HANK AARON

STATE TRAIL

In the summer of 2006, a seven mile continuous connection was completed between Miller Park and the Lakefront for bicyclists, walkers, runners, and skaters. The Hank Aaron State Trail is an asphalt paved path following portions of the Menomonee River and Canal Street from Miller Park, through the new Menomonee Valley Community Park, east to the Sixth Street Bridge. Bike lanes continue through the Historic Third Ward to the new Lakeshore State Park and connections to Milwaukee County's Oak Leaf Trail. The Oak Leaf Trail is a paved and parkway trail traversing over 100 miles through Milwaukee County.

Friends of the
Hank Aaron State Trail
hankaaronstatetrail.org
414-263-8364

www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/
parks/specific/hank_aaron

The Trail is named after one of baseball's greatest players -- Hank Aaron. A man of enormous accomplishments and integrity, Hank Aaron holds more major league batting records than anyone in history and holds the record of hitting 755 home runs.

Interpretive signs on Hank Aaron's career and the history of the valley are located along the trail near Miller Park Stadium. Nearby are picnic tables, good birding opportunities, and seasonal trout and salmon runs. Approximately ten acres adjacent to the river have been seeded and planted with hundreds of native grasses, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs.

The Menomonee River Valley was historically a wild rice marsh. The river and adjacent lands were used extensively by Native Americans for travel, fishing, hunting and agriculture. By the late 1800s the marsh was filled and industry occupied much of the area. There are several manufacturing firms still active in the valley that were founded over 130 years ago.

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Shops, formerly located east of Miller Park, have been redeveloped to integrate industrial development and jobs with the Menomonee Valley Community Park, public green space that filters stormwater, provides recreation, and will create further trail connections to the communities surrounding the Valley.

The River Loop between 13th Street and 25th Street is an alternative to the parallel path along Canal Street, and offers a more secluded trail along the Menomonee River.

In the summer of 2007, murals developed by local grade school children will be installed along the eastern end of this corridor in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the open housing marches across the Sixteenth Street Viaduct led by Father James Groppi. An interpretive panel is located under the Sixteenth Street Viaduct. This segment will be the future location of additional artwork along the Trail.

Other interpretive signs will be added over time along the entire length of the Trail.

Over the next few years the Trail will be extended along the south bank of the Menomonee River. Long term plans include bridges to connect to the Trail on the north side of the river, and bridges to connect to neighborhoods to the south.

The Sixth Street Bridge is planned to connect to the Valley floor via a ramp and stairway. For now, users can follow bike lanes across the bridge to a temporary trail on Florida Street, where a short alley will link you to the Trail on Pittsburgh Avenue at approximately 3rd Street.

The DNR has purchased a corridor for a 5.5 mile extension to the Trail.

This extension will start with the existing trail near Miller Park, cross through the historic area of the Soldier's Home, pass through State Fair Park, the southern tip of the Zoo, and connect to the Oak Leaf Trail at the Milwaukee / Waukesha County line.

Friends of the Hank Aaron State Trail work with the DNR and other stakeholders to enhance the continued development of the Trail and to foster stewardship of the Trail corridor. A Spring Clean-up and Planting in April and a 5K Run / Walk in August are just two events sponsored by the Friends Group.

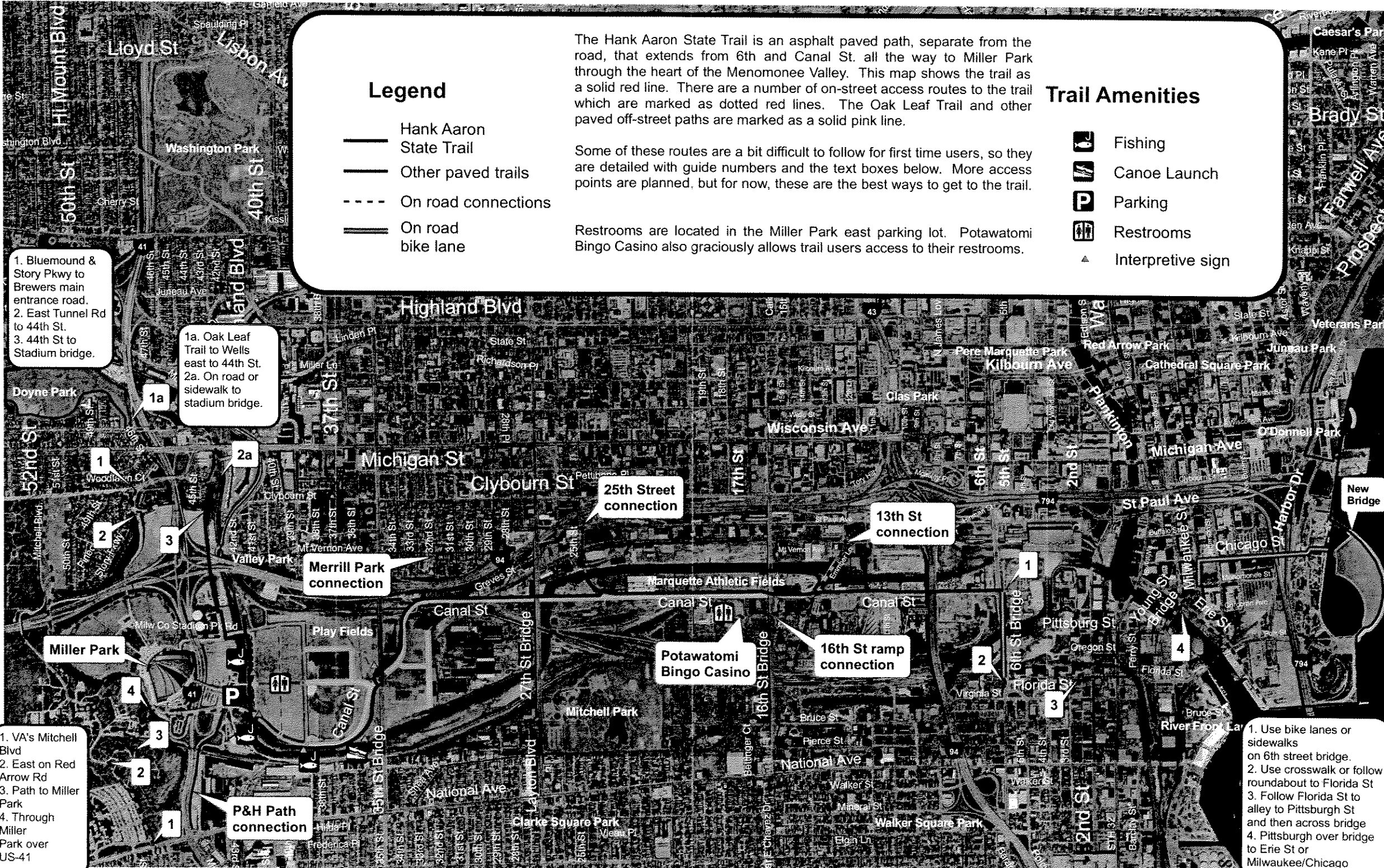For information on joining the Friends of the Hank Aaron State Trail or other trail events, contact:

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www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/
parks/specific/hank_aaron

Legend

— Hank Aaron State Trail

— Other paved trails

- - - On road connections

═══ On road bike lane

The Hank Aaron State Trail is an asphalt paved path, separate from the road, that extends from 6th and Canal St. all the way to Miller Park through the heart of the Menomonee Valley. This map shows the trail as a solid red line. There are a number of on-street access routes to the trail which are marked as dotted red lines. The Oak Leaf Trail and other paved off-street paths are marked as a solid pink line.

Some of these routes are a bit difficult to follow for first time users, so they are detailed with guide numbers and the text boxes below. More access points are planned, but for now, these are the best ways to get to the trail.

Restrooms are located in the Miller Park east parking lot. Potawatomi Bingo Casino also graciously allows trail users access to their restrooms.

Trail Amenities

- Fishing
- Canoe Launch
- P Parking
- Restrooms
- ▲ Interpretive sign

1. Bluemound & Story Pkwy to Brewers main entrance road.
2. East Tunnel Rd to 44th St.
3. 44th St to Stadium bridge.

1a. Oak Leaf Trail to Wells east to 44th St.
2a. On road or sidewalk to stadium bridge.

25th Street connection

13th St connection

Merrill Park connection

Potawatomi Bingo Casino

16th St ramp connection

Miller Park

P&H Path connection

1. VA's Mitchell Blvd
2. East on Red Arrow Rd
3. Path to Miller Park
4. Through Miller Park over US-41

1. Use bike lanes or sidewalks on 6th street bridge.
2. Use crosswalk or follow roundabout to Florida St
3. Follow Florida St to alley to Pittsburgh St and then across bridge
4. Pittsburgh over bridge to Erie St or Milwaukee/Chicago