

## CHENEY RAILROAD A PUBLIC MULTI-USE TRAIL.

To follow the old Cheney railroad (SMRR) from its north end, along property owned by the Manchester Land Conservation Trust, go to the north side of 2 Main Street (Farr's Sporting Goods) and from the main east-west railroad, look for the Cheney railroad forking off to the left (southwest) and proceed to Hilliard St., crossing Hilliard to Cowles parklet with picnic area, parking, and a pet-waste station. Cross Woodland St., then cross straight across West Middle Tpk. onto property owned by Town of Manchester.

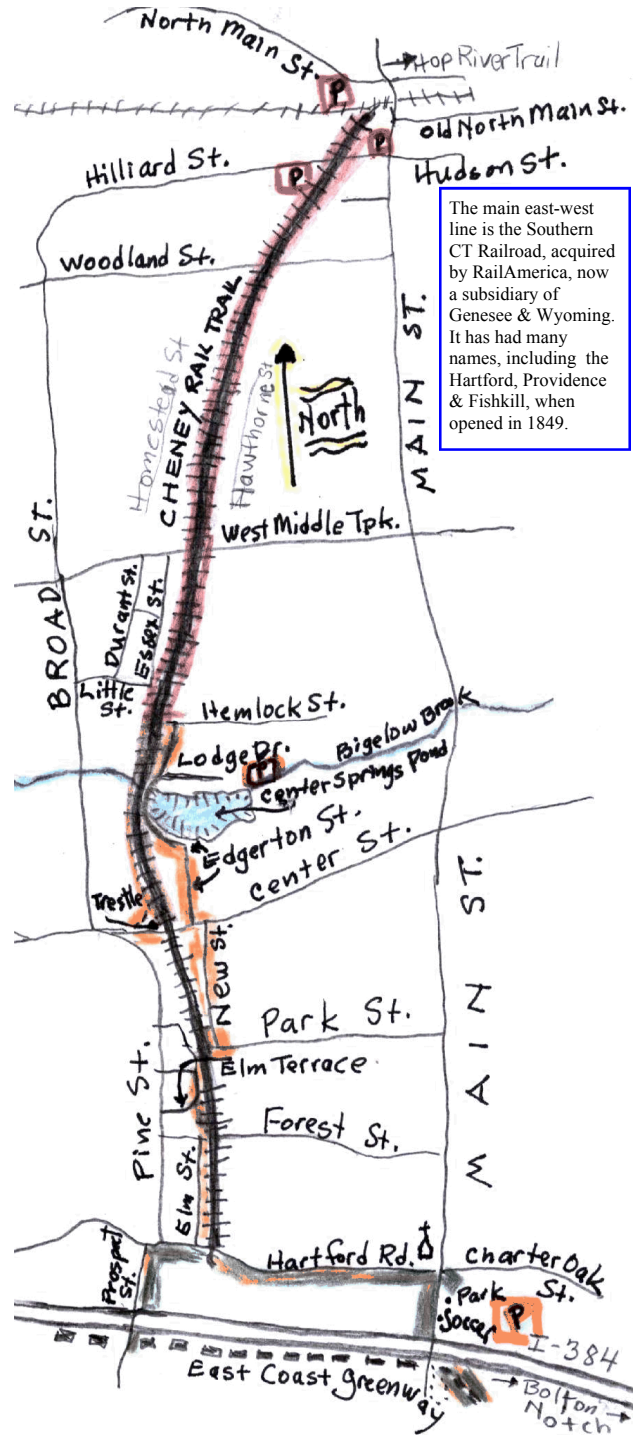
Choose one of these two alternatives:

- **Hemlock-Edgerton route**, better during snow or ice, better for bicyclists: In 0.3 mile from West Middle Tpk., go left and up onto Hemlock St. (starts as a dirt road extending toward railroad). Quickly take a right onto Edgerton St., and follow it around pond, up a hill, and down to Center St. Take left, and cross Center St. to New St., or
- **Embankment route**, for agile hikers: From West Middle Tpk. go 0.7 mile along the rail-bed past Center Springs until approaching railroad trestle (not passable); go down embankment on right near the grocery store parking lot via a dirt path and up dirt path to Center St.; take left onto Center, go under trestle, cross Center to New St.

To retrace the path of the rest of the railroad, detour along streets: starting at ■ New St., then right on ■ Park St. – view of the old railroad yards from bridge. Left at end of bridge onto ■ Elm Terrace, which turns right. Left on ■ Pine St., left on ■ Forest St., right on ■ Elm St. and south on Elm to Hartford Rd., viewing mill buildings and Cheney Hall. (Alternative route, in good weather, take a shortcut: From Park St. bridge to Elm Terrace, go straight along Elm Terrace, via narrow passageway past an old storage building, left in the driveway, down a hill to Elm St.) The railroad formerly went along Elm St. and crossed Hartford Rd. to a box factory and shipping department. The route is about 2.4 miles one way.

### Connections

- To get to East Coast Greenway (E.C.G.), go left onto Hartford Rd. with view of Great Lawn and Cheney mansions. At Main St., go kitty-corner across the intersection with Charter Oak St. to E.C.G. entrance. Alternatively, enter E.C.G. via Prospect St. entrance.
- To get to Hop River Trail, from the north end, go east along the main line via nearby roads, to Colonial Drive entrance, about a mile east of Cheney Railroad.



The main east-west line is the Southern CT Railroad, acquired by RailAmerica, now a subsidiary of Genesee & Wyoming. It has had many names, including the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill, when opened in 1849.

- **Parking** (north to south): ■ Strip mall at southwest corner of Main & North Main St. ■ Town Eighth Utilities District office, Main St. at corner of Hilliard. ■ South side of Hilliard St., at Cowles Parklet. ■ Lodge Dr., Park & Rec Dep't. ■ Charter Oak Park, off south side of Charter Oak St.
- **Orange lines** – bypass route along streets, portion of railroad not owned by Land Trust or Town.
- **Green lines** – route along streets to East Coast Gr'way.