READING THE FORESTED LANDSCAPE



USING FOREST FORENSICS TO DISCOVER WHAT HAPPENED TO A SITE BEFORE YOU CAME ALONG

Richard King Mellon Foundation



DISTURBANCES TO LAND



TYPICALLY FALL UNDER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

-AGRICULTURE
-OLD GROWTH AND WIND
-LOGGING AND FIRE
-SETTLEMENT







- Crop fields
- Hay fields
- Pasture









- Lay of the land

Is the ground flat and smooth?

Is there a slope?

What is the composition of the soil? Sandy? Solid clay? Glacial till?





<u>Agriculture</u>

- -Lay of the land
- -Pillows and cradles

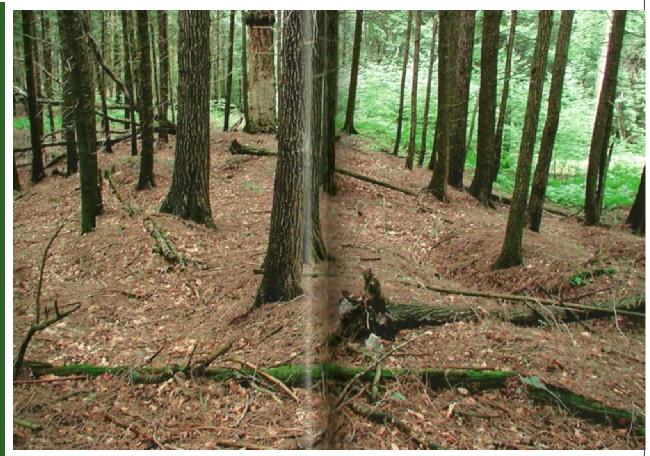


Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels





- -Lay of the land
- -Pillows and cradles
- -Stone walls and stone piles

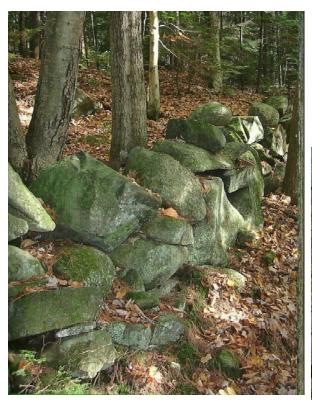


Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels

Are soil levels the same on both sides?

What size are the rocks?

Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels









- -Lay of the land
- -Pillows and cradles
- -Stone walls and stone piles
- -Troughs and terraces

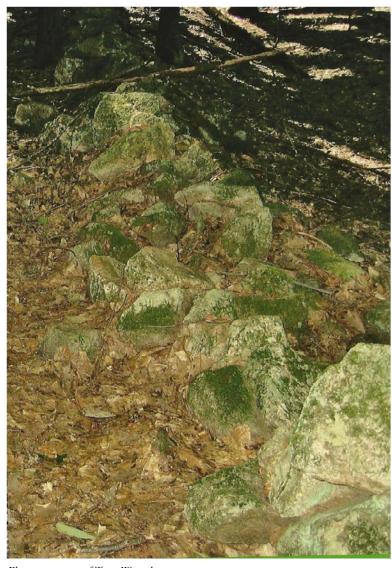


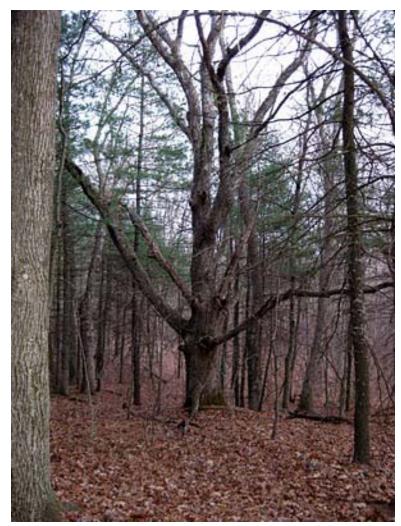
Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels

Indicators of annual plowing





- -Lay of the land
- -Pillows and cradles
- -Stone walls and stone piles
- -Troughs and terraces
- -Open-grown trees



Trees left to provide shade for livestock





- -Lay of the land
- -Pillows and cradles
- -Stone walls and stone piles
- -Troughs and terraces
- -Open-grown trees
- -Wire fencing

Barbed?
Smooth?
Border trees?



Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels



Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels



-Coarse bark

Younger



Photos courtesy of Tom Wessels



Older





- -Coarse bark
- -Deformed canopy







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- -Live-snapped trees







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-Stumps w/out an associated down trunk



Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels



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-Stumps w/out an associated down trunk

-Multiple-trunked tree, w/ or w/out original dead trunk



Photo courtesy of Tom Wessels





-Stumps w/out an associated down trunk

-Multiple-trunked tree, w/ or w/out original dead trunk

-Basal scars



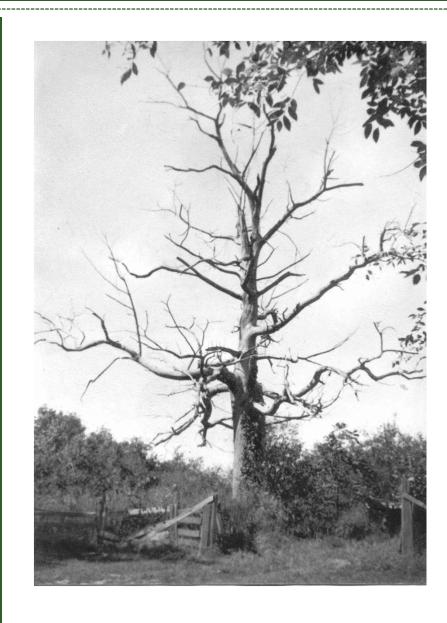
Photo courtesy of Tom Wessel







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- -Basal scars
- -Rot resistant snags







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- -Multiple-trunked tree, w/ or w/out original dead trunk
- -Basal scars
- -Rot resistant snags
- -Charcoal







-Old structures or foundations







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- -Cemeteries







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- -Cemeteries
- -Ornamental or garden variety plants



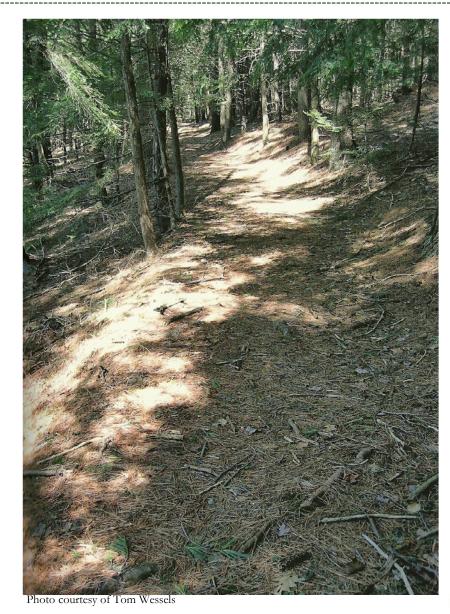








- -Old structures or foundations
- -Cemeteries
- -Ornamental or garden variety plants
- -Roads





GPS Locations:





Destination point #1: Destination point #3:

N 39.90603 N 39.90742

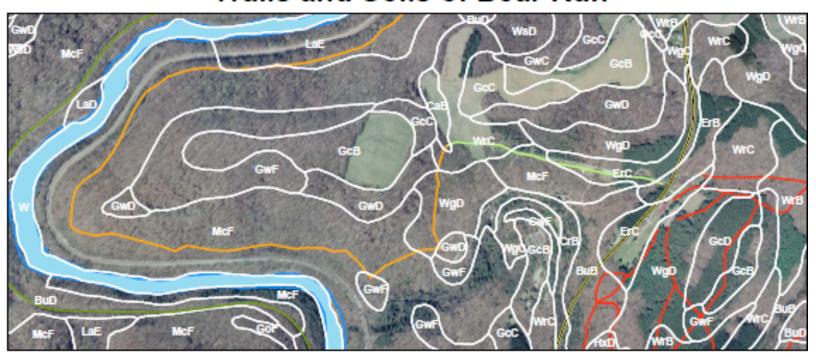
W079.46378 W079.47016

Destination point #2: Destination point #4:

N 39.90843 N 39.90384

W079.46707 W079.47328

Trails and Soils of Bear Run



Map Code	Soil Name	Percent Slope			Drainage	Drainage Class
CaB	Cavode silt loam	3		8	Somewhat poorly drained	C/D
Er8	Ernest silt loam	3		8	Moderately well drained	C/D
ErC		8		15		
GwB	Gilpin-Weikert channery silt loams	3		8	Well drained	с
GwC		8		15		
GwD		15		25		
GWF		25		60		
McF	Macove-Gilpin channery silt	35	-	70	Well drained	В
WgC	Wharton-Gilpin silt loams	8		15	Moderately well drained	с
WgD		15		25		
W/B	Wharton silt loam	3		8	Moderately well drained	C/D
WrC		8	-	15		
WsB .		0		8		с
WsD		8		25		



