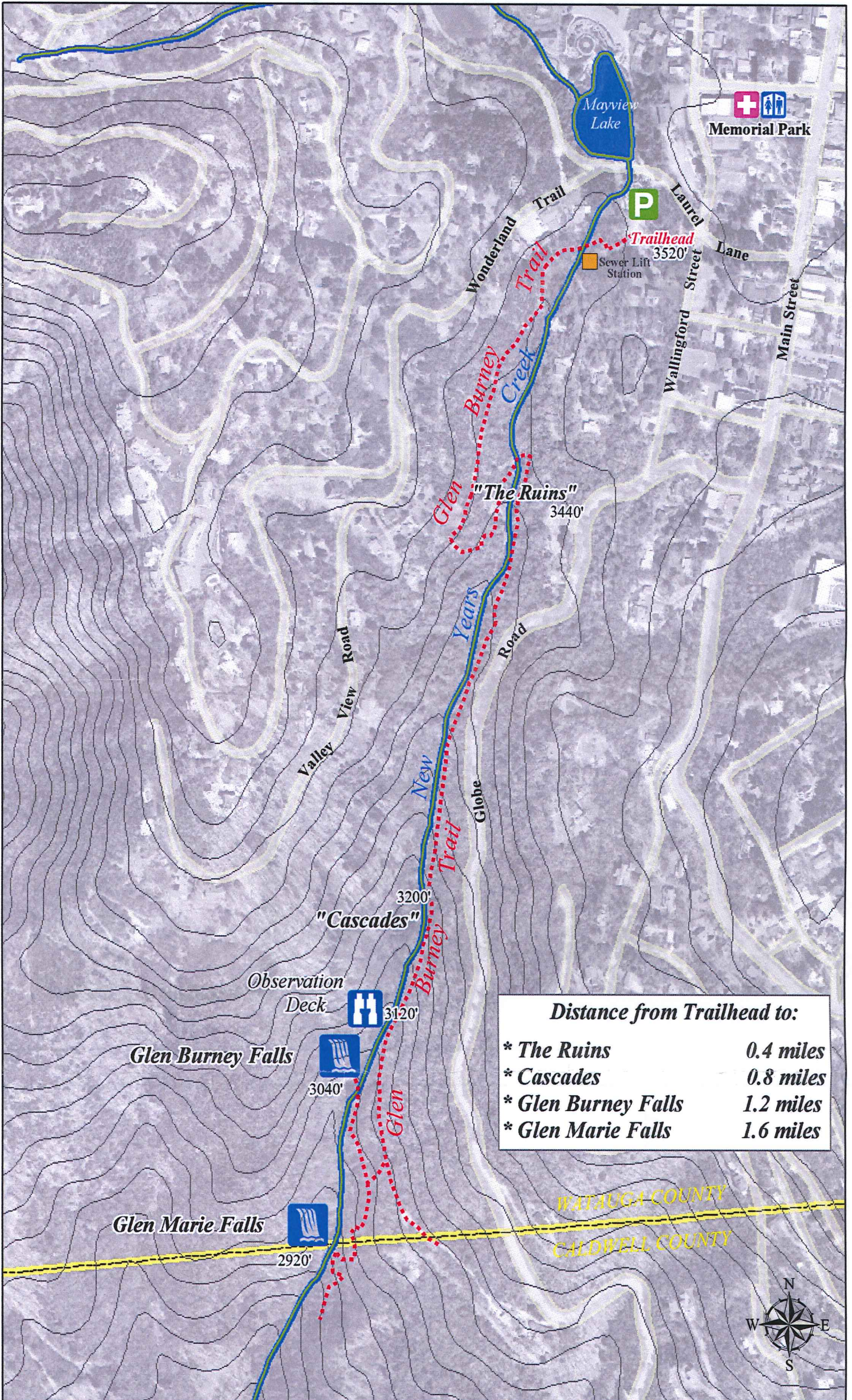


# ~ GLEN BURNEY TRAIL MAP ~



<i>Distance from Trailhead to:</i>	
* <i>The Ruins</i>	<i>0.4 miles</i>
* <i>Cascades</i>	<i>0.8 miles</i>
* <i>Glen Burney Falls</i>	<i>1.2 miles</i>
* <i>Glen Marie Falls</i>	<i>1.6 miles</i>





## Cautions:

- Stay on trails.
- Heed warning signs.
- Rocks are moss-covered and very slick. **DO NOT** climb on rocks.
- Wear good walking shoes.
- Allow plenty of daylight.
- Take drinking water.
- Trail is moderate to strenuous with variable surfaces.
- Emergency Services and Police Department are located adjacent to Memorial Park on Park Avenue.
- Call 911 for Emergency.

## Glen Burney Trail

**The trail head entrance is located in Annie Cannon Park off Laurel Lane.**

**The trail is 1.6 miles long and drops 600 feet from an elevation of 3520 at the base of Glen Marie Falls.**

**The creek that runs along the trail and over the falls is known as New Year's Creek, which flows into John's River-part of the Catawba River Basin.**



## History of the Glen Burney Trail

Named for the Scottish translation of *glen* "a place in the woods." Also referred to as a valley between hills. The origin of Burney is not known.

It is suspected that the trail dates back at least to the late 1800's. There is a photograph of the falls dating back to 1895. It is also believed the trail was used by Indian hunters.

In 1892 Emily Pridden founded the Skyland School and owned Glen Burney area. In July 1906 she donated 33 acres to the Town of Blowing Rock to be used as a park. The area was to be known as Glen Burney Park and is to remain a perpetual trail for future generations to enjoy.

The first waterfall along the trail is known as the Cascades, the second waterfall is known as Glen Burney Falls and the third waterfall is Glen Marie Falls.

## Blowing Rock North Carolina



## Glen Burney Trail Map

Department of Parks and Recreation  
(828) 295-5222

## Glen Burney Trail – Blowing Rock, NC

Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
2.7 mls	★	★	N/A	★	N/A
<b>Hiking Time:</b> 1 hour 45 minutes, including 20 minutes for breaks. <b>Elev. Gain:</b> 735 ft <b>Parking:</b> Park at the Glen Burney Trailhead. 36.13243, -81.68061					

Click Here For Detailed Location



Situated only a few block away from downtown Blowing Rock, the Glen Burney Trail in Annie Cannon Park travels deep into the New Years Creek Gorge to visit 3 waterfalls. From downtown Blowing Rock turn on Laurel Lane and in 0.1-mi look for a parking area on the left for the Glen Burney Trail. Mayview Lake on the right side of Laurel Lane feeds New Years Creek.

At first the trail follows a wide gravel road as you pass by resort houses situated on the precipice of the gorge. After signs of civilization end, the trail drops steeply and allows intimate access to The Cascades, Glen Burney Falls, and Glen Marie Falls on a short but demanding 2.7 mile hike. Depending on your preference, the highlight may be the placid, sloped Glen Burney Falls or the tall, dramatic Glen Marie Falls.

**Caution** – The trail passes by the top of all 3 waterfalls allowing easy access. Several people have been seriously injured or died falling from the top of these waterfalls, so take caution especially if the bedrock is wet.

- ▶ **Mile 0.0** – Hike begins at the parking lot for the Glen Burney Trail (*no blaze*). The trail begins downhill to the left of New Years Creek on a wide gravel path. For the initial stretch you will pass by resort houses lining the gorge.
- ▶ **Mile 0.4** – After a short descent the trail winds around a structure known as “The Ruins” – one of the first modern sewage treatment systems in the mountains from the 1920s.
- ▶ **Mile 0.5** – Cross a wood bridge over New Years Creek.
- ▶ **Mile 0.7** – Pass by the first waterfall named The Cascades. The creek slides approximately 30 feet over a rock ledge, however the setting is marred by huge deadfall. There are no clear views of the waterfall through the fallen trees.
- ▶ **Mile 0.9** – A side trail on the right leads to a picnic table and an area at the top of Glen Burney Falls marked with warning signs. This overlook is closed and people have died here looking for a view.
- ▶ **Mile 1.0** – A sign points to an overlook on the right. A rock outcrop offers views of Glen Burney Falls through the trees.
- ▶ **Mile 1.1** – An unmarked access trail from Johns River Road comes in from the left. Stay right heading downhill towards the waterfall. In 150 feet you will reach the side trail to Glen Burney Falls. Go right to see the waterfall.
- ▶ **Mile 1.2** – Reach the base of Glen Burney Falls, a ~50 foot slide waterfall. New Years Creek flows over a wide rock face that splits the flow into many small rivulets. The water then free falls the last 8 feet. You cannot see the top of the waterfall from this angle but you can easily explore the base.
- ▶ **Mile 1.3** – At the trail intersection continue straight towards Glen Marie Falls.
- ▶ **Mile 1.4** – The trail passes by the top of Glen Marie Falls. The creek funnels into a narrow channel on the opposite side of the trail before plummeting over a cliff. Continue on the trail below the top of the cliff and you will get a good view of the second drop through the trees.
- ▶ **Mile 1.5** – Reach the base of Glen Marie Falls. The setting is arguably more impressive than the waterfall itself. This is a 3-tiered cascade and although the waterfall is 75 feet high the upper sections aren’t visible from the base. The first section can be seen from the top but is shielded from below. The water then cuts diagonally across the cliff face which can be viewed from an outcrop on the trail. Only the lower section, a 20 foot slide over the cliff, is clearly visible from the base.
- ▶ **Mile 2.7** – Hike ends at parking lot.