OLD GROWTH OAK WOODS, SHOKAN
PRATT LOT
NOT FIRST GROWTH

Shared with Dr. ~~Sam Adams~~ Sam Adams

5/12/01

N

to Bostock Mtn. Rd.

e-p #15 Sudney Property

OLD GROWTH

old pasture

Butternut Creek

skid roads

houses

PECK RD.

parking spot

e-p #14

to Chase Road

← level → → begin downgrade
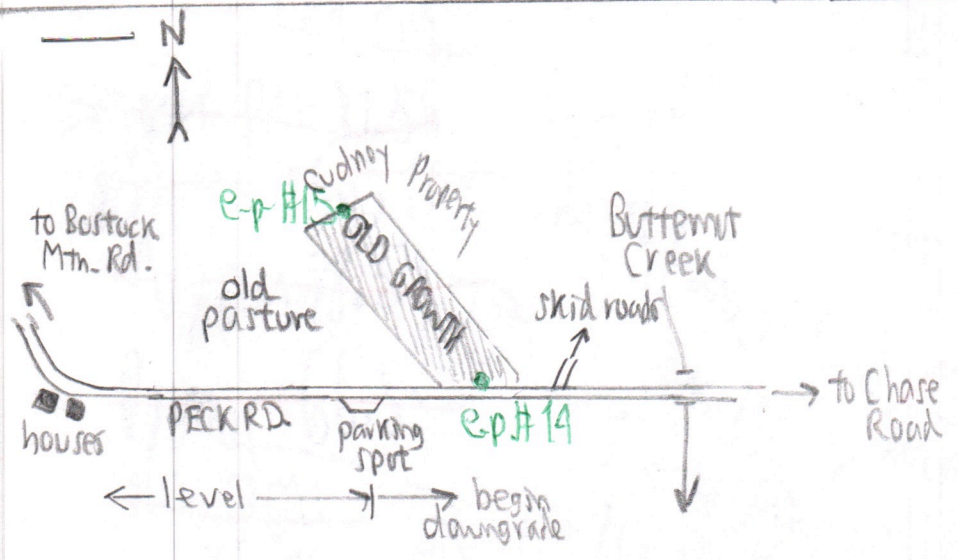
This woodlot must have been within the millennia-old Esopus people burn region. Europeans cleared & pastured it between 1750 & 1800, and must have abandoned it ca-1850. The oaks are about 150 years, seeding in on the old pasture. E. hemlock might have come in later under the oaks & are now ± 100 to 130 y. The unusual feature is the EARLY abandonment.

Trees

N. red oak

circumference	diam.
93.5"	30"
96"	31"
104"	33"
99" ⊙	32"
85¼"	27"
115" *	37"

White oak

86"	27"
87.5"	26"

Black gum

	6"
98.5"	31"
73"	23"

Bigtooth

66.5"	21"

E. hemlock

70"	22"
most in	13" to 15" range

Red maple

Chestnut oak

53.5"	17"

Black birch

	10"

Witch hazel

White ash

	13"

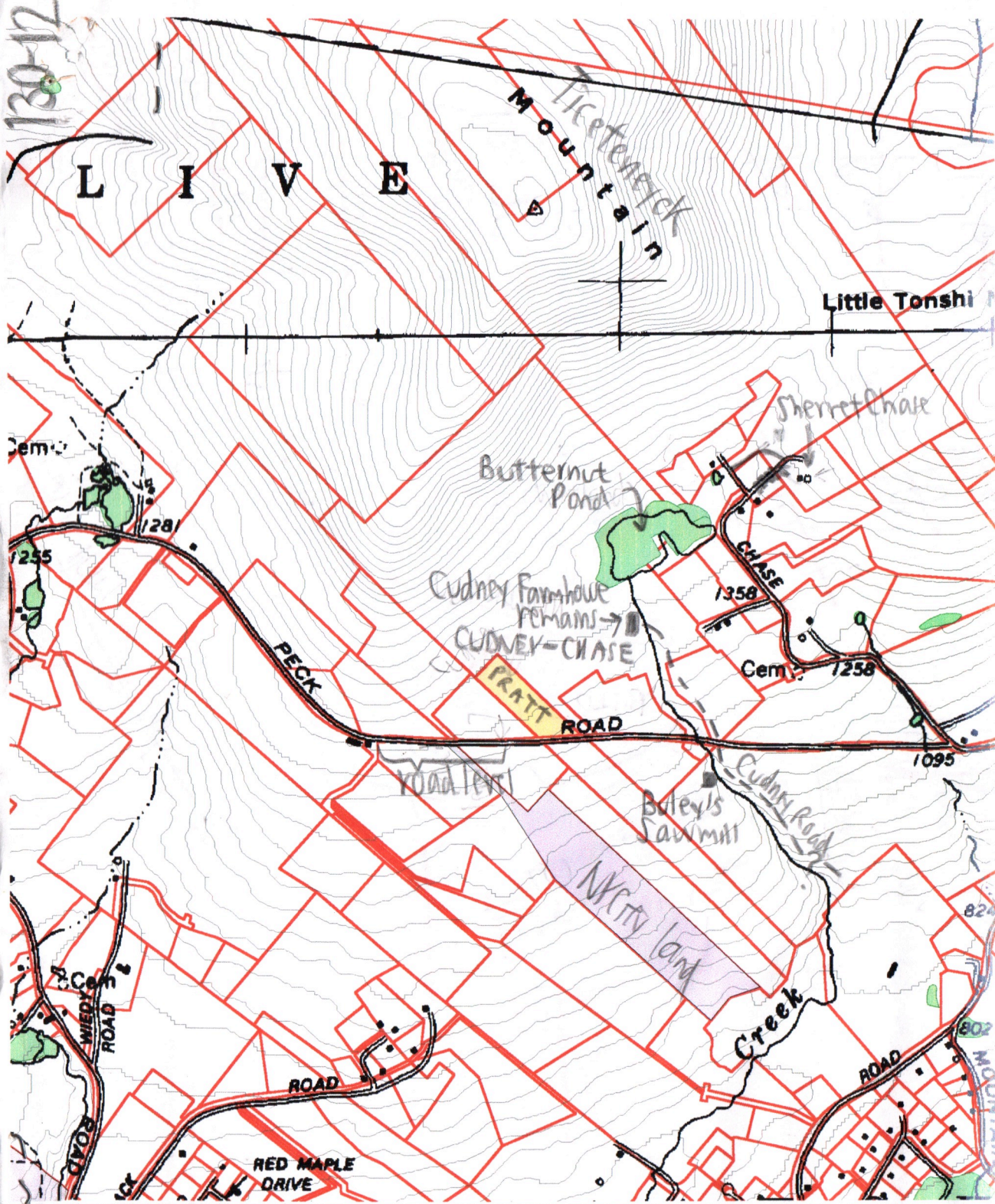Reproduction
  Sugar maple
  Striped maple
  Hop hornbeam

N. red oak growth rates range from 5 to 20 years per radial inch. A 30" DBH = 15" radius tree varies from age 5×15=75 to 20×15 =300 unlikely! Mean is 10×15= 150 years

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Stumps, N red oak, on property to west:
  18" diameter, 95 years
  24" diameter, 110 years
  26" diameter, fallen down broken, off 25 ft up, only a portion of outer trunk countable, 15 to 20 rings/inch. At 15 rings/inch & 13 inch radius, age is ± 195 years.

88 rings visible ⊙ down naturally with 5 to 15 rings/inch, broken trunk, mean 10 rings/inch × ?? radius= years

* with 5 main buttressed roots (phyllotaxy?)

Property on E must have been logged the year before or maybe currently. E white pine on property to west: a bun saplings on semi-open stand.

Polygala paucifolia in flower along road, N side.

LIVE

130-12

Ticetenick Mountain

Little Tonshi

Cem

1281

1255

Sherret-Chase

Butternut Pond

Cudney Farmhouse remains →
CUDNEY-CHASE

CHASE

1358

Cem   1258

1095

PECK

PRATT ROAD

Road Level

Baley's Sawmill

Cudney Road

NY City land

Creek

ROAD

WIEDL ROAD

Cem

802

820

MOUNTAIN

ROAD
RED MAPLE DRIVE

Butternut Pond it on a terrace with till 130 ft deep. 5/21/01

Chris Olney's handwriting {

Turn on Mountain Rd (off Rt 28 at the Blueberry Patch)

130-12

George W.

Pratt Lot Old Growth
Shokan

6/1/'01 with Dr. Sherret Chase
[revisited. Originally with Dr. Sam Adams 5/12/'01   ]

Northern red oaks on Cudney Lot
Surrounding the Pratt Lot, owned
by Chase Family & cut in 2000:

Tree ① 28" diam. at base , 80 years , SW of Butternut Pond
    ② 24" "   "   "   , 87 years } NE side of Pratt Lot
    ③ 29" "   "   "   , 90 years } NE side of Pratt Lot
    ④ 32" "   "   "   , 103 years , SE side of Pratt Lot

Mean diameter 28¼"
mean radius 14"
mean age 90y
Mean growth rate 6.43
rings / inch of radius

$$\frac{90y}{14"} = \frac{?y}{1"} : \frac{90}{14} = 6.43$$

Bigtooth blowdown.
Kamam. alan.
Vacc. pallidum

Shagbark
Lyonia
Ilex vert along
Butternut Brook

Northern red oaks within the Pratt Lot:

Tree ⑩⑴ 123" circum. along E boundary, near N corner. 39" DBH
   NO age estimate.

Tree ⑩② Buttressed 5-root observed also on 5/12/'01. 120" circum. = 38" DBH

Tree ⑩③ Tree came down in a storm, probably already dead, standing some years,
lying on ground (see sketch map). E. white pine saplings 10 to 12 years
old have grown up alongside it. The oak must have died at least 20 years
ago. Bark fragments on the ground under the barkless trunk. Only
trunk & several main limbs remain— no branches.
Circumference 87", diameter 28", radius 14".

   A. Base of trunk, broken wood, outermost 2" of radius = 30 years. radius
       mean growth rate: 15 rings/inch

   B. Core taken with increment borer in horizontal trunk maybe
       10 ft from base. Outer wood rotted.
       5" long core shows 58 → years.
                       mean growth rate: 12 / inch.

   C. Main branch, maybe once 20 to 30 feet above ground, 11" diameter,
       5½" radius, broken, rings countable 111y. Mean growth rate: 20/inch.
                                                                      (over)

C (continued). Outermost ^youngest inch of the 11" diameter branch = 30 rings/radial inch

Innermost " " " " " " " " 20 rings/radial inch
          ^oldest

For the ^slowest years, the ^branch increment consists of one band of vessels plus the summerwood. The spring (early) wood is reduced to a band of vessels.

Tree (108) age estimate; 14-inch radius.

At fastest rate, 12 rings/inch : 12×14 = 168 y
At slowest rate, 30 rings/inch : 30×14 = 420 y
At average rate, 15 rings/inch : 15×14 = 210 y
"   "   " , 20 rings/inch : 20×14 = 280 y

$$\overline{210+814} = 270 \text{ y best estimate.}$$

If died in 1970, then estab. in 1700.

If tree is 270 y, why did it require
270−111 = 159 y for trunk to be tall enough
to produce the branch studied?

Tree (104) 30 rings/radial inch, but no diameter recorded [probably 24 to 36"?]
Also down on ground & near Tree (103).

History: A. 1973 Steve Cope was the ^ministry student making pancakes. Now in N New England.

Met at CCCD annual meeting in 2011 or 2012 →

B. Alva Buley's sawmill site is on W bank of Butternut Creek about 60 to 80 ft. in elev. below Peck Rd. Several stone walls remain. Running in 1896 ±.
N red, chestnut & white oaks; BB, several pignut, Am. chestnut sprouts — all old fields.

C. John Cudney's deed is dated 1830 to his farm. He was the sole owner of the farm for ± 50 or 60 years. Fields ^when abandoned, later sold to Chase Family in 1920. Sherret remembers the ^ca. 1931 woods as open as a boy (born 1918). The east side of Chase Road was owned by Winchells in 1920 when sold to Chases. Stone walls & ^old pastures up to base of steep Ticetenyck slope.

D. The old growth woodlot belonged to George W. Pratt, probably son of Zadock Pratt, 6 acres.

E. We have NO idea of the age of the other tree species.