

Charcoal Kilns Site at Pine Hill

5/13/14

and again 6/19/14 with Maureen Nagy + James Krueger

References:

1. Nancy Smith's Pine Hill book (1976) = map
2. Alf Evers' In Catskill Country (1995):
Schile's illustration inside front + back covers
3. Photos via John + Dick Makre of Kilns

202-78

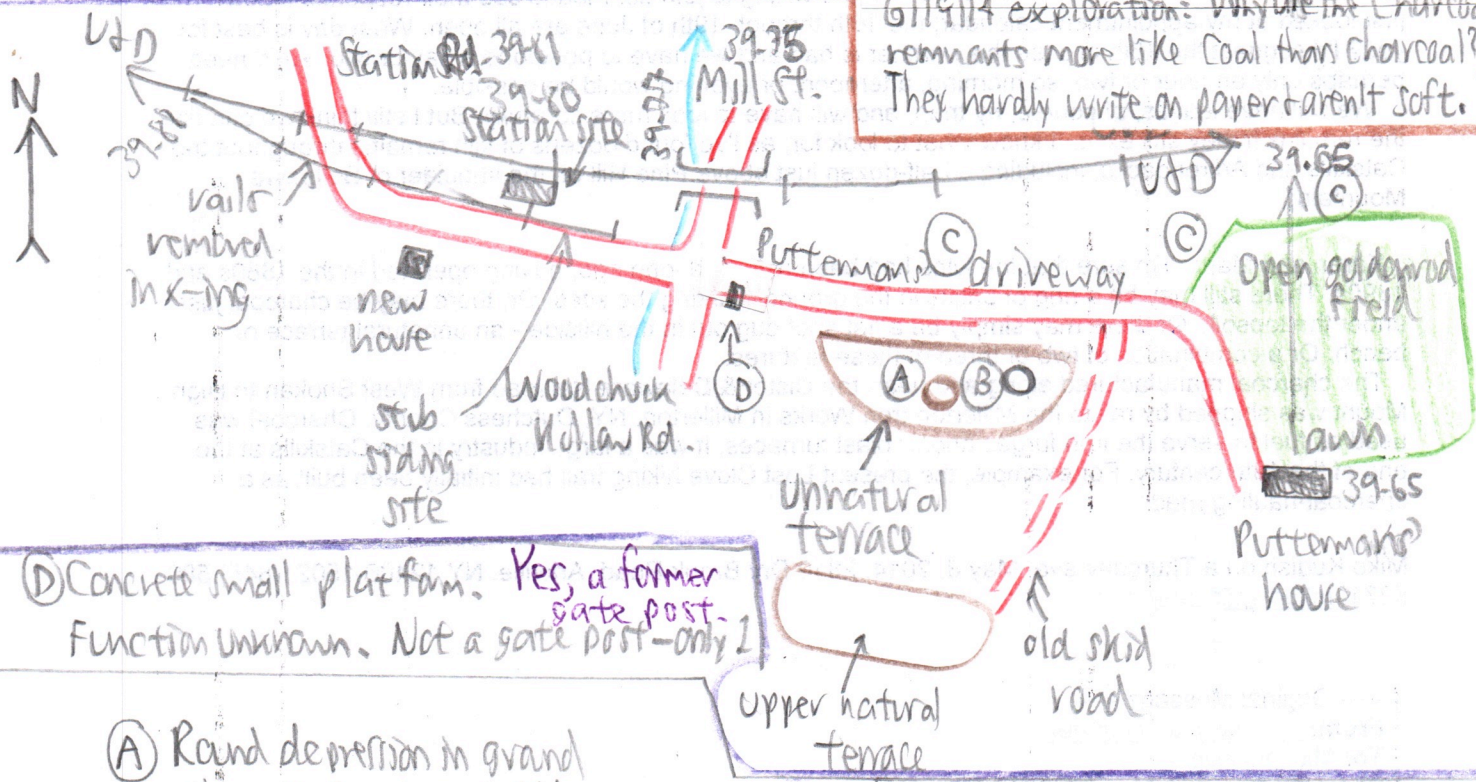
No siding for the kilns. Charcoal could have been loaded on wagons + moved about 200 or 250 feet west to stub track behind Sta.

Winter 2005 p. 10

in The Rip Van Winkle Flyer No. 38, These photos are NOT Guigou Hollow but somewhere else, but where? BIG INDIAN

+ 1960's West Kill Quad: Draw a line from Grand Hotel past east end of upper Havershoe Curve and it falls near Pine Hill Station. Schile's illustration is correct.

The puzzle still remains after the 6/19/14 exploration: Why are the Charcoal remnants more like Coal than charcoal? They hardly write on paper + aren't soft.



(D) Concrete small platform. Yes, a former gate post. Function unknown. Not a gate post - only 1

- (A) Round depression in ground about 10' wide and 1' deep could have been one kiln.
- (B) Stones in a circle, more recently a garden plot with Vinca, etc., could have been another kiln. 3rd kiln not found

- (C) Too steep a bank for kilns. Lots of broken glass + other garbage around from dump (see Nancy Smith).
- (A) Much broken glass and bottle caps from Crystal Spring Water Co.

Pine Hill Charcoal Kilns

202-79A

interview on 'phone with Nancy T. Smith 7/10/14

1. Info on kilns & surrounding area came from "old timers" memories when Nancy was preparing her 1976 book.
2. Old timers' memories could have forgotten whether there were 2 or 3 kilns. Schile's sketch in Evers says 3. Smith says 2. There could have been 3 initially & 1 later removed, or 2 initially & one later added — as a possibility.
3. Crystal Spring Water Co. debris after the fire was dumped in the dump, explaining why their bottled bottle caps are at the kilns site.
4. When dump filled, Pine Hill people dumped along the road — now the Puttemans' driveway — explaining all the glass at the kilns site.
5. Incinerator on N side of driveway — between it & the UTD — could have something to do with the coal, not charcoal, at the kilns site — although kilns were across the driveway.
6. Ed West's house, when being cleaned out, was intercepted by Nancy Smith & the Shandaken Museum. Professional correspondence — incl. MK's — was saved. Personal letters shredded. Nancy had heard of MK via Ed West.