

The Baird Property: a managed forest

In 1837, a pioneer family settled here. Initially, this land supported basic food crops, livestock and the forest provided lumber, fuel and maple sugar. But the sandy soil was only marginal for agriculture and the lowlands were often flooded due to beaver dams. By the 1920s, the land was left idle and grew weeds.

In 1963, Margaret Baird wanted to rehabilitate the land and sold this 36 hectare (89 acre) parcel to the County of Lanark to add to its Agreement Portfolio. Under this program, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources manages the county's holdings with the object of improving the forest cover, thereby restoring the land's productivity.

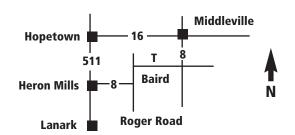
The Baird Trail

This self guided tour encompasses a variety of woodland types and a beaver meadow in a 0.8 km loop. Interpretive panels point out salient features along the route. The trail starts in the parking lot.

How to get there

From Lanark, take highway 511 north for 4 km to the Heron Mills intersection at County Road 8. Turn right at 8 and go east for 2 km to the intersection at Roger Road. The Baird property entrance is on the left, 250 metres east of the Roger Road intersection.

From Middleville, take County Road 8 south for 5 kms, 500 metres west of the Mitchell Road intersection.



The Baird Trail is managed by the Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation