

Sugarloaf Mountain

STRONGHOLD INCORPORATED

7901 COMUS RD., DICKERSON, MD 20842 • 301-874-2024/301-869-7846

CIRCUIT HIKES

BLUE:

NORTHERN PEAKS TRAIL

—B—B—B—B—

Starts at West View parking.
5 miles of nice scenery and hiking.

WHITE:

MOUNTAIN LOOP TRAIL

—W—W—W—W—

A 2 1/2 mile loop around the summit, or add to the Northern Peaks Trail for 7 miles.

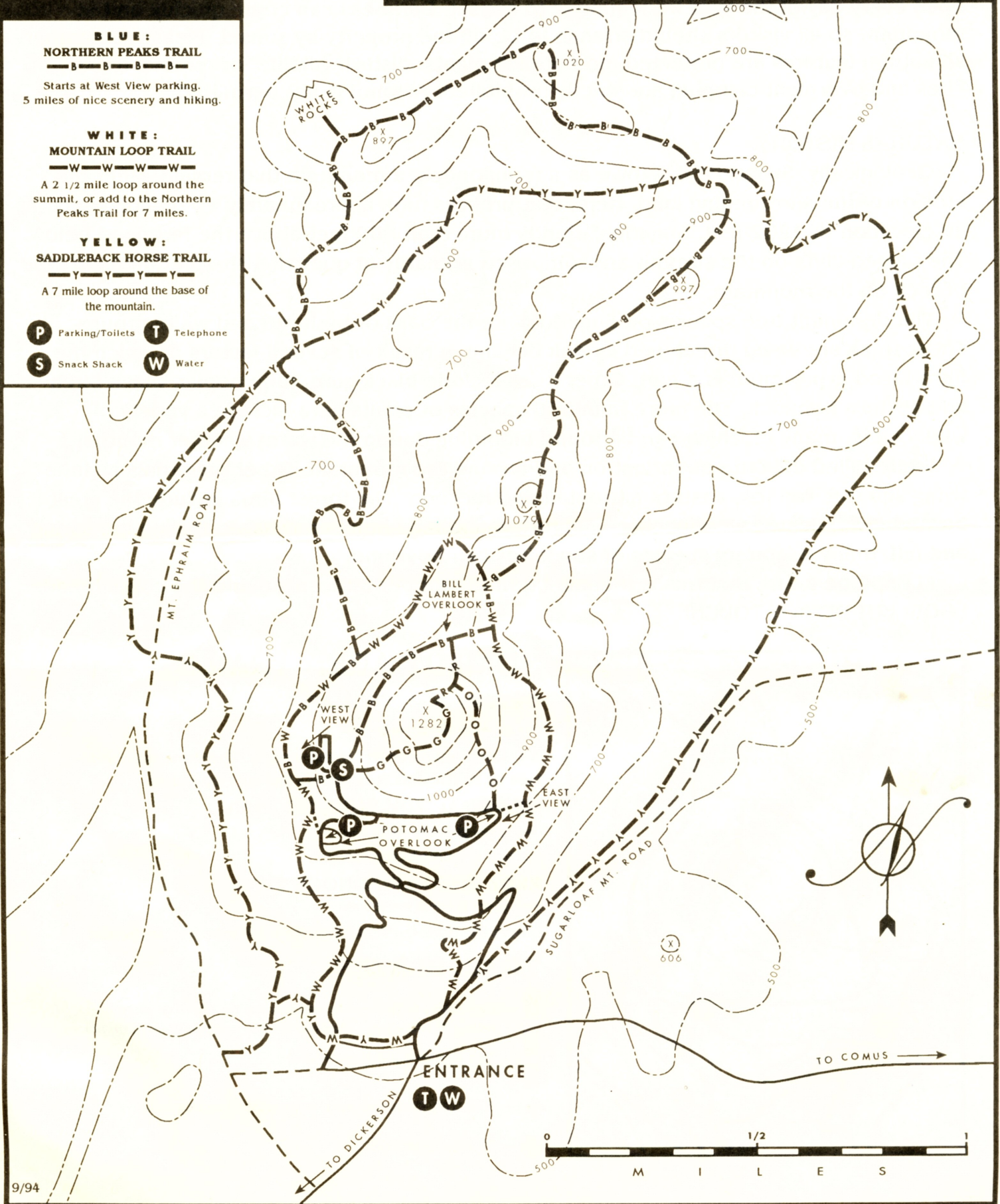
YELLOW:

SADDLEBACK HORSE TRAIL

—Y—Y—Y—Y—

A 7 mile loop around the base of the mountain.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| P Parking/Toilets | T Telephone |
| S Snack Shack | W Water |



SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN

Sugarloaf Mountain, a conservation/recreation area, is privately owned and managed by Stronghold, Inc. Visitors are invited to participate in the wide variety of outdoor recreation pursuits that include hiking, horseback riding, picnicking and nature study. The mountain is open every day of the year from sunrise to sunset. Darkness can come quickly on the mountain, so all visitors should arrange to be off the property by sunset. Please remember, all natural features are protected, do not pick plants, disturb wildlife, or remove rocks. Fires and overnight camping are strictly prohibited. Alcohol is not permitted.

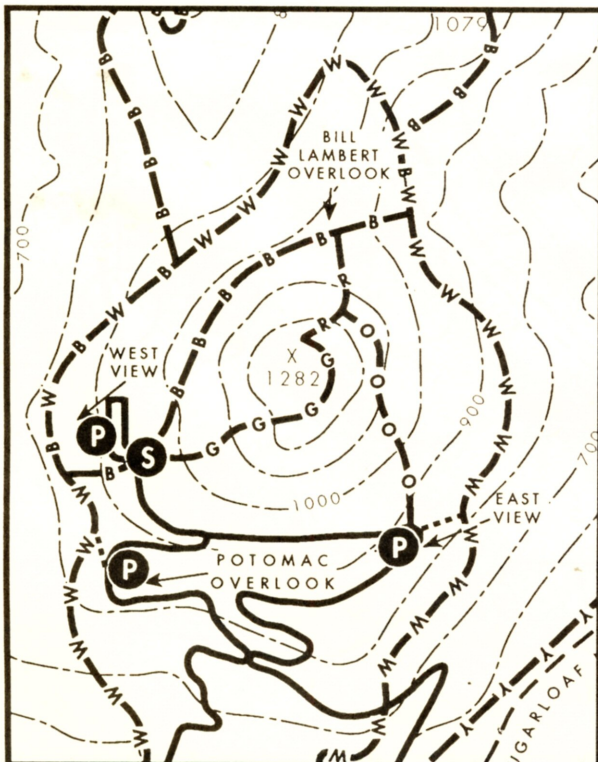
NATURAL HISTORY

Geologically, Sugarloaf is known as a monadnock, a mountain that remains after the erosion of the surrounding land. Here, that process took approximately 14 million years. At an elevation of 1282 feet, Sugarloaf stands more than 800 feet above the farmland below. The rugged cliffs on the summit are composed primarily of quartzite, the predominant type of rock on the mountain.

The dominant tree species on Sugarloaf are the oaks of both red and white groups. These trees are being threatened by oak decline, a result of several factors of which the introduced gypsy moth is a part. Other trees include black gum, tulip poplar, black birch and eastern hemlock. The more than 500 species of plants here include a variety of wildflowers, many of which can be found blooming during the warm weather months.

White tailed deer are abundant on and around the mountain. Other mammals include flying squirrel, red fox, eastern cottontail and raccoon. The forest birds include the great horned owl, pileated woodpecker, wild turkey and red shouldered hawk. During the spring and fall, many migratory species of songbirds can be found.

PLEASE be aware that this is the habitat of the timber rattlesnake and the copperhead. LOOK! BUT DO NOT TOUCH!!



SUMMIT AREA TRAILS

GREEN: A.M. THOMAS TRAIL

— G — G — G — G —

A 1/4 mile improved trail to the summit. The stone steps were built by Mr. Thomas, Stronghold's first superintendent.

ORANGE: THE SUNRISE TRAIL

— O — O — O — O —

A steep 1/4 mile to the top.

RED: THE MONADNOCK TRAIL

— R — R — R — R —

Leaves the Northern Peaks Trail for a 1/4 mile hike to the summit.

TRAIL BLAZES

- — One color, indicates the trail you are on. (blue & white and yellow & white trails may run on the same path in some places.)
- — This signals a junction or turn.
- ◆ — Spur trail. Connects point of interest to nearby trail.
- — Multi-purpose trail.