SITE #14: THE BEARMORE PROPERTY

The Bearmores, whose farm was located between White Oak and Continental Roads along what is now a runoff stream from Sphagnum Pond, were neighbors of both the Chatfields and the Hulses. Here again, it is difficult to determine where the Bearmore property ends and the Chatfield's begins. The line of four witness trees just west of the runoff stream from Arthur's pond seems a likely property line between these two homesteads. Little evidence exists, however, of the Bearmore farm. Remains of one field lie just north of where White Oak Road crosses the Sphagnum Pond runoff stream. The walls bordering this field, and the pile of stones along its edge built-up over the years as the Bearmores plowed-up rocks from the soil, both indicate that this enclosure was used for agriculture. The cleared land to the west of this field, which is now a marsh, could also have been cultivated by the Bearmores. The open area just east of the four witness trees which delineate the boundary between the Chatfield property and that of the Bearmores' was also probably either farmed or cleared for cordwood. Because they seem to have maintained few agricultural fields, the Bearmores must have relied heavily on this cordwood cutting to supplement their income.

¹ The location of the Bearmore property is noted on Black Rock Forest Compartment VI Map, Black Rock Forest Archives, Cornwall, New York.

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