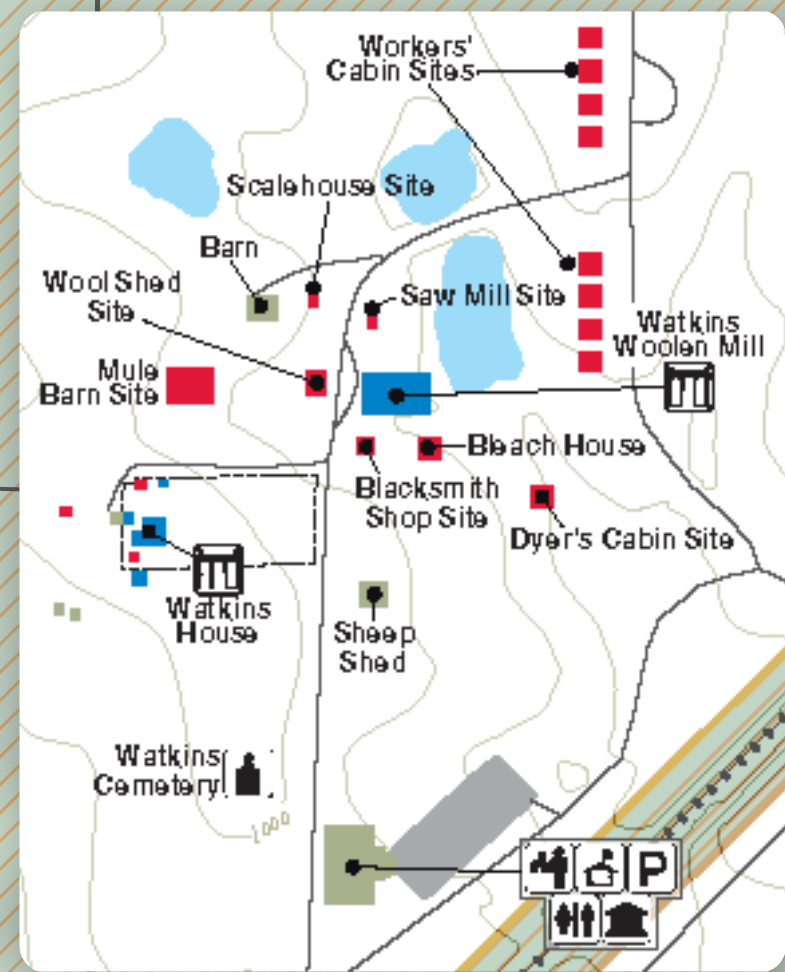
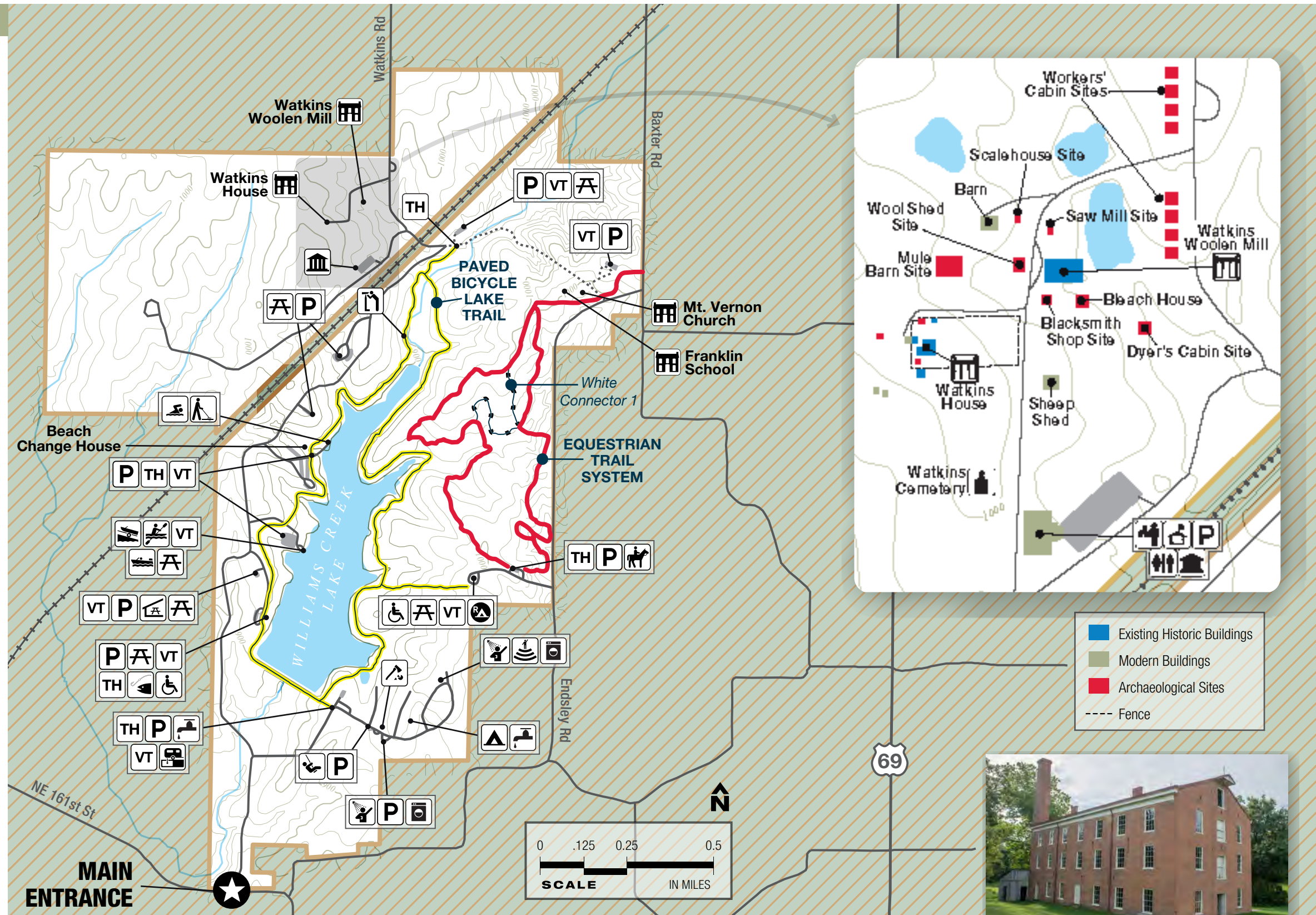


# WATKINS WOOLEN MILL STATE PARK AND STATE HISTORIC SITE MAP

## LEGEND

- Main entrance
- U.S. highway (multi-lane)
- U.S. highway (two-lane)
- State route
- Gravel road
- Fence
- Land contour
- Other park area
- Not state park property
- Park boundary
- Railroad
- Stream or creek
- Trail blazed in red
- Trail blazed in yellow
- Trail (connector)
- Water
- Camping
- Hiking trail
- Equestrian trail
- Bicycling trail
- Picnicking
- Visitor center
- Accessibility
- Amphitheater
- Boating
- Boat ramp
- Cemetery
- Dump station
- Fishing
- Historic structure
- Kayaking or paddling
- Laundry
- Metal detecting
- Museum
- Overlook
- Park office
- Parking
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Restroom
- Showerhouse
- Special-use camping area
- Swimming
- Trailhead
- Tunnel
- Vault toilet
- Water
- Woodlot









## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Watkins Woolen Mill State Park and State Historic Site**  
 26600 Park Rd. N  
 Lawson, MO 64062-8939  
 Park Office:  
 816-580-3387  
[mostateparks.com](http://mostateparks.com)




DISCLAIMER: This map is not a legal survey. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy of the data or related materials and is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from its use. 10/24

TRAIL NAME	MILEAGE	BLAZE COLOR	APPROVED USAGE	RATING	TRAIL EXPERIENCE *
<b>Equestrian Trail System</b>	3.60	 Red		Rugged	2, 3, 7, 10
<b>Paved Bicycle Lake Trail</b>	3.80	 Yellow		Easy	1, 9, 11
<b>Connector Trail (  White )</b>		 White	<i>Connector trails are available on some trails, are numbered and will modify your hike. See map for more information.</i>		

**\* YOU MAY EXPERIENCE:** ① Slippery conditions and/or downed vegetation ② Natural surface: dirt, mud, gravel, loose rocks, slippery surface, etc. ③ Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail ④ Low-hanging vegetation ⑤ Physically challenging obstacles ⑥ Wood or stone steps ⑦ Steep grades and inclines over 10% ⑧ Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail ⑨ Bridges and/or structural crossings ⑩ Water/stream crossings without bridges ⑪ Occasional water over trail ⑫ Road/highway crossing ⑬ Emergency response signs ⑭ Narrow passages ⑮ Raised or protruding obstacles ⑯ Electric fence crossings ⑰ Bison ⑱ Rapidly changing weather conditions ⑲ Motorized boat traffic ⑳ Unexpected waves ㉑ Changing water levels ㉒ Surface or submerged objects

## EQUESTRIAN TRAIL SYSTEM

 **3.60-mile system** TRAIL RATING: Rugged  
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 3 hours, 35 minutes

The Equestrian Trail System travels through an area of oak-hickory woodland on its west side and scattered stands of red cedar on the east side. White Connector 1 on the north end follows a ridge on a gentle slope down to a creek. Multiple routes can be taken as the white connector joins the trail at several points to shorten or extend the hike or ride.

A point of interest is the eight-sided Franklin School and the Mt. Vernon Church on the north end of the trail loop. Both of these buildings date back to the 19th century; they are separated from the equestrian trail by a fence. Feel free to tie up the horses and walk over for a closer look.

Watch for loose rocks and steep slopes over 10% when approaching the two creek crossings. Some trail areas may be rutted, particularly on the extreme northwest and northeast sections. Trail conditions will be muddy after moderate rain and snowfall.

The parking lot accommodates eight to 10 horse trailers and has two picnic tables nearby. There is no water; horses may be watered at two creek crossings depending on the season. A vault toilet is located in the parking lot of the nearby group camping area. The trail is open from 8 a.m. to sunset.

Equestrian camping is not available. Please stay on designated trails and do not ride on roads or paved trails. Bicycles are prohibited on this trail; pets must be leashed, and all other rules of the park must be followed. Please pack out your trash and report any down trees or limbs to park staff.

## PAVED BICYCLE LAKE TRAIL

 **3.80-mile loop** TRAIL RATING: Easy  
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 1 hour, 55 minutes

The 8-foot-wide Paved Bicycle Lake Trail circles the 100-acre Williams Creek Lake and has six wooden bridges and one metal truss bridge. The trail has a moderate grade as it meanders through an oak-hickory woodland with openings that offer vistas of the lake.

Deer, turkeys and songbirds often can be seen along the trail. In winter, geese, and occasionally, bald eagles can be seen on the ice or flying over the lake.

A point of interest is the seasonal waterfall in Williams Creek, about 2,000 feet north of the swim beach. A wooden overlook deck provides an opportunity to rest and enjoy the peaceful setting. Park benches are scattered along the trail to serve as rest stops. A .25-mile gravel spur leads to the park's special-use area.


## Things to Know Before You Go

The trails in Watkins Mill State Park are yours. Please help to maintain and preserve their beauty by following these rules:

- All pets must be leashed for their protection and that of other visitors and wildlife.
- All other rules and regulations pertaining to park use are applicable to trail users.
- Only service animals are allowed on historic site grounds (visitor center, museums, etc.)

*NOTE: Ticks and chiggers are abundant May through mid-October. Be prepared with insect repellent.*

## Campground


 The wooded campground at Watkins Mill State Park offers both basic and electric sites. A portion of the sites offer 50-amp electrical service, ideal for today's modern recreational vehicles. For those needing a little extra space or wanting to camp with family and friends, the park offers family campsites.

All campsites can be reserved year-round. For weekend reservations, there is a required two-night minimum stay of Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday.


During the on-season, the campground offers modern restrooms, hot showers, laundry facilities and a dump station. A woodlot is open in the evenings during the on-season for campers to purchase wood.

The campground gate closes at 9 p.m. during the on-season and at 8 p.m. during the off-season. Vehicles must be parked on campsite driveways. The campground includes a playground for our younger visitors.

## Special-Use Area

 A primitive camping area is available for nonprofit organized youth groups from March through November. The area is divided into five sections, each with a picnic table and fire ring. The area has a vault toilet but no water. There is direct access to the bicycle trail. Groups interested in reserving the site should contact the park office.


## Picnicking


 There are many picnic areas with tables and grills throughout Watkins Mill State Park. Several picnic tables and grills are located along the bicycle trail near the beach and shelter house area. Picnic areas are available for walk-up use.


For larger groups of family and friends, an open shelter is available. The shelter has picnic tables, cooking grills, electricity and a water hydrant and can accommodate up to 80 people. The bicycle trail is easily accessed from the shelter, and a vault toilet is located next to the parking lot. The shelter can be reserved in advance for a fee. Reservations are recommended for weekends April through October. A damage deposit is required for groups that wish to use alcohol. To reserve the shelter, contact the park office for availability. If not reserved, the shelters are available at no charge for walk-up use.

## Lake Recreation


The 100-acre Williams Creek Lake provides a cooling and refreshing feature for boating, fishing and swimming.

 **FISHING AND BOATING** Bass, catfish, crappie and sunfish are plentiful in the lake, which has a boat launching area with courtesy boat dock. Outboards of any size may be used but must be operated at slow, no-wake speed. An accessible fishing dock is located near the western end of the dam. Kayak rentals are available at the check station within the campground.

 **SWIMMING** A large sand swimming beach is located at the north end of the lake, near the picnic area. A change house is located near the beach. The beach is a popular place on a warm summer's day.

 **METAL DETECTING** For those seeking to discover a hidden treasure, metal detecting is allowed with a permit at the Williams Creek Lake Beach. The activity is allowed only on the sand beach. Registration is required and allows the user to operate a metal detector on the beach. Metal detecting is only allowed from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

## Trails

 Trails are a great way to experience the state park, and include a paved bicycle trail around Williams Creek Lake and an equestrian trail system.

