

Escarpment Trail

North Lake to Blackhead

S10-1

8/26/70

actually earlier
Ed West a little off

Oliver H. Perry's Logging. Perry lumbered about 1920-1925 on Carokill Mtn House

property (then about 5000 acres) before the State bought the tract. His main logging camp ^{with old cable railroad.} was above Mary's Glen Falls, as described in the 1939 Trail Guides.

It was 0.75 mi above the Falls, and 0.25 mi below upper June with Blue trail.

Perry ran a Lumber, Coal & Ice outfit in Tannersville. He cut spruce & hemlock

west of South Lake, but north of the outlet (i.e. in the area north of Kaorokill falls). He cut down to 12" nearly all merchantable timber. He cut over North Mtn & worked nearly to the summit of Stoppels' Point from the southwest mostly for spruce & sugar maple.

Between N Mtn & Stoppels Pt, there is a loose grove along the trail of about a dozen large spruce. One tree, 23" DBH x 50 ft, just E of the trail, was cored;

Today, some of these spruces are dead & or have dead tops.

These spruce were spared by Perry because of old age, lightning scar, poor form, or other such reasons. A dense pole stand of spruce & fir ^(8-10" max.) occurs just to the NW, below Stoppels' Pt. summit, with Perry's old stumps still visible.

A 6" ^{SPRUCE} stump cut to clear the trail measured 35 years. Tree # 68
Yellow paper birch are mixed in with the conifers, from large trees to reproduction. Another 6" cut-to-clear stump of spruce was 52 years. Tree # 69

Perry went no farther ^{NORTH} than the crest of the East Kill Range, i.e. he didn't work north of the spur that runs west off of Stoppels Pt.

Perry probably did not log the escarpment because of poor form, burn, etc, but only in the covered slopes to the west.

Ledges along the Escarpment: North Lake to North Point

Potentilla indentata occurs in cracks in the bare rock, where

No trail beyond NPt, and no trails on S Mtn in 1939 Mulholland Trailguide

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Some soil has accumulated. The southernmost station seen was south of Artists Rock. The species occur frequently between here, Sunset Rock, Newman's ledge with the northernmost station seen in the large clearing about midway between the two Mary's Glen trails.

At this large clearing, occurs also Arenaria groenlandica, a few plants growing in cracks. Other plants are Polytrichum piliferum, Derhamia flexuosa, Vaccinium angustifolium. The site should be further investigated for alpine species (espec. bryophytes & lichens), for it may never have been invaded by forest. All soil sound off by removal.

The open bare rock without forest cover could pass for a severe burn, for burns were common along these ledges, especially to the south near the hotels. If this site were threatened, the flames probably could not leap across the expansive bare rock and destroy the alpines.

The scrubby forest surrounding the bare rock was probably burned.

Red Pine starts just SE of the Layman Monument⁽¹⁹⁰⁰⁾, and follows the crest of the escarpment around as far as the bog just south of the first (lower) Mary's Glen trail junction⁽²⁶²⁰⁾. The forest along the ledge is paper birch, spruce, hemlock, 3 spp of pine, Coptis, Moorewood, Aster acm, Viola, Aster macro, Aralia nud.

At the upper Mary's Glen Junction, PB-B-Sugar all under 12" but obviously not burned since the 1925 logging. If burned severely around 1900, would Perry have found it worthwhile to log?

If N Pt was burned, there probably was not much to burn to begin with. Derhamia, Polytrichum piliferum, Sorbus, Pin Cherry, Oak, spruce, Drenilla, Maianthemum, Paper birch.

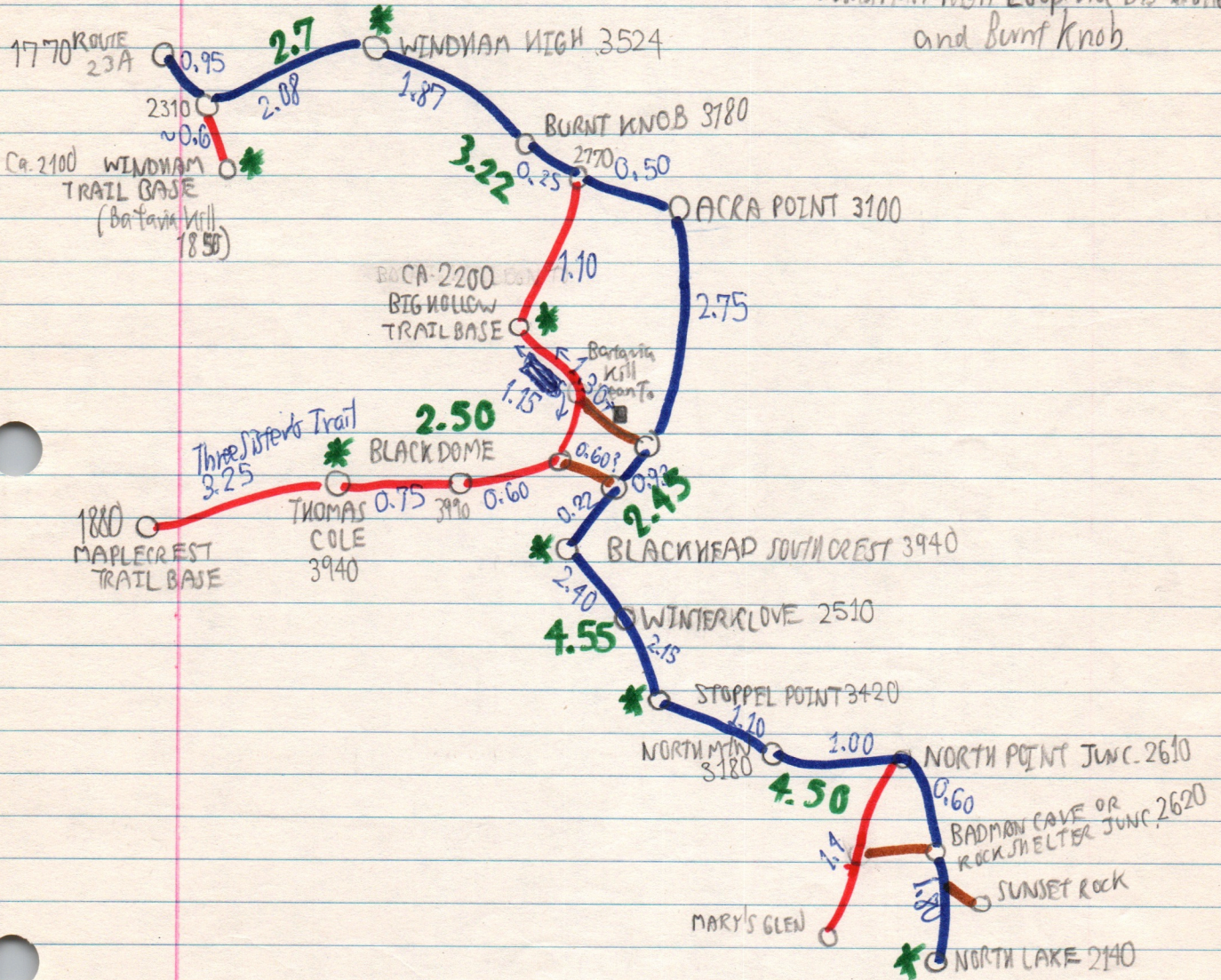
Rock dip - As seen from north point, strata conspicuously dip 5° W on S Mtn, N Mtn, K-High Peak & entire region around.

305 Escarpment Trail Mileage

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Expeditions

Stoppel Pt from North Lake
 Black Dome, Thomas Cole & Blackhead
 from Big Hollow
 Windham High Loop via Big Hollow
 and Burnt Knob.



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2-012

Kaaterskill Clove - S Mtn - N Lake - N Mtn - Stoppels Pt.

Photos of K Falls area right after 1900 fire under "Lavel Mtn" in folder at Bronx House. Volcanic S Mtn dead standing. Did not reach top of S Mtn (ain 1924) or K Creek.

- ✓ Proctor G.R., 1947 Rare ferns & angiosperms about Haines Falls
- ✓ Kobbe, F.Wm., 1926 Rare Woodsia at Haines Falls
- ✓ Kaiser, G.B., 1911 Bryophytes & Lichens in the Clove, Mary's Glen, Sleepy Hollow
- Darton, N.H., 1896] geology
- Lobeck, A.K., 1939] geology
- ✓ Pierce, J., 1823 Early natural history
- ✓ Rafinesque, C.S., 1832 Ericacolon pumilum on N and S Lake.
- ✓ Dwight, H.E., 1820 Early natural history
- Van Zandt, R., 1966 The Catskill Mtn. House
- ✓ Sammis, E.M., 1913 Common rare bryophytes, as far N as Mary's Glen
- McIntosh & Hurley, 1964 Plots on North Mtn, 2400 & 2600', flat, spruce.
- ✓ Taylor, Raymond H., 1933 Parmelia Cladonia lichen on N Mtn.
- ✓ Torrey, R.H., 1931 Potentilla tridentata (bearberry) Mt C. Mtn. House
- Varl, A.M., 1891 Catalogue of plants from Tannersville area.
- ✓ NYS Annual Report for 1888: Fire, May 5, 1887 from Palenville up K Clove to S Mtn, with K-Notel spared. "Most area lightly wooded, covered with huckleberry bushes & scrubby growth, through which the fire ran very fast, burning some dead timber. Although it burned over -- 800-1000 acres, I do not think it has damaged the timber any. None of the land is owned by the State," George H. Beach, firewarden, Catskill.

Pum

(over)

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✓ NPS Annual Report for 1901

Aug 10, 1900: 300 acre brush falls in K-Clove below K-Falls, incl. part of Twilight Park area. ^{fire?}

✓ NPS " " " 1929: P48 State contracted 2300 acres from C.Mtn. House north to North Mtn + part of the escarpment.

✓ NPS " " " 1930: Hotel Kaateokill site bought by State, P56

✓ NPS " " " 1931: North Lake Campsite opened, p54.

→ ✓ NPS " " " 1932: State purchase along escarpment from North Lake area to East Windham. (P39).

✓ NPS " " " 1939: Autumn 1938 hurricane (P-52) knocked 100 trees down at N Lake Campsite.

✓ NPS " " " 1950: 3 1/2 mile trail built on South Mtn from N Lake Campsite.

✓ Bailey, J.W., 1846 Desmids in NTS Lakes

Carpenter, C.F. 1887 - Lumbering & Tanneries in K-Clove.

✓ Irving, 1848 (p24) Pines of Pine Orchard removed by 1848

✓ Van Zandt, 1966 (P34) Lumber for C Mtn House, 1824, all from South Mtn.

✓ Map by Van Loan 1876 at Bronx House = "Burnt District" between Mary's Glen & NPT on the Crest. How could Perry log an old burn?