

Place Names of Henry David Thoreau in Concord, Massachusetts (and in Lincoln, Massachusetts) & Other Botanical Sites in Concord

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Presented here will be an attempt to pinpoint as many of Henry David Thoreau's place names in Concord and Lincoln, Massachusetts as possible using latitude and longitude coordinates in a format usable with Google Maps. In addition the entries will be supplemented with commentary and Thoreau Journal references (virtually complete). In my explorations of Concord in the late 1970s and early 1980s I was able to determine some of Thoreau's locations accurately using his references to plant species at these locations, plants which sometimes still persist. This will be a project that will develop very incrementally online. It is my hope that eventually this will prove to be a valuable resource for those seeking to visit those places in Concord still publicly accessible that were well-known to Thoreau.

References:

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- Eaton, R.J. 1974. A Flora of Concord. Special Publication No. 4, The Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Online at <http://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/26092018>
- Fenn, Mary Gail & Allie Bemis Bueti. 1999. The Estabrook Woods [map]. Online at <http://sudburytrails.info/image/trails/walking-map.pdf>
- Gleason, Herbert W. 1906. Map of Thoreau's Concord, Massachusetts. Online in high resolution at <http://www.ray-a.com/HerbertGleasonThoreauCountryMap1906.sml.jpg>
- Concord Free Public Library. Thoreau Surveys. Online at <https://concordlibrary.org/special-collections/thoreau-surveys/>
- Town of Concord. Concord GIS Map [interactive]. Online at <https://www.mapsonline.net/concordma/index.html> (requires Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge for full features)

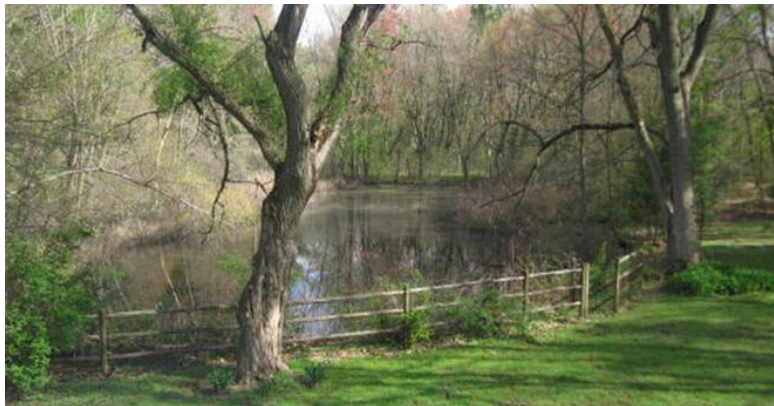
Note: Latitude and longitude coordinates given here can be copied and pasted directly into the Google Maps search box to go to the place name.

PLACE NAME LIST

Beck Stow's Swamp -- N 42.46753, W 71.33029

This swamp was in Thoreau's time one of the three or four finest sphagnum bogs in Concord in terms of richness in rare bog plant species. The location was a swampy, boggy area just to the east of the current St. Bernard's Cemetery close to and on the south side of Bedford Street. Thoreau locates the swamp/bog on survey maps of the new road toward Bedford dated July

1853. He places it just south of the new road (Bedford Street) where it first makes a slight bend clockwise, a little to the east of Pedrick's Swamp (which is on the north side of the road). Present-day aerial photographs, town wetland maps, and a photograph taken about 2006 (see below) show at this site a small pond in a swampy, wooded area near the road (Bedford Street) connected to a larger, flat swampy area southward. From his Journal references to a quaking bog with some open water that he notes rhapsodically on July 17, 1852, and to possible springs from a nearby bank on May 24, 1854, it is evident that Thoreau considered Beck Stow's Swamp to be the area of the present-day, swampy area with a small pond with banks to the west and east of it, rather than the much larger, connected, swampy area southward which is very level. On July 6, 1854 he refers to a Blanding's Turtle headed from the hot sand of the new road (Bedford Street) to the water of Beck Stow's about a rod (5.5 yards) distant which corresponds best to the location of the present-day area containing a small pond pinpointed by the geographic coordinates given above. Thoreau's notable, lengthy account of cranberrying here on August 30, 1856 includes a statement characterizing the size and nature of Beck Stow's: "How does this particular acre of secluded, unfrequented, useless (?) quaking bog differ from an acre in Labrador?" The size of the wetland area around the current pool between a hill to the west and a slope to the east happens to be about one acre. Thoreau also lists in this passage the five locally rare bog plants that made this bog one of special ones in Concord. Curiously, Richard J. Eaton, author of *A Flora of Concord* (1974), lists Beck Stow's Swamp as a swamp rather than as a bog, and fails to include it in a section (pp. 27-28) on sphagnum bogs where he attempts to list which bogs in Concord had each of a number of uncommon bog plants. The small Beck Stow bog was evidently dredged out to form the current small pond. A review of USGS topographic maps of Concord indicates that the pond appeared first in the 1970 map. The pond's absence from the preceding 1958 map however is an error since that map fails to show the new house built in 1955 along Bedford Street between that road and the site of the bog. It is most likely the bog was partly filled in to make dry land for the house and partly dredged out to create the current pond. A photo taken about 2006 of the part of the pond in the back yard of that residence is shown - the sad fate of one of Concord's natural jewels.



The origin of the name of the Beck Stow Swamp appears to be unknown. There does not appear to be any occurrence of that name prior to Thoreau. It is possibly related to Rebecca Stow buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery (died at age 94 in 1810) who was the widow of Ebenezer Stow (1701 or 1702 - 1769). A nephew of Rebecca and Ebenezer, Cyrus Stow, became

involved with Thoreau's uncle, Charles Dunbar, in the mining of plumbago used for pencil manufacture.

Journal references: **1850** November 9; **1851** October 13; **1852** July 17, October 14; **1853** July 1, July 7, July 14, July 29, August 9, October 19, 20; **1854** January 31, February 17, May 24, July 6, 19, August 18, 22, September 23; **1855** January 10, February 18, March 5, 6, April 25, May 5, 11, 15, 24, June 2, October 16, 20; **1856** January 9, May 20, 21, August 18, 30; **1857** July 3, September 20, 24, November 23; **1858** January 29, April 7, June 9, August 11; **1859** March 13, April 25; **1860** May 16, June 7, October 17 (footnote), 18, 20, 29, December 30.

Boaz's Lower Meadow -- N 42.48743, W 71.36178

This would refer to the meadow/bog just to the northeast of Boaz's Meadow. Boaz's Meadow is at elevation of 228 feet while Boaz's Lower Meadow just to the northeast of it is "lower" at an elevation of 212 feet.

Journal references: **1858** January 8 (indirect reference); **1860** May 29.

Boaz's Meadow (Boaz Brown Meadow) -- N 42.48561, W 71.36377

Thoreau's first Journal reference to this is on November 11, 1857 where he notes it as the andromeda swamp behind the cellar hole where Boaz Brown (1641 - 1724) used to live northwest of Brooks Clark's. There is a bog with a carpet of "andromeda" (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*) northwest of the site of the John Brooks Clark (1775 - 1865)/Raymond Emerson (1886 - 1977) house on the north side of Estabrook Road. This bog is at the coordinates given above. The location of this bog is also consistent with Thoreau's description on November 18, 1857 in which he describes it at a much higher elevation and at a short distance west of a meadow behind Brooks Clark's house. On this date he describes it as the first of a chain of wetlands (which happen to be successively lower in elevation) leading to the northeast and eastward -- opposite in direction to a series of wetlands close by to the south leading westward and southward toward the Assabet River. Also, it agrees with Thoreau's reference on January 8, 1858 to a small meadow (Boaz's Lower Meadow) just above (i.e., a bit northeast of) it, and reference to a long swamp northeast of it on February 24, 1858. The Gleason map has Boaz's Meadow misplaced as a larger swamp due north of the Brook Clark house. The Estabrook Woods map of Mary Gail Fenn and others appears to have the Boaz Brown site correctly located, with the name of the meadow placed between Boaz's Meadow and Boaz's Lower Meadow. Boaz's Meadow has at least two locally rare plants - the Virginia Chain Fern (*Woodwardia virginica*) and Swamp Sweetbells (*Eubotrys racemosa*).

Journal references: **1857** November 11, 18; **1858** January 8, February 5, 24; **1860** November 1 (misspelled).

Botrychium Swamp (Rattlesnake Fern Swamp) -- N 42.49654, W 71.34865

The location given for this swamp with the coordinates above has not yet been absolutely confirmed with a search for the fern. Thoreau's Journal references leave some ambiguity as to whether this is the same as his Yellow Birch Swamp (see further below) as is claimed by Gleason with his map, or whether it is a different swamp. The evidence suggests a resolution of this - it is the northern part of an elongated swamp while the Yellow Birch Swamp is the

southern end of the same elongated swamp. The particular fern that the name refers to is Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*) which is locally rare. At this swamp Thoreau refers to "Some bass trees", meaning Basswood (*Tilia Americana*), also locally rare in Concord, on September 2, 1857. The survey that Thoreau did for the heirs of Humphrey Hunt (1770 - 1852) in December 1852 that shows the location for his Yellow Birch Swamp also had notated on a boundary north of that location the word "Bass" which is a name he used the Basswood. The location of this word puts it on the edge of a northern section of an elongated wetland that contains the Yellow Birch Swamp at its southern end. In his Journal on September 2, 1857 Thoreau refers to the Yellow Birch Swamp, but also the "botrychium swamp" in lower case, suggesting perhaps two different swamps. Thoreau's Journal entry for May 5, 1859 appears to equate the two names of the swamp in the same sentence.

Journal references: **1857** July 13, September 2, 16; **1858** June 28, September 1; **1859** May 5, September 24, October 15; **1860** May 26, July 14.

Brown's Pond (Brown's Cold Pool, Brown's Pond-hole, J.P. Brown's Cold Pool, J.P. Brown's Pond) -- N 42.44278, W 71.38272

The location of this small pond can be determined from Thoreau's description of the topography around it on November 9, 1851 and its proximity to the residence of James Potter Brown (1810 - 1871) about a half mile due north of it. The location for it given on the Gleason map is approximate, placed a somewhat too far to the north and west.

Journal references: **1851** November 9; **1852** July 28; **1853** March 27, November 29; **1855** April 13; **1858** April 4, November 11; **1860** March 18, July 30, November 25.

Calla Swamp (Bateman's Pond Swamp) -- N 42.491176, W 71.364084

The location of this swamp has not been determined with certainty. Minot Pratt was the first to discover *Calla palustris* in Concord. Pratt found it in a swamp south of Bateman's Pond according to his manuscript of plants of Concord (his note of this location appearing in error under the preceding species in his list -- the common *Peltandra virginica*, sometimes called *Calla virginica* in Thoreau's time). Pratt shared the location of his find with Thoreau in 1857. Thoreau first mentions Pratt's find in his Journal on May 18, 1857 -- "In the swampy meadow north of this [rocky hillside] Pratt says he finds the calla." Thoreau gives clues to the location of the swamp where Pratt found it in his various Journal entries, indicating that it is on the north side of a hill and that there was a hill between this swamp and Bateman's Pond. Thoreau first coins the name "Calla Swamp" for this swamp in his Journal entry for on June 9, 1857. He uses the name "Bateman Pond Swamp" before this date and once after this date. Thoreau later in the same year found *Calla Palustris* in the Owl Nest Swamp and at Gowing's Swamp. Another clue to the swamp would be the presence of the locally rare *Lysimachia thysiflora* which Thoreau notes finding in the Calla Swamp in sphagnum moss and water in his Journal entry for June 9, 1857. The swamp located at the coordinates given above is the only one that is on the north side of a hillside that is south of Bateman's Pond and that has a single, sizeable hill between it and Bateman's Pond. Richard Eaton collected a specimen of *Calla palustris* in the same vicinity in 1955. But his location and habitat information (in an opening of a wooded swampy brook that was in woods opposite the old Worthley Farm on Lowell Road) suggest that his location was at spot a little southwest of Calla Swamp, probably part of a wider *Calla* population in that area. The location of Calla Swamp as shown on the

Gleason Map of Concord with Thoreau localities is clearly incorrect as he places it north of and adjacent to Bateman's Pond.

Journal references: **1857** (May 18); (June 7), 9, 24; September 4; November 2, 14; **1858** May 29.

Clamshell Hill (Clamshell Bluff, Clamshell Bank) -- N 42.45190, W 71.37215

According to Richard Eaton (p. 13, Eaton 1974), "this locality was the site of an important permanent Indian village, with a large shell-heap on the south-facing bank. It was under cultivation for many years prior to about 1930 and then allowed to become fallow. ... the site was almost completely destroyed by road [Route 2] and school house construction, as well as by subdivisions for house lots." The major construction of Route 2 as a four-lane highway in Concord was completed in 1935. As late as 1936 there were still significant quantities of rotted clam shells left by the native Americans at this site that gave rise to the name for it used by Thoreau. He and others have collected many native American artifacts over the years (see, for example, his journal entry for September 22, 1860). A colored photo of this site taken by Herbert W. Gleason is [here](#).

The skunk-cabbage that Thoreau visited here for of the two earliest blossoming stations for this earliest, native, spring flower in Concord still exists on the south side of the embankment on the Sudbury River close to the Route 2 bridge. The south-facing, open exposure here is very favorable for receiving the warmth of the sun in spring.

Journal references: **1837** October 29; **1851** July 8, November 9; **1852** March 6, April 2, 25, June 2, July 5; **1853** March 27, 29, April 1, 6, May 6, 23, June 23, 24, July 31, August 15, November 9, December 3, 11; **1854** March 5, 10, 18, 21, 24, April 8, May 6, 16, 22, 28, June 12, July 3, 5, 7, 30, August 29, 30, September 4, 6, 15, November 2, 17, 28, December 19, 20; **1855** January 7, February 24, 26, 28, March 18, 19, April 5, 7, May 1, 6, 18, 26, June 5, 14; **1856** January 6, 25, March 10, 18, April 2, 4, 6, 7, 16, 22, 26, May 6, 11, 19, 25, 30, June 4, 10, July 17, 26, August 3, 24, September 27, December 4, 17, 29; **1857** January 6, May 10, July 5, 12, September 11, 26, October 4, 9, 26, November 20; **1858** March 21, May 17, July 22, August 7, 8, 12, 25, September 18, 27, 29, October 16, November 11, 21; **1859** January 23, March 2, 13, 19, 25, April 3, 30, May 1, July 5, 7, 8, 14, September 2, 26, October 10, November 15, December 29; **1860** January 22, February 25, March 2, 4, 18, 30, April 5, 27, May 11, 13, June 11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 24, July 7, August 22, 25, September 22, October 13, 30, November 25; **1861** April 9.

Farmer's Cliff - see **J. Farmer's Cliff**

Farmer's Owl Nest Swamp - see **Owl Nest Swamp**

Gowing's Swamp -- N 42.46231, W 71.32811

This is a small quaking, sphagnum bog embedded in a larger swamp. It is one of the three finest bogs (the other two being Ledum Swamp and Beck Stow's Swamp) in terms of richness of bog flora in Concord from Thoreau's time and the only one of the three remaining that has not been essentially ruined by human "improvement". The coordinates given above are for the center of the sphagnum bog. Thoreau's pictorial mapping of its structure in his Journal (on

August 23, 1854 and February 3, 1860) is an honor he did not bestow on any other Concord bog. His Journal account of November 23, 1857 gives an even more detailed portrait in words. The name of the swamp is from Jabez Gowing Jr. (1793 - 1870) who lived nearby on Lexington Road.

Journal references: **1854** February 17, August 7, 22, 23, September 23; **1856** July 7, August 30; **1857** May 31, June 5, 25, July 2, 3, 8, November 18, 23; **1858** January 30, February 1, February 18, June 13, 14; **1859** May 30, June 12, October 15, 17; **1860** February 3, May 25, June 7, July 3, 7, August 13.

Harrington's Mud-hole (Harrington's Pond Hole, Harrington's Pool) - N42.44658, 71.39909

This boggy pool on the north edge of the Ministerial Swamp is/was notable for its uncommon bog plants - such as Pitcher Plants and Black Spruce - and for its proximity to the white form of the Fringed Polygala that Thoreau found nearby and still present as late as the 1980s.

Journal references: **1851** November 19; **1853** May 23; **1857** October 9; **1860** August 27, 28.

Holden's Swamp (Holden's Spruce Swamp, Kalmia Swamp) -- N 42.43703, W 71.36410 and N 42.43703, W 71.36574

Two coordinate locations are given above since presently there are two bogs of comparable size at the location for this swamp/bog that are separated by a dry strip about 13 meters wide, only slightly higher than the elevation of the two bogs. None of Thoreau's Journal references describe two bogs/swamps at this location. It is most likely that in Thoreau's time these two bogs/swamps were one extended bog/swamp, and that in the course of time the oblong kettle-hole bog matured (filled-in), as kettle-hole bogs are wont to do without natural springs or streams feeding them, revealing the shadows of the two adjacent chunks of glacial ice. It is also possible that human intervention created the dividing strip. In his Journal references Thoreau sometimes refers to this as the spruce swamp at Conantum or Holden's Spruce Swamp. At times he refers to the particular spruce there as "white spruce". However, the only species of spruce in bogs in Concord is the Black Spruce (*Picea Mariana*). On January 9, 1855 in the dead of winter with some snow covering the bog Thoreau discovered evergreen shoots of the locally rare Bog Laurel (*Kalmia polifolia*) poking up above the snow-crust. Hence, after that date he sometimes refers to this bog as Kalmia Swamp. The *Kalmia polifolia* is the only locally rare bog plant recorded from this bog, although the Black Spruce and American Larch (*Larix laricina*) trees that have been found there are uncommon. The Holden referred to is Tilly Holden (1786 -1860) who lived with his wife Susan on Conantum about 3/8 of a mile southwest of the bog.

Journal references: **1851** December 25 ("spruce swamp on Conantum"); **1852** May 5, November 16; **1853** January 1, November 6, 9; **1854** September 8; **1855** January 9, 20, April 30, May 26, 27, June 10, December 11; **1856** May 13, 17, 18, 27, August 3, 26, December 6; **1857** May 23, 25, June 6, November 15, 23; **1858** May 4, 9, June 20, 22; **1859** April 25, 30, May 4; **1860** May 13, 16, October 13.

Jesse Hosmer meadow -- see **Painted Cup Meadow**

J. Farmer's Cliff (Farmer's Cliff) -- N 42.48228, W 71.36495

This cliff is named after Jacob B. Farmer (1801 - 1872). He lived on the west side of Lowell Road just south of the beginning of the current Farmer Cliff Road that leads to the cliff on the east side of the road.

Journal reference: **1853** August 5.

J.P. Brown's Pond - see **Brown's Pond**

Kalmia Swamp -- see **Holden's Swamp**

Ledum Swamp (Ledum Pond, Ledum Pool) -- N 42.43813, W 71.37686

This was probably the finest sphagnum bog in Concord in terms of richness of flora. What made it so special to Thoreau was his discovery there on February 4, 1858 of Labrador Tea (formerly named scientifically *Ledum groenlandicum*, now named *Rhododendron groenlandicum*). Concord happens to be on the southeastern edge of the range of this species. He also found there the locally scarce Black Spruce, the Dwarf Mistletoe growing on the Black Spruce that was at that time undescribed to science, Bog-rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), Bog Laurel (*Kalmia polifolia*), the very rare White Fringed Orchis (*Platanthera blephariglottis*) and locally rare Dwarf Huckleberry (see Thoreau's list of August 8, 1858). The gradual ruination of this special bog was already underway in Thoreau's time (see his journal entry for October 23, 1858 referring to a man at work draining the bog). Thoreau's friend, Minot Pratt, wrote in 1863 "... in a small shaking bog, all within the space of two square rods ledum latifoilm, *Andromeda polifolia*, *Kalmia glauca*, the White Fringed Orchis, all beautiful and rare, are now to be found, though the vandal who claims to own the bog is rapidly pushing his improvements in such a direction as to threaten destruction of the worthy tenants of his soil" (Commonwealth [Boston newspaper] April 10 & 17, 1863). Richard Eaton noted the clearing away of most of the surrounding vegetation by the then "owner" of the land in 1935 and demise of the last Black Spruce tree harboring the Dwarf Mistletoe in that year. I rediscovered this site on August 3, 1978. It is a sorrowful shadow of its former glory with no rare plants - a small scum-topped pool about 4 meters wide in a moat of *Sphagnum* moss surrounded by woods with Water-willow and Poison Sumach growing around the margin. This site is incorrectly placed on the Herbert Gleason map of 1906.

Journal references: **1858** February 4, 12, April 28, 29, May 9, 17, 28, 30, June 13, August 8, September 6, October 23; **1859** May 26, 28, July 15, 24, September 2, October 16, November 15; **1860** June 13, 25, July 4, August 26.

Owl Nest Swamp (Farmer's Owl Nest Swamp, Owl Swamp) -- N 42.48255, W 71.36150

On June 24, 1857 Thoreau records in his journal briefly how he reached this swamp: "You go about forty-five rods on the first path to the left in the woods and then turn to the left a few rods." The problem is that it is not known for certain where he starts and in his time there was much less woodland. The Gleason map shows a trail coming left (as one walks northward) off of what is now Estabrook Road leading toward what is labeled Owl Nest Swamp. This same dirt road/trail shows up on USGS topographic maps dating back to 1943. But these do not show a swamp in the place where Gleason places it. However, more detailed town maps do

show a wetland surrounded by elevated land on three sides which is a typical configuration for a swamp. The distance of this wetland from Estabrook Road is about the distance Thoreau states in his Journal. Thoreau's reference to this swamp sometimes as Farmer's Owl Nest Swamp refers to Jacob B. Farmer (1801-1872) who owned the Farmer's Cliff and lived nearby. The proximity of this cliff to the location of the swamp is consistent with both of them being on Farmer's land. In addition a map of the Estabrook Woods adapted from one prepared by Mary Gail Fenn and others shows a spruce swamp at about the location indicated above. While Thoreau does not specifically refer to spruce trees in this swamp, he does refer to sphagnum moss there in which the Black Spruce grows in Concord. Unfortunately, the site of this swamp is currently flooded.

Journal references: **1857** June 24, August 29, September 12; **1858** August 29, September 8; **1859** June 11.

Painted-Cup Meadow (Jesse Hosmer meadow) -- N 42.47342, W 71.39448

"Painted Cup" refers to the wildflower *Castilleja coccinea* with bright red calyx (occasionally yellow). Thoreau discovered this rare, showy wildflower in Concord on May 8, 1853 and expressed great surprise at having missed seeing it after for so many years of exploring the town. All known stations for this in Massachusetts and possibly New England have since disappeared. Thoreau notes finding it in at the foot of Annursnack Hill in the meadow of Jesse Hosmer. In the spring of 1850 Thoreau surveyed the Jesse Hosmer farm on the south side of Annursnack Hill. This large parcel is largely intact to this day with some additional acreage added. Alfred W. Hosmer records finding this in flower at "Hayward's swamp" as late as May 11, 1902, the last date it was recorded in Concord. He refers to John Hayward (1793 - 1878) who owned the property immediately to the east of Jesse Hosmer (ca. 1790 - 1871) and noted on Thoreau's survey map. There is only one wetland that straddles the boundary between the former Hosmer and Hayward properties, and it is right at the southern foot of Annursnack Hill with coordinates given above. On June 2, 1854 Thoreau refers to the "springy slopes" of this meadow which agrees well with detailed wetland mapping of the town that shows this wetland extending up the surrounding slopes of Annursnack Hill with multiple small streamlets. The location of this on the Gleason map is approximate as the actual location is due south of the hill and a little above the east-west line of Barrett's Mill Road.

Journal references: **1853** May 8, 15, June 3; **1854** June 2; **1856** May 28, 29, September 2; **1857** June 2, October 12; **1858** June 6, September 13; **1860** June 10, July 28

Pedrick's Meadow (Pedrick's Swamp) -- N 42.46757, W 71.33363

This is a small swamp by the north side of Bedford Street due west of the site of Beck Stow's Swamp on the south side of Bedford Street. Thoreau locates it on one of the survey maps of the new road toward Bedford dated July 1853. His first mention of it in his Journal was at the time he did the survey for the new Bedford Street. The fact that he found larch trees and *Maianthemum trifolium* (very rare in Concord) there indicates that it was boggy or a bog in his time. "Pedrick" refers to William Pedrick whose house is indicated on the 1856 map of Middlesex County done by Henry F. Walling on the west side of the road to Bedford northward of where Bedford Street joins the Old Bedford Road. Thoreau's July 1853 survey maps indicate

that Pedrick owned land on the north/west side of Bedford Street from the swamp Thoreau names for him toward Pedrick's house.

Journal references: **1853** July 1, 6; **1854** May 18, 24, August 22.

Rattlesnake Fern Swamp -- see Botrychium Swamp

Stedman Buttrick's Meadow (Stedman Buttrick's Swamp) -- N 42.48483, W 71.35734
On November 18, 1857 Thoreau refers to this as the maple lot on the old Carlisle road at the head of a meadow behind Brooks Clark's [residence], the meadow being drained by a stream (Dakin's Brook) that empties into the Assabet River. The maples would be Red Maples (*Acer rubrum*) which grow in wetlands. On November 6, 1857 Thoreau refers to this as a meadow where Stedman Buttrick's (1796 - 1874) handsome pine and maple wood was located. Town wetland maps clearly show the wetland just to the west of the Old Carlisle Road that is connected to a wetland behind the site of the Brooks Clark residence that leads to or is the source of Dakin's Brook. The Estabrook Woods map of Mary Gail Fenn and Allie Bemis Buetti correctly locate it just to the west of the Old Carlisle Road.

Journal references: **1857** November 6, 18 (indirectly); **1859** September 24.

Sugar Maple site -- N 42.42546, W 71.37080

This is the only site known in Thoreau's time for the native occurrence of Sugar Maple tree (*Acer saccharum*), commonly planted along roads and in yards then and now. I relocated the maples on July 29, 1982, confirmed by the occurrence of other rare or uncommon plants at the site referred to growing at the site by Minot Pratt. Richard Eaton in his "A Flora of Concord" found other sugar maples that he thought were the ones Thoreau found, but at a location on the other side of Sudbury Road, no doubt persistent, planted trees. Thoreau first mentions these maples on September 17, 1851: "John W. Farrar tells of sugar maples behind [Darius] Miles's in the Corner." Then he finds them on September 24, 1851. The trees I found were small just as Thoreau described on November 8, 1860. His observation was that they were no more than five inches in diameter. The largest I saw were no more than about a foot in diameter.

Journal references: **1851** September 24; **1860** November 8.

Yellow Birch Swamp -- N 42.49518, W 71.34920

On January 4, 1853 Thoreau names the swamp north of Punkatasset Hill and west of Hunt Pasture as "Yellow Birch Swamp" and comments that it has more of this tree than any other place in Concord. This swamp is located incorrectly on the Gleason map, USGS topographic maps and a detailed map done by Harvard University (current owner of the property). Thoreau locates this swamp more accurately on a survey he did for the heirs of Humphrey Hunt (1770 - 1852) in December 1852. The swamp is just west of a lot that has the same distinctive shape of a parcel at that location currently. The best stands of this tree (*Betula alleghaniensis*) in Concord are still in this swamp in the Estabrook Woods. The survival of many trees in the Yellow Birch Swamp was confirmed in January 2014 by Cherrie Corey and a small group of young explorers.

Journal references: **1853** January 4, May 12, June 5, 10; **1854** February 18; **1855** May 13; **1857** May 18, September 2, October 5; **1858** November 8; **1859** March 6, May 5; **1860** February 28.