

High Point

11-2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 1969
with Aaron Kidish

Time	Map Elev.	Press.	Interv Elev	Miles	Temp	Location	Time	Press.	Interv Elev	Temp
9:21	980	29.22		448.5 492.0	70	Home	4:25	29.19 ⁴		81
10:12	1520	28.57		467.3 0.0	70	Trail Base	2:18	28.60		77
10:25										
10:30		28.44	1650			A Depression; trail jogs west.	2:10	28.46		
10:41	1850	28.26		0.4		B Switchback	2:00	28.25		
10:52		28.02	2050			C Gate; enter state land	1:42	28.00		
10:53	2070	27.99		0.9		D Kanapa Trail Junction	1:35	27.98		
11:00		27.86	2190			E Truck trail ends; steepens	1:26			74 ⁰
11:05		27.66	2370			F Scarlet Oak Lookout	12:50	27.65		
11:12		27.44	2570			G Ledge #1 base	12:43	27.42		
11:15		27.38	2625			H Figwort	12:40	27.38		
11:20		27.25	2770			I Ledge #2 top (Paper birch)	12:37	27.26		
11:23		27.15	2840			J Ledge #3 top ("B")	12:29	27.15		
11:25		27.12	2860			K Boulder on west	12:27	27.12		
11:27		27.07	2910			L Ledge #4 top	12:25	27.08		
11:29		27.03	2950			M Base last ledge	12:22	27.06		
11:31		26.97	3000			N Overlook to south	12:18	27.00		
11:35	3080	26.88		1.8	70	High Point Summit	12:13	26.89		70

Pressure at trail base: 28.60 0.0 (mi)
Junc. paved road: 29.03 0.7 mi Map elev.: 1090

111-3

to West Shokan ↑

to Route 28A ↑

103

Clear areas →
westview ↓

east view
Summit High Point 3080'

view to south
3000'
2950 "M"
2910 "L"
2860 "K"
2840 "J"
2770 "I"
2570 "G"

Epigaea?
bram areas indicate steeper pitches over disintegrated ledges
Cartanea upper limit?
Clintonia no fruit.
View of Wagon Wheel Gap

0.5 mi
service station
Winchell
900'

0.9 mi
High Fern Rd.
Outcrop Cut
1040'
Pitch Pine Grove
to Samonville
0.8 mi between dots

2370 "F" view to south
2190 "E"
2070
Improved Dirt Road
1090'

view to Mohank Skytop

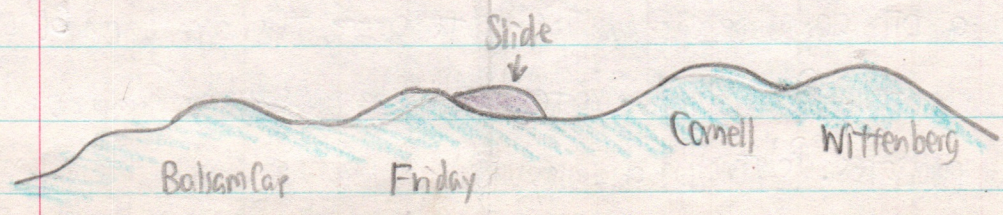
Kanape Trail
state gate

BAEN
HOUSES
Trail Base EL-1520'
0.7 mi above junc. with paved road, Elev. 1090

Switchback 1850'

Depression 1650'

Tulip trees & Sycamores at Traver Hollow Viaduct.
From Bradhead (off 28A) and the dividing wall on the Ashokan, the High peaks look like this:



Forest at Trail Base and to Kanare Trail Junction

The forest is a near-climax second growth predominantly 1 red oak-red maple 2 chestnut oak-sugar maple stands with occasional paper birch, 3 Shagbark, yellow birch, butternut, ash, ^{beech} and hemlock. Shrub layer includes witch-hazel, 4 sassafras, 5 sweet fern, 6 maple leaf viburnum, Pennsylvania blueberry, ^{mt. laurel} and 7 mossewood. Ground layer is Monotropa, Aster divaricatus & acuminatus, Polytrichum ohioense, Leucobryum, Carex ^(15 sp.) and other expected species.

In the switchback (1750') area, Hypnum imponens, Interrupted fern 1, Cornus florida 2, 1 Nyssasylvatica 8, more TB, occasional young Castanea 9, several white pine. The most abundant trees are still red chestnut oak 2, red sugar maple. Rhododendron is common, along with Kalmia ^{pubesc}, Aralia nudicaulis, Pteridium. 1 Bigtooth aspen seen. Epipactis 3, Hickory, Leucobryum, Poly. ohio, Beech, Sugar Maple, Juncus tenuis.

At the trail junction area, elev 2070', sugar maple 4 has dropped out and the trees run only to 25 or 30', whereas a bit downslope, around the state gate, trees approach 60' and greater. Red Oak dominates with chestnut oak & red maple as associates. Polytrichum ohioense, Vaccinium pennsylvanicum, Pteridium, Leucobryum and Comptonia dominate the floor. Hemlock saplings. Hanamelis, Kalmia, H-imponens, Aralia, Castanea

1115

Kanape Junction to near High Point Summit

The trail from Kanape Jura to High Point starts out as a truck trail but soon (2190') becomes a foot trail marked by occasional large old orange disc trail markers without any N.P.S.C.D. lettering. The forest becomes stunted quickly, so that at 2190', the ~~red & chestnut oaks~~ run only 25' tall. Gaultheria ¹⁰ procumbens ^{Chestnut has been drops out.} appears. At the lookout "F", there is a scarlet oak;

Comptonia, Vacc. Aronia melanocarpa ^{abund.} The figwort at 2625' is Aureolaria virginica?. The trail levels above the figwort through 15' high red oak scrub, with some red maple, Aralia PB, Rhododendron roseum, Kalmia, Vacc. (mostly penn.), Pteridium, Maianthemum, Nanorella, Gaultheria, and Castanea. Paper birch clumps are common at the tops of ledges "I" and "J".

Around the big boulder, EL-2860', Corylus, Kalmia, Aralia, Vacc., red oak, red maple, and Rhododendron roseum are present. Viburnum acerifolium and Ribes occur at the point "M", elev. 2950. Aronia melanocarpa is abundant at the 3000' "N" south lookout. At "G", some oaks run to 12" DBH, but are stunted and/or decapitated to 20'.

11/2

Summit High Point

"Jensen" Benchmark 3080' (1942)
just NW of highest rock with bolts anchored.

Open areas

abundant → Vacc. pennsylvanicum

Vacc.

Prunus pennsylvanica

alpine → Potentilla tridentata

Polytrichum piliferum

Polytrichum juniperinum

Deschampsia flexuosa

abundant → Aronia melanocarpa (heavily deer-browsed)

Diervilla lonicera

Solidago bicolor

Achillea (10 rated)

Achillea

Under the 10-15 ³ Red Oak scrub or with it

Aralia nudicaulis

Maianthemum

Clinomena - not abundant & not flowering

1 Kalmia latifolia - last blooms 7/30

and art ← Betula papyrifera

and art ← Sorbus americana

Rhododendron

2 Viburnum acerifolium

Kormameja - lvs. small & thick

Rhamnus or Ilex montana

Monotropa uniflora

Dicranum fulvum, Brotherella

Yes

Views: Ashokan Reservoir to NE; the spur to the east above Wagon Wheel Gap has a bald crest [with Arctostaphylos via Dan Smiley?]

with outcrops and ledges on the south shoulder. On the SW

on a spur of High Point probing into the Kanape Valley, there

is a large patch of dead trees forming a brown patch. All

the area within several miles around is oak-heath, and

even Mombaccus Mtn & the 3015' hill W of it has no conifers.

The stunted oak at such low elevations is peculiar; the whole

region above the trail junction could have been burned. Or

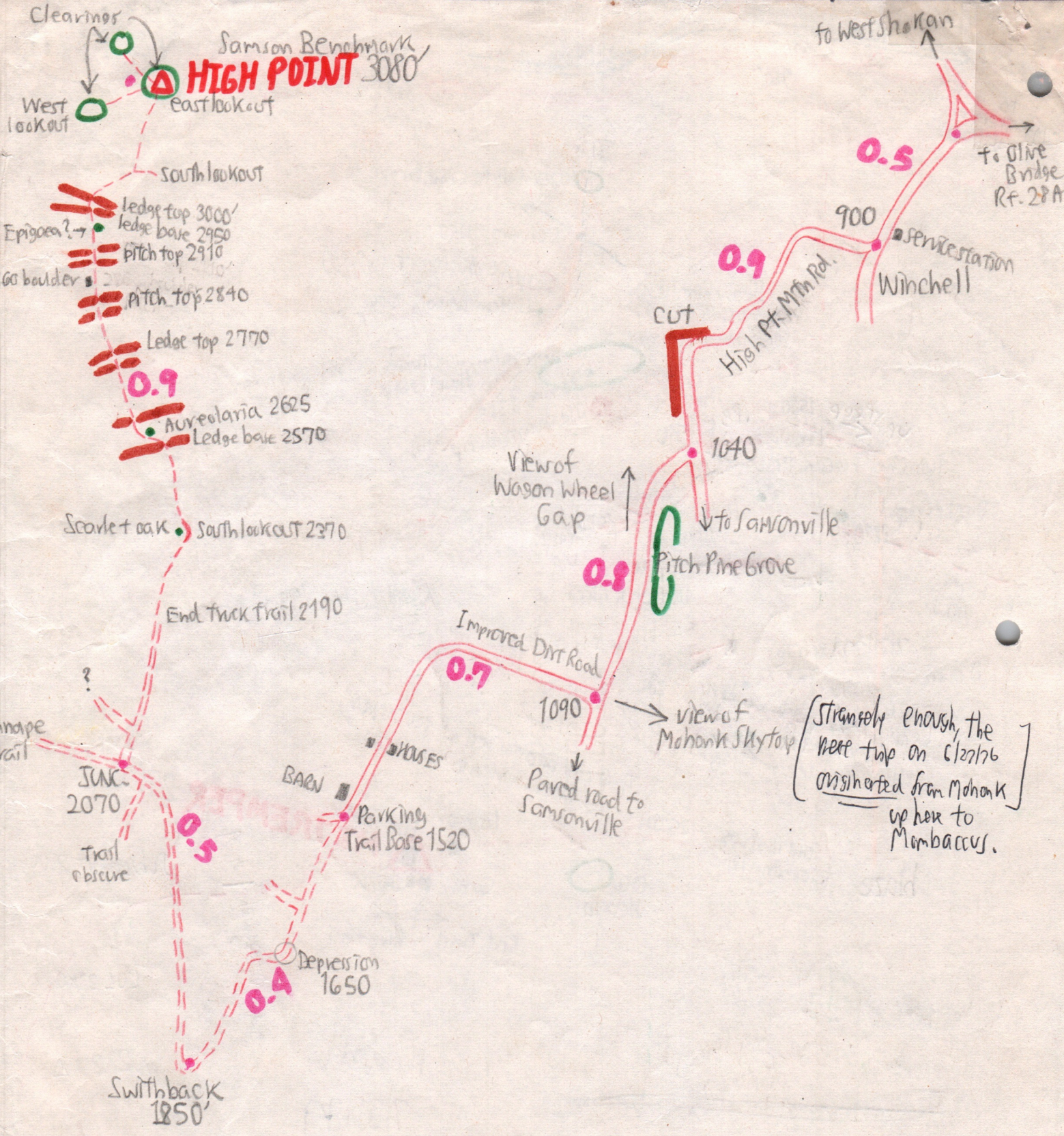
is exposure so great all the way up?

Dead Chestnut
* Explored
in 1989
Burned May 69
& again 1982?

YOU BET!!

TRAIL PLAN: HIGH POINT

1969 11-13



(strangely enough, the
 tree top on 6/27/76
 originated from Mohawk
 up here to
 Mambaccus.)