

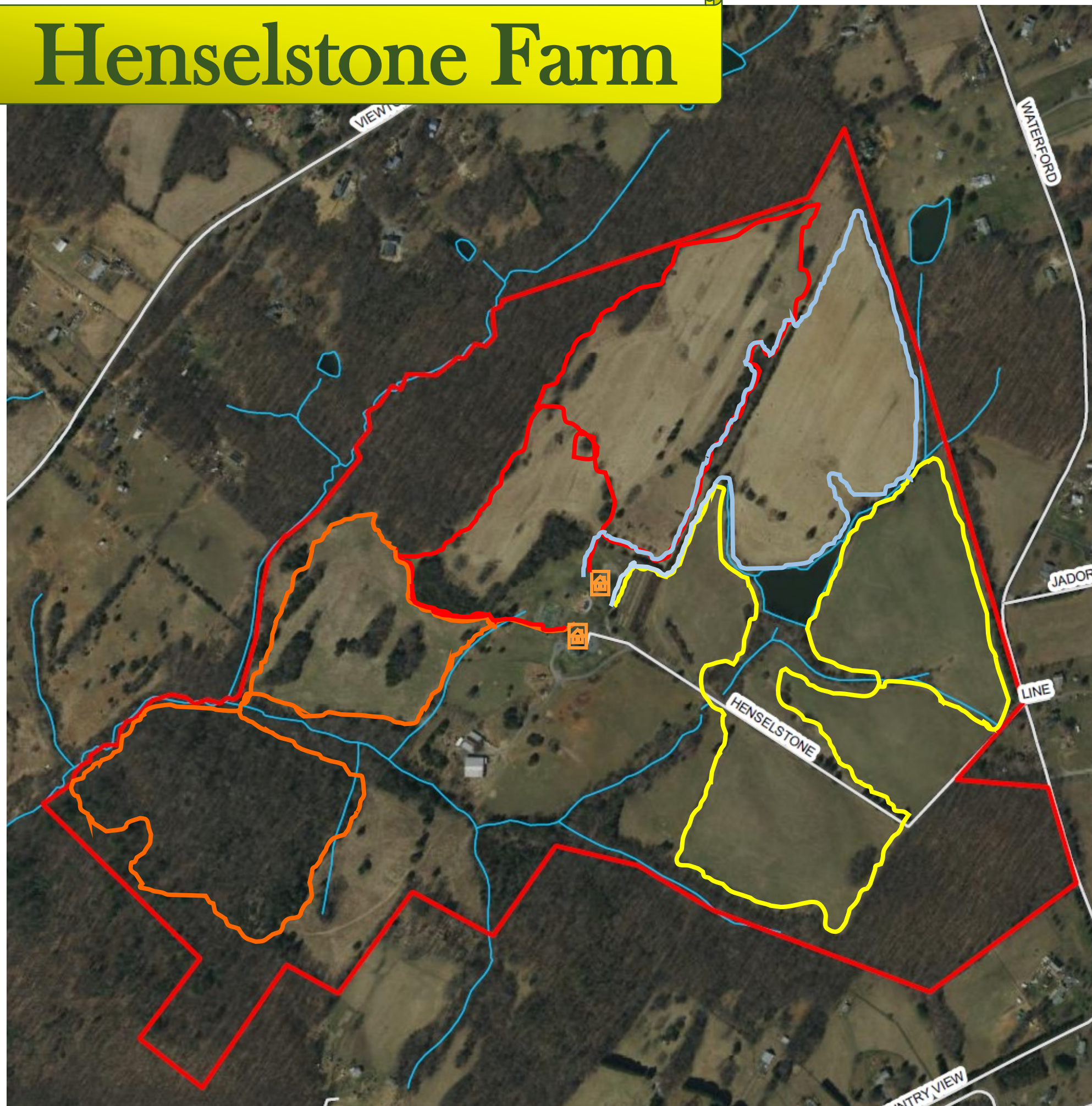
Henselstone Farm

Have you seen...

- Beaver Dam
- Beaver House
- Civil War Cemetery
- Blue Heron
- Box Turtle
- Duck
- Canada Goose
- Cardinal
- Woodpecker
- Blue Jay
- Chickadee
- Indigo Bunting
- Salamander
- Hare
- Groundhog
- Red Fox
- Owl
- White Tail Deer
- Forest Ferns
- Wild Blackberry
- Old Stone Wall
- Bald Eagle
- Wild Turkey
- Beaver
- Donkeys
- Cows
- Miniature Horse
- Sunrise and Sunset
- The Milky Way

Notes

- The red Outline is the farm border
- Dark Blue lines are streams and creeks
- House is oriented so that the front door faces east, the back west
- The stone wall is the border to the original Richmond to Washington, VA road
- The farm is 223 acres and was originally surveyed by George Washington



Welcome & a Word of Caution

Our trail system will give you a wonderful look into the flora and fauna of Henselstone Farm. This land is under conservation easement and designated to flourish naturally. Please do not purposely disturb, touch, or move any wildlife. Stay on the trails for your safety. Watch for groundhog holes, snakes, biting and stinging creatures, poison ivy, and brambles with thorns. Whether here or while hiking in a national park, always check your bodies for ticks after every walk. Absolutely no hunting or metal detecting. Please do not enter any fenced areas or feed any of the farm animals. The donkeys are friendly but might mistake fingers for carrots. Please do not light fires, except on the grill or in the firepit at the house. Please do not litter. Please always keep your dog on a leash. We suggest that your wear closed-toed shoes or hiking boots and long pants. The edible berries and fruit in the orchards and on the trails are for you to enjoy.

Battlefield Trail (1.1 miles)

Go out the front door and turn left (north) on the driveway and walk past the guest house. Look for the trailhead marker at the field entrance to the left (north). The trail will take you along the field where Confederate and Union units fought in November of 1862 over Corbin's crossroads. William Corbin is buried in the cemetery just ¼ mile past the trailhead. Beyond the cemetery you can climb into the nature stand and take a look around. At night you will see deer, turkey, fox, and many other critters. Turn right at the intersection and walk along the forest. After ½ mile you will come to a large oak log. This tree lived over three hundred years and fell a few years ago. Follow the trail through the old orchard back to the house.

Beaver Pond Trail (0.7 miles)

Go out the front door and turn left (north) on the driveway past the guesthouse. Turn right (north-east) after the peony fields and then turn left at the hayfield (Hayfield Trail for 0.2 miles). Walk along the old fencerow to the far corner of the farm. In the spring through these orchard grass meadows, turkeys are tending to their nests, and deer mamas hide their young in the grass. Orchard grass grows in clumps, which allows smaller critters such as quail and hare to run along under cover. Follow the loop along the creek and you will see a large "housing development" on your left. This is the beaver residence at the inflow of the pond. Follow the trail along wetlands purposely created for birds. On the pond you will see turtles, several types of ducks, geese, and the occasional blue heron and bald eagle.

Hayfield Trail (1.9 miles)

Go out the front door and turn left (north) on the driveway past the guesthouse. Turn right (north-east) after the peony fields and then turn left at the hayfield. Follow the trail along the fence and take a right at the first crossing. The trail will take you to past the beaver pond. Don't lift up the boat. There could be critters resting underneath. If you hear a big clap on the water, the beavers heard you and warn the neighborhood of your arrival. Walk along the trail to the driveway, take a left and immediately turn right (south) into the meadow adjacent to the cow meadow fence. Follow the trail along the fence and say high to Barney, Wrinkles, William, January and her baby, Ginger. As the trail turns to the left (east) you pass by a nature stand. If you want to see deer up close, less than 30 feet from you at dusk or dawn, sit and have a look. Follow the trail along the oak forest (north), cross the driveway at the sharp corner and turn left (west) on the top of the curve. Walk through the wetlands to the bottom of beaver pond, cross over the feeder spring and walk along the pond. You can either follow trail around the field and end back at the driveway or cross over to Beaver Pond Trail.

Forest Trail (1.5 miles)

Walk from the house towards the little pond (west), cross below the dam and take a left (south). Follow the trail through wetlands to the right (west). Cross the creek left into the forest. This part of the forest belongs to a great horned owl. You can sit on the nature stand at dusk. If you are lucky the curious giant will sit only feet from you, quietly watching you. When she screeches, don't fall off the tree stand! It is loud! Past the stone wall, turn left (east) and continue to the meadow, where you can say hi to the donkeys, Kramer, Harold and Maude, Indie, Bucca, Venus, Stumpy, Noah, and Moonshine. Follow the trail up the hill and through the old slave quarter clearing. Some ruins are still around but black walnut trees have taken over the former gardens. Walk along the forest through the lush oak, beech, hickory, and cherry forest. Beware of "little Mount Kilimanjaro." Whether going up or down, the steep hill is not without challenge for the hiker. This forest is full of life, from box turtles to turkey and deer. Past "little Mount Kilimanjaro" walk along the creek rife with black cohosh, ferns, raspberry, and elderberry. Cross back across the creek and follow the trail to the left (north). Walk up on turkey hill, hang a right to get back to the house or cross at the top of the field onto Battlefield Trail.