

SITE #8: "THE BILLY PLACE"

On a number of Black Rock Forest maps the area along the southeastern edge of Jim's Pond is labeled "The Billy Place."¹ Little evidence exists, however, from which to determine the type of land use practiced on this site before the creation of Black Rock Forest. The only remains are located between the southern shore and Jim's Pond Road, just east of the transverse which crosses the southern cove of the pond. Here, a stone wall and a small clearing indicate either an agricultural area or a homestead site. A few fruit trees in the vicinity suggests a homestead (must check notes on this). Workers involved in the construction of both Jim's Pond (it is an artificial body of water), and Jim's Pond Road, do not remember seeing more extensive homestead structures on this site before both projects were completed.² Field walls and foundation remnants, however, could have been destroyed by the construction of the road or may still exist under the water of the pond.

¹ The location of the Billy place is noted on Black Rock Forest Compartment XXI Map, Black Rock Forest Archives, Cornwall, New York.

² Babcock, interview with author, 20 May 1995.

