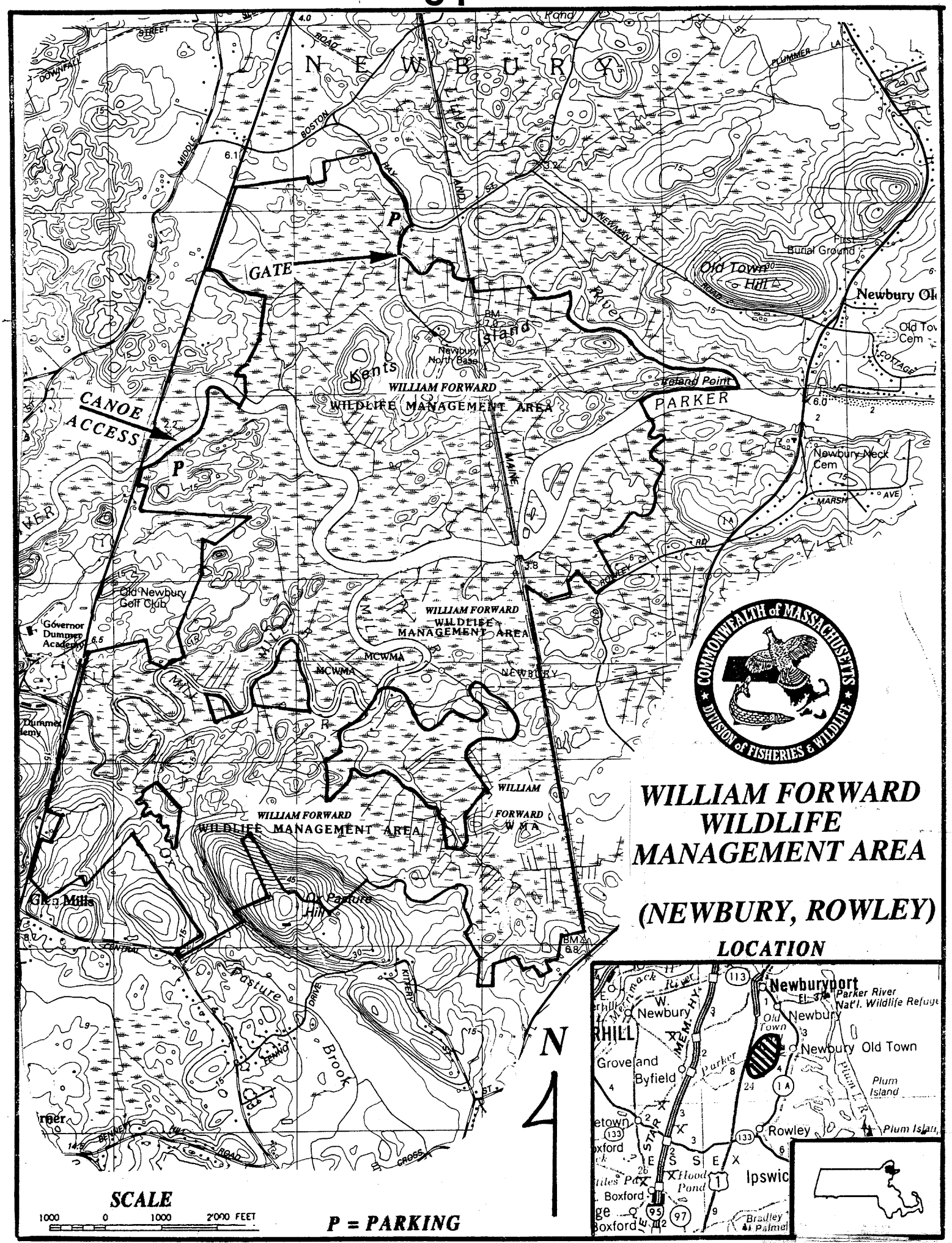
WILLIAM FORWARD
WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA
(NEWBURY, ROWLEY)
LOCATION
COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION of FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
GATE
CANOE
ACCESS
P
WILLIAM FORWARD
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
Kents Island
Newbury North Base
Old Town Hill
First Burial Ground
Newbury Old
Old Town Cem
Ireland Point
PARKER
Newbury Neck Cem
Old Newbury Golf Club
Governor Dummer Academy
MCWMA
NEWBURY
WILLIAM FORWARD WMA
Ox Pasture Hill
Glen Mills
Pasture Brook
N
SCALE
1000 0 1000 2000 FEET
P = PARKING
Newburyport
Parker River Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
Newbury
Newbury Old Town
Groveland
Byfield
Plum Island
Rowley
Ipswic
Hood Pond
Boxford
Bradley Palmer

WILLIAM FORWARD WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(Newbury/Rowley)

GENERAL: 2,083 acres of salt marsh and upland habitat from sea level to 45 feet. Taking Boston Road to Hay Street from Route 1 accesses the main entrance. A second parking area and canoe access is directly off Route 1 at the south side of the Parker River.

U.S.G.S. Quads: Newburyport, Ipswich

VEGETATION: This area is approximately 700 acres of upland surrounded by more than 1,300 acres of salt marsh. The uplands are predominantly mixed oak and white pine woodlands with mature stands of red pine and spruce. Old fields have been taken over by white cedar. There are also approximately 60 acres of open fields maintained under cooperative agreements with local farmers, and an additional 20 acres are maintained in an early success ional stage for purposes of biodiversity management. A small apple orchard is also present. Marsh grasses of course dominate the marsh acreage.

WATER: Portions of the Parker River and two of its major tributaries - the Little River and the Mill River - run through or border the area. The Parker is about 100 feet across at this point, while it tributaries are roughly 30 feet wide. These are all tidal waters and during high and flood tides the surrounding marshes are underwater. The Parker and Mill are known for their white perch runs in the spring. There are two very small ponds (less than an acre each). Be aware that mosquito control ditches, some of which may be hidden by overhanging vegetation, cut much of the marshland.

WILDLIFE: The uplands support ruffed grouse, deer, fox, cottontail rabbit, coyote, raccoon, woodcock and gray squirrel. Depending on weather and tide, ducks and geese may be in the rivers. Furbearer populations appear low, but numerous nongame species are present, including several species of song, shore and wading birds. This area is not stocked with pheasant.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: None.