

Station 4: Glacial Geology

Hayes Woods holds secrets to the past in its landscape. Like much of New England, the shape of the geologic landscape here can be traced to glacial activity. At this station, you are standing on a steep-sided ridge called an esker. More than 12,000 years ago, when a mile-high glacier covered the land, rivers ran through large cracks in the glacial ice and deposited sediments. After the glacial ice receded, interesting formations such as eskers and kettle holes were left behind. A kettle hole or kettlepond is a large depression formed when huge blocks of ice break off from the glacier and soils are deposited around them. After the ice melts, a large depression in the ground remains. Other features on the property include kames, kame terraces, and a glacial moraine.

