

Forest History + Vegetation

200-37

(B) Elev. 1735'. Two e. white pines, open-grown, one 49" dbh. More pines at (C)

(D) Black birch, OAK, more pine, dead paper birch. Elev. 1863

(E) Top 1st ledge, 2035'. Log road wraps around its north end.

STUMPS from 2017:
ASH ±120 years
OAK >105y heartrot
ASH 27" diameter 125y
OAK 38" diameter, 145y + sprouting

NO old stumps visible.

(F) 4 stone piles on N side elev 2103. OAK stump 110y. Short stone wall ca. 10 ft long and a 5th stone pile at (G). Fork.

(G) to (H) Abundant Polygonum persicaria, Prunella, Galeopsis on road. Skidders brought in Eurasian adventives. BASSWOOD-SUBAR MAPLE

(H) Road forks again, one to N, one to S. Cinna abundant

ASH blowdown, exposing 18" of soil

Another ASH stump, 155y and 36" diameter.

(I) Base of 2nd ledge

(J) Top of ledge in isolated Hemlock grove < 2285'. Red paint marks on trees in a curve. Only one tree with an Evpf posted sign. Either an odd boundary or none at all.

(K) MEADE HILL Summit elev 2260'.

Stumps 25 to 30 years ± on NE side of red paint blaze. 1st older stump seen. On Evpf lands or on neighbor's land on the north?

Stone wall, long, runs NW-SE prob. along a Hardenbergh Patent lot line.

Large OAKs along wall.

6" to 12" Predominantly RED MAPLE pole stand on

summit flat; some OAK + BLACK CHERRY + HOP HORNBEAM

No tree repro. Solid Carex communis underfoot

One stone pile.

Lunch rock -

Blueberry, Brachyelytrum, Polytrichum commune.

Deer stand in tree is on highest point or highest point is off to the NE.

Deer stand about 150' N of stone wall.

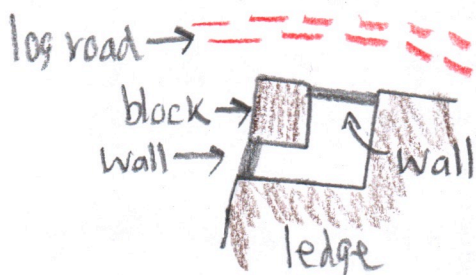
Stumps on both sides of wall suggest field abandoned long enough ago for harvestable trees. USGS shows forested already by 1943-1945.

(L) COL 2220'. Still open fields in places with APPLE, BLUEBERRY, Aster Umbellatus, Danthonia, Dennstaedtia. Few goldenrod & only some EUTHAMIA.

Browsed CARPINUS thicket shown open on 1943-1945 USGS. Apparently not mowed. So why still open? Access to fields was from south.

OSTREA.

(L) East end of Col has a ledge (3rd) with a large block that had broken off. Connecting the block with the ledge are two neatly & well-built stone walls, creating what could have been a shelter had it once a roof.



(L) to (M) Probably pastured, with ^{30 to} 50 year stumps up to 4th ledge (M) elev. 2375'.

Above ledge, stumps 30 to 40y with a few HEMLOCK saplings. Road with S-curve climbs up on narrowing crest. Dennstaedtia & Carex communis obscure the road.

(N) First FURLOW sign. 2520'. No visible blaze, so LizCruz's Furlow map is needed to determine that the boundary runs at a sharp angle across the crest from NW to SE & soon comes to SW.

Above (N) the crest widens. BLACK BIRCH. Definitely never farmed. Short steep pitch follows. On top, BLACK CHERRY dominant, PAPER BIRCH down. BEECH hem. SUGAR-ASH. 50+ year stumps

(O) 2730' Road forks. Take right fork which climbs moderately steeply & continuously for a distance, becoming more & more obscure.

(P) Road ends past a 36" CHERRY. OXALIS

FLAT, soon followed by the KEMLOCK-Y BIRCH fen with outlet to NE. 36" HEM. COPTIS, MUPELLZIA, CINN Elev 2907.

BEECH thicket on far side. Hemlock grove with two 30-inch KEMLOCKS with ⁴ strange girdling scars as far up as 20 ft. What happened?

SUMMIT FLETSCHMANN MT. (R) 2900' - EVERGREEN, NO MTN-WOODFEN, ARISBEMA.

Wet spot on east beyond DENNSTAEDTIA glade has INTERLUNTED FERN & CAREX CRINITA.

200-38

Begin descent:

(S) SUGAR flat with X-mas fern & Blue Cohosh.

(T) Enter log road from E.

(U) Leave log road & start down the spur steeply. 2568'. 1st DAK on descent.

(V) MOZDENHAIR FERN large popln, NETTLE, BLUE COHOSH, XMAS FERN, Solidago latifolia. Nearly 100% SUGAR MAPLE. 2460'

(W) 2275' - 1st MAPLE-LVD. ULBURNUM; DAK, BASSWOOD. OSTRICH FERN in a seep.

Then down steep ledges.

(X) On log road. 1972'. BLACK BIRCH

(Y) Log road junction 1885'. Enter Milnikiewicz upper pasture. Then lower pasture.

Great views of Dry Brook Ridge. 1st EARLY GOLDENROD.

(Z) 2810. Alan's altimeter reads 1512' on road instead of 1490'.

Timetable

Start hike ca 9:30 AM

1st time recorded at
Lunch at (K) 11:30 to
11:50.

(M) 12:47 leave col

(N) 12:35 on Furlow

(Q) Flat, Arr.

(P) 1:03 fen

(R) SUMMIT FIMANN.
1:25 to 2:00

(D) fen 2:15

(S) 2:25

(T) 2:30

(U) 2:40

(V) 2:47

(W) 3:12 Ostsch fern

(Z) 3:57 2810

Best-Guess Forest History

200-39

West Slope Meade Hill.

(B) Pines grew up in the open but no evidence of pasture.
Maybe a clear-cut or nearly so 100 to 125 years ago?

(E to H) DAK & ASH cut in 2017, 105 to 155 years old, suggesting
disturbances between 1860s + 1910s. NO older stumps
seen, suggesting no cutting since 1910s.

Pasture here from (F) to base of 2nd ledge (I)?

1901-1904 USGS Margaretnale Quadrangle shows a road from
Fleischmanns coming in on the N shoulder of Meade Hill at
2100 ft, then turning S on the W shoulder & ending in a loop
between 2100 + 2160 ft.

(D N) Black birch & oak are the only 2 spp. suggesting Native
American burning (index = 2), compared to Chestnut & Maple-
leaved viburnum in addition on F'mann Mtn (burn index = 4).

Also contrast to Morris Hill S slope with Burn Index ≥ 6 ,
incl. White oak & Mtn. Laurel

(S) Meade Hill Summit & Col

(K L) Summit pastured in 19th century & young trees harvested
sometime in 1980s, on abandoned fields afforested.

Col still has open fields but not goldenrod to keep
them open. Mowing recent unlikely. Open fields shown on
1943-1945 Fleischmanns Quad, but summit already forested.

Fleischmann Mtn.

Pastured on W spur up to about (M). Abandoned maybe
100 years ago, afforested & logged 1960s to 1980s.

(R) Summit has scattered stumps, lightly logged by
Furlow → in the early 1980s (see p. 200-4 in 1987).

(X Y) Milnikiewicz log road & stump date to 1989. Pastured
still open (H to Z). +1990.