney Burton built a hunting and fishing camp on the eastern point in 1902. Ida Lashway inherited the island and continued leasing to tenant farmers, selling it to Randall Dimon in the 1950's. The Dimon's summered in the cottage for many years after selling the island to the State of Vermont in 1962.

Burton Island State Park opened in 1964. Original plans to build a causeway was abandoned for the unique appeal of an island campground *without* cars. A marina was built to accommodate boats. Ferry service was implemented in the 1980's. The marina is a lively stopover for people cruising the lake. The campground is popular with those who enjoy relaxing on a semi-remote island away from cars.

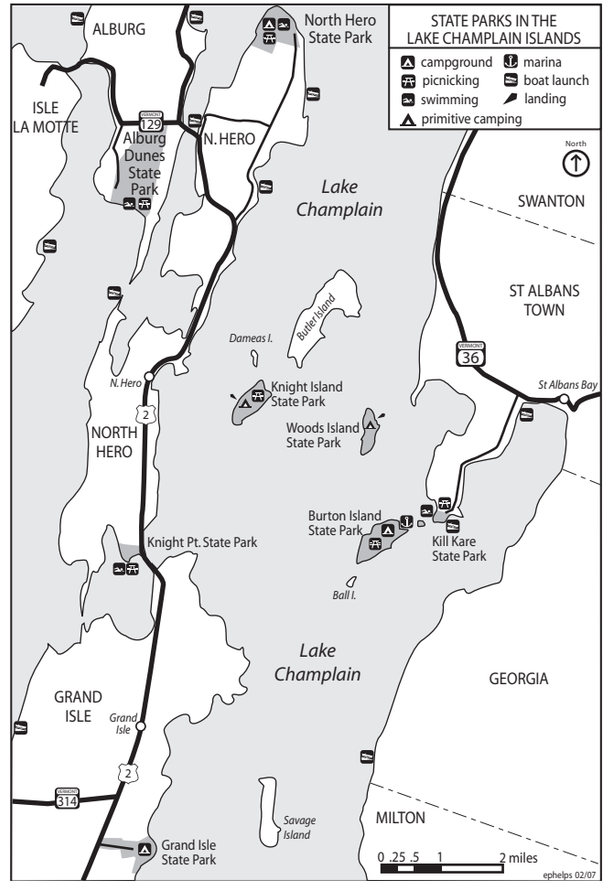
Early logistical problems posed by the lack of a nearby mainland access to Burton Island led to the acquisition of Kamp Kill Kare, a former boy's camp at the tip of St. Albans Point, in 1967. Kill Kare State Park provides support facilities for Burton Island, including parking lots, a boat ramp and the ferry dock and breakwater. Kill Kare is a day use park with a swimming beach, picnic area and group shelter. Renovated in 1982, the 1870's-era railroad resort hotel on the grounds now includes staff housing and public rest rooms. The lobby first floor lobby includes historic photos of both parks.

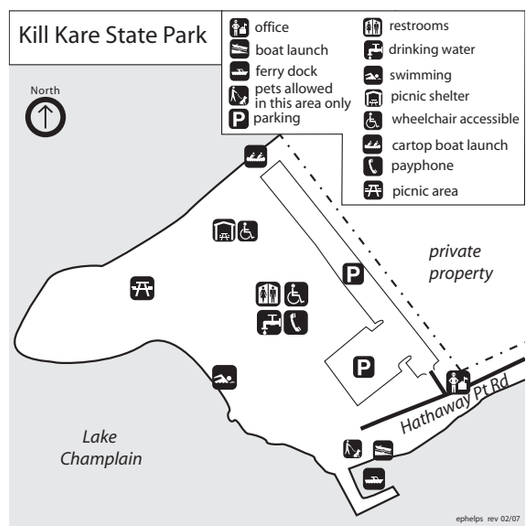
Burton Island State Park Facilities

- 26 lean-to shelters
- 17 tent sites
- 100 slip, 15 mooring marina
- Store
- Interpretive programs
- Walking trails
- Firewood for sale
- *No vehicle access*

Kill Kare State Park Facilities

- Swimming area
- Picnicking & group events
- Parking & boat launch
- Passenger ferry service





For More Information, contact:
Burton Island State Park
P.O. Box 123
St. Albans, VT 05481
(802) 524-6353 (Operating Season) Or
VT State Parks Reservation Center
(888) 409-7579 M-F 9 AM-4 PM

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Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Burton Island State Park
Map & Guide

Island Runner passenger ferry

Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day

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Fishing
Boating
Swimming
Interpretive Programs

www.vtstateparks.com