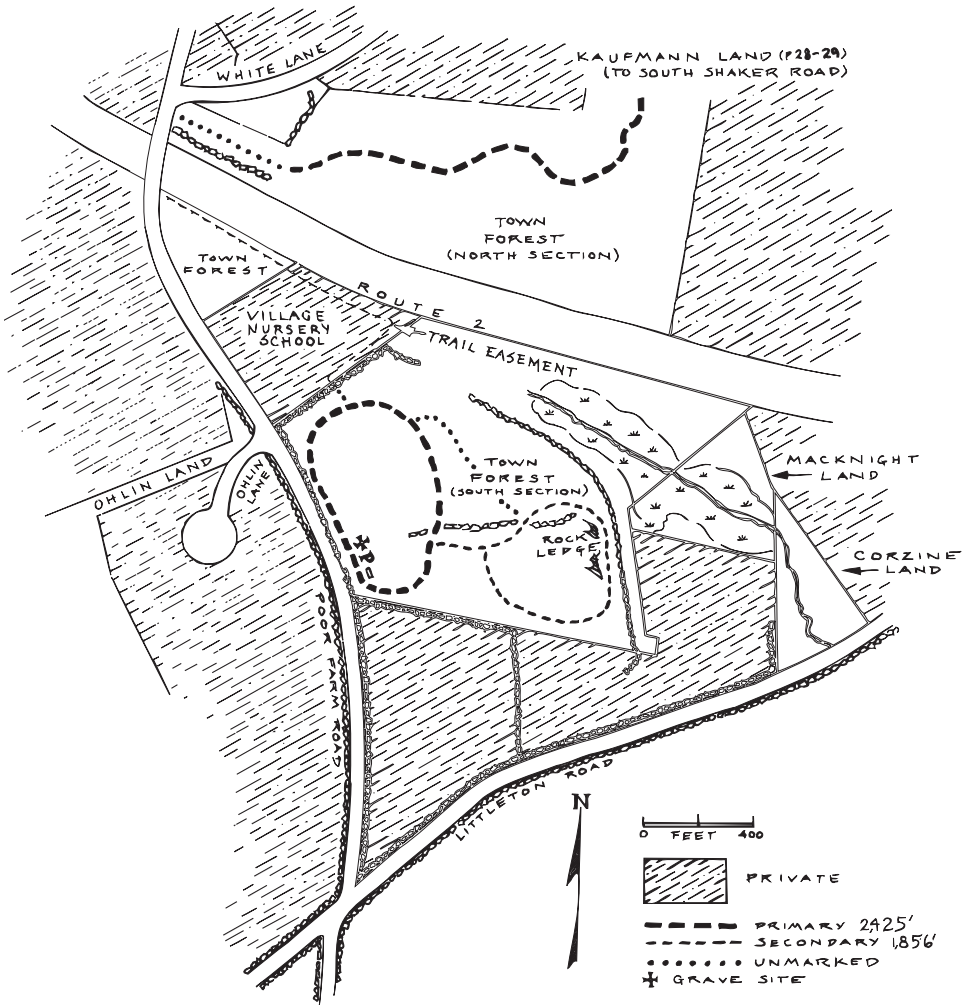


TOWN FOREST



The Town Forest is Harvard's original conservation land and was formed when the Poor Farm was divided and sold in 1923. The farm sold for about \$5,000 and the forest was valued at \$4,000. The land was transferred to the Conservation Commission in 1969. The building of Route 2 split the land into three parts. Two sections are now connected through an easement behind the Village Nursery School. The primary trail starts near the gravesite of Benjamin Stewart, a victim of smallpox, who served in the French and Indian War and subsequently became a Captain in the Colonial army. This trail passes by the remains of American chestnut trees which died as a result of the blight introduced in the early 1900's. A high rock ledge on the secondary trail has a lovely mantle of polypody ferns.

Approximate walking time for primary trail: 15 mins. - moderate