

Geog 144 Assignment 1
Dahl Winters
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Types of plants occurring there: There were several types of hardwood trees (white oak was most dominant judging from the leaf litter, followed by beech, then ironwood, then very few maple and red oak leaves). The understory consisted of four kinds of mosses, one kind of fern, and ginger, surrounded by a large quantity of leaf litter. The trees were uneven-aged, and gaps were present. There were many different sizes of fallen trees. (Animals occurring there: one woodpecker with a red head was observed near the stream just before sunset; a big brown spider on the plot (2" from front to back), and squirrels in a low area below the hill where the plot was located, as well as by the stream.)

Buds and leaves on trees: Buds were present on many of the trees, but no live leaves were present (just dead brown ones).

Leaf litter on the ground: This was the dominant feature of the understory. Most of the leaf litter consisted of white oak leaves, and was used to identify the kinds of trees in and around the plot.

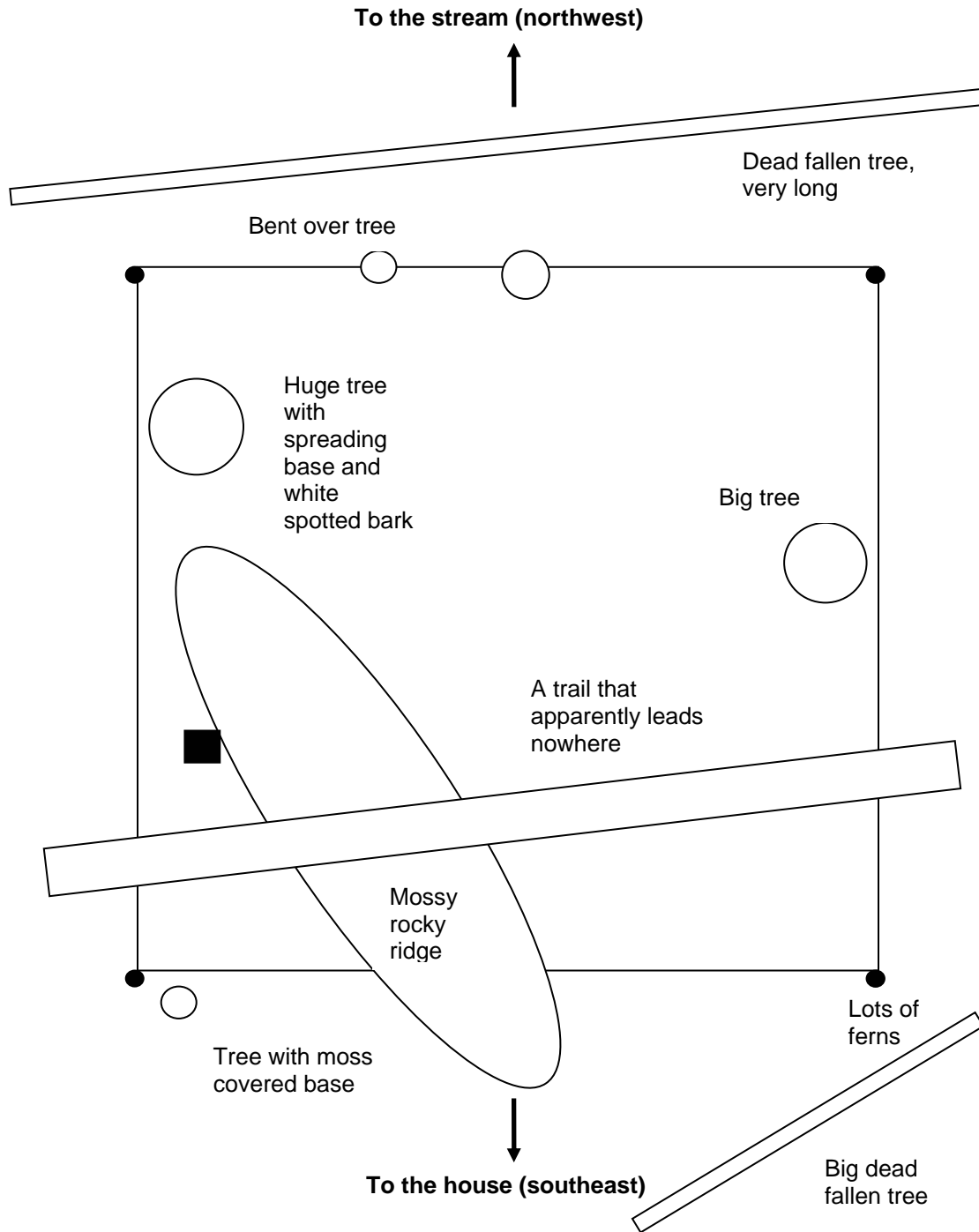
Slope and aspect of the plot: The slope was gentle (~0-10 degree angle) for most of the 10x10m plot, but became steeper (10-30 degree angle) on the sides of the plot closest and farthest from the stream. The plot's aspect is to the northwest, meaning it is likely cooler and perhaps moist considering its proximity to the stream flowing through Battle Park.

Location near stream, buildings, impervious surfaces, etc.: I estimate the plot was within 200 meters of a stream and one house. There were no nearby impervious surfaces.

Photos and drawing: In the aerial photo below (from the Orange County GIS site), north is up. The plot diagram is drawn such that northwest is up.



The plot was found by standing at the corner of Point Prospect Pl. and Glandon Dr., which was up on a hill. I lined up the above photo to my eyes such that I was looking along the line pointing toward the house. I then sighted along the line pointing to the plot, and made note of how far away from north that was. I then proceeded to bushwhack down the hill in the direction of the plot, and stopped when I could see the northeastern corner of the house directly to my right. I did some walking around in that area until I found a good place for a plot. The plot was laid out such that two sides of it ran parallel with both the stream downhill and the front face of the large house uphill. The plot is closer to the stream than to the house.



All photos were taken from the black square on the plot diagram in the directions indicated, unless where otherwise specified.

Looking uphill at the house



Looking downhill at the stream



(photographed from the tree with the moss-covered base at the SW corner of the plot)

Looking southwest



Looking northeast

