

Graham Mtn. 9/3/07

252-29

as a follow-up to 8/23/06 and 8/27/07 excursions

Wildflower Seep Terrace Schoolhouse Swamp

Ice Storm Damage on Summit

Photos:

About a dozen photos at the Wildflower Seep - incl. RM at water hole.

Joe yet Aster umb about a week past fl-peak, but still some color left.

2 photos on Summit of veg along E side of tower, 1st looking N the 2nd S. Backpack used for scale.

1 photo from NNE lookart down Dry Brook Valley

2 photos at Schoolhouse Swamp: 1st looking ENE 2nd looking WSW

2 photos of 1960s stump only 4 minutes' walk from Trail lead on Mill Brook Rd. - on crest of ridge, N side.

Time table:

LV. Mill Brook Rd — 8:51 AM

Trail register — 9:00

Bushwhack shortcut to get on Graham Mtn Rd — 9:36

On Graham Mtn. Rd — 9:47

Ice damage — 9:50

Turner Hollow Rd — 9:53

Summit on road:

with ledges on S — 9:57

with LAP seep — 10:03

West Schoolhouse Col; start up Graham — 10:12

47" WRB — 10:20

1st wet flat with fir — 10:27

Shale cut — 10:30

LV road at 2nd wet flat — 10:32

1st Solidago rug in seep — 10:36

Open seep — 10:43

LUNCH at seep — 11:04

LV Seep — 11:59

Lookart west — 12:08

On road again — 12:17

Summit Graham — 12:24 to 1:04

Lookart NNE — 1:06 to 1:12

Fir grove — 1:14

90° bend on ledge — 1:18

ledge on E — 1:19

Upper wet flat — 1:20

Shale cut — 1:24

Begm whack to Swamp — 1:36

Same point

Some site

Schoolhouse Swamp — 1:52 to (arr. at SW end!) 2:24

Return to road — 2:34

Summit on road — 2:40

" " " — 2:47

ledge on S, big boulders on north

Turner Hollow Rd — 2:51

Breccia boulder in road — 2:55

begin shortcut bushwhack — 2:56 to 3:02

wet spot in trail — 3:08

Porcupine Jc. — 3:18

3000' turn — 3:26

Col-let — 3:33

Signart — 3:42

Stump photos — 3:45 to 3:50

cut — 3:54

This is no shortcut due E to road rather than backtracking N along terrace! "Shortcut" is dense thicker

● Fir thicker 3' high & browsed here

Ice damage from

4/15/07 storm:

9-47 → along Graham Road -

BC + B dead branches down.

RM dead branches down + branches which were live with collateral buds when broken off.

9-50 Live YB, SUB + B branches broken off. Tops down across road.

The damaged branches on road ascent up ^{NW spur of} Graham, likewise on 8/27/07, were not on this day - 9/31/07 one week later. Perhaps a dozen obstacles easy to get around; previous hikers had already made herd paths.

On Summit of Graham, just South of tower: A few broken limbs. Damage not extensive. Many dead tops + partially-dead tops still standing, prob. already dead before 4/15/07.

Herd paths go perhaps 100' S of tower + dead-end, making it easy to view the scrub forest.

47' YB lost 1 major limb on the east in the ice storm. Tree located just above the 3' high fern-covered ledge on W side of road.

Notes on individual species

^{1st} CB: at collet elev. ²⁸⁶⁰ along trail from Mill Brook Rd.

Ranunc recovery: on Graham Mtn. Road at June-Turner Hollow Rd.

DP + \$ campyl: Already at 1988; Bill Rudget MK lost the original Turner Hollow Rd in the Graham-East Schoolhouse Rd because of fern glades.

\$ campyl can create continuous cover as does DP, but \$ int seldom does.

DP cover is so thick at 2810 that it catches leaf litter in autumn.

Amel bart at Mend of Wildflower Seep with CORULUS + VCAST in thickets.

Lower side (W + NW) of Wildflower Seep terrace has less ice damage

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Floras

Shortcut from BLM Mtn Trail to Graham Mtn, 936 to 947 AM.

CBabun, LL, AA, MC, OX, VA, SM, UVUL, MITCH, SORB seedl., RM. Much ledge on east crest. In future, bushwhack further west to avoid thickets.

This is the type locality where ^{the} \$ two species were differentiated (in 1980s?).

Wildflower Terrace Seep

N end in thickets:

- Amel bart
- Corylus
- VCAST

Open area:

- Aster umb (dom) + punice.
- Solid rug.
- Joe eye
- Thalic
- Onoclea
- Chelone
- RM turning bed
- a few SUB (at elev 3625')
- Smilax herbacea (a few plants)

South end:

- Rudbeckia
- Angelica in fruit

• Four genera of Composites

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Wildflower Terrace
Seep flow, continued

In woods at SW end of seep, at edge of terrace where it begins steep descent:

(Beech nuts) B, YB, MO, SORB, BC Cammi; CIMNA, SAMB A&SM in fl.

(Very few SM in fl. in 2006, but abun. in 2007)

N end near water hole;

~~Graminoid~~ + Sphagnum
JUNCUS + AGROSTIS
COLLECTED.

Pond dried up, but peat 6" deep.

NYF, CK CRIN
Glyceria nerv.

Smilax herbacea
on VCAS climbing,
& also above to E in forest!

At edge of seep:

CHK, RS, several SUB brch below above terrace, VV, Pteleonum in fruit & with basal vs

VIOLA
D GOLDIANA

Fiv is common on "shortcut" betw 11-59 & 12-17 with abundant seedlings & repro.

ASTER PRBN has invaded up the Balsam L Mtn Trail at 3-38. SOLID GRAM & RUB in log deck with DP dom 3-39.

Graham Summit clearing from early to mid-1960s

Advancing into the clearing are VCAS, SPIRAEA LAT. RS, RA, SOLID GRAM, SAMB, SOLID RUB. Dragonfly & "Theris forest".

2" cut BC branch (by people for firewood?) dead = 25 y just S of summit

Compare other shrub thickets with this one:

① SW shoulder of Blackhead Mtn.

See (p.) of notes

② Spring on E shoulder of Slide Mtn

See (p.)

Schoolhouse Swamp, if deepened could be a good site for well-dr. spp. fossils because of abrupt slope along N edge. However, peat is only ± 6" deep.

Intermittent drainage flowing into swamp near, not at, WSW end from the N could help in future navigation.

Shale ended area on Graham Road (.10-30) has bedrock fragments waiting down to the wet 10:27 flat below, accum. on top of the peat.

Schoolhouse Swamp

has no COMPOSITES invading except ADIV at ENE edge.

Compare with 1st field notes ca. 1970s and earliest photos.

Pteleonum in fruit at NE end

CK CRIN RM
ONOCLEA ILIX VERT
SCUT LOT (small flowered)
GAL TRIPIDUM
SCRIPUS CYP dom locally
GLYCYZIA CAN & NERV
CALAMAGROSTIS at e end dominant
SPHAGNUM

No trees invading except on boulders.
MO, RM, YB.

ANDELICA at E end.
ROYAL PREEN along N shore

VCAS