

Virgin hemlock (one with 1800 blazes) and northern hardwoods. Stream cutting into bedrock in a few places, with intermittent rock walls on north side. No bedrock exposed on south slope until K. Falls amphitheatre. Stream may be re-excavating an interglacially-filled gorge but the Falls may be postglacial.

The yellow spur trail which leads ^{south} from the Upper Falls overhang passes from the Virgin Clove forest at the falls to the Aug. 10, 1900 burn area before reaching the blue trail. The burn is marked by the abundance of paper birch and young hemlock-northern hardwoods with no trees exceeding 70 years of age.

South Mountain

The blue trail leading south from the K. Falls-Laurel House area passes, for the first quarter mile or so the burn area with hemlock-beech ^{moorewood-} sugar maple coming up beneath the paper birch & big tooth aspen. Hayscented fern, Marianthium, Asteracum, Violaets, Vacc. are common. A few young spruce & white pine. One patch of Lycocarpus. Some Pteridium.
 Before reaching Layman's Monument, red oak comes in and dominates after the Monument area. A 41 PB is 35 years old. Some old dead chestnut logs on burned Kalmia, Vib. acer. Namamelis is abundant along with Vacc. myrtilloides, angustifolium, vaillanti & Gaylussacia Pyrola, Rhabdolenon roseum - 1 station each seen. Lysimachia quadrifolia, Drewilla, Eric. obscurum common. Some Aster macrophyllus. Red Pine, Stemmed Pitch Pine, Trembling Aspen, Chamaenerion. Quite a few young spruce as an understory. Bracken abundant. Aralia nudicaulis red oak seedling. One station of Cornus canadensis N of Boulder Rock. American Chestnut occasional. This forest swings all around to east side of South Mtn. Soil thin on top of south crest.

Ed West thinks that South Mtn was mostly red oak - Chestnut before the 1900 fire. Now far east on South Mtn the 1900 fire went is unknown. N. Mtn was burned since S. Mtn while Stoppels Pt was logged to near the summit from head of Catskill Valley in the 1920's or 30's.

Has oak forest swept up the Catskill Escarpment in the last several thousand years since the ice sheets & caused the hem-N hdwds to retreat?

Spruce comes in here as it does in old fields & probably will never dominate. Myrica, Aronia near Inspection Point, Ash seedlings. Fewer PB E of I. Pt. Hem-N Hdwds seeded into burn from Clove below on N. end of burn. Common in unburned

Mem - N. Hdwds forest on NW