Chamaecyparis thyoides, commonly known as Atlantic white cedar, occurs primarily along the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plain from southern Maine to northern Florida and west to southern Mississippi. The species is most abundant in southern Virginia, North Carolina, and northern South Carolina, has a patchy distribution throughout most of its range and is rare in New York and New England.

In New York, *C. thyoides* is almost entirely restricted to Long Island; a few inland populations occur with Sterling Forest, Orange County the most inland population in the state approximately 50 miles west of the Atlantic coast. On Long Island, *C. thyoides* occurs in both glaciated and unglaciated regions (Fig. 1) and grows along stream and river edges; along shallow pond edges; in shallow, shrub-dominated depressions; in deep, poorly drained peat-filled depressions and in wetlands with limited organic material. In each, *C. thyoides* ranges from being 100% dominant (Fig. 2) to being codominant with *Acer rubrum*, *Nyssa sylvatica* and/or *Pinus rigida*. In stands where

(Continued on page 15)
**Long Island Botanical Society**

Founded: 1986 • Incorporated: 1989

The Long Island Botanical Society is dedicated to the promotion of field botany and a greater understanding of the plants that grow wild on Long Island, New York.

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**Society News**

LIBS gratefully acknowledges donors. The society would not exist without the support of its members and LIBS takes this opportunity to express sincere appreciation to the following members for their generous year-end donations:

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C. thyoides dominates, light penetration through the canopy is limited and the understory is often dominated by bryophytes, including various species of Sphagnum. Generally, C. thyoides requires acidic muck or peaty soils underlain by sand in open or semi-open environments. Long Island populations are associated with watersheds flowing either: 1) south into bays and the Atlantic Ocean, or 2) north into Long Island Sound, or 3) into Peconic Bay on the East End.

The decline of C. thyoides throughout its range during the past 200 years has been largely associated with logging and drainage. On Long Island, C. thyoides has a long history of commercial uses. Torrey (1843) reported: “The wood of this tree is light, fine-grained, and exceedingly durable. It is used like the Cypress, for shingles, cedar-ware, fence-rails, etc. It is also saved into boards.” Smith (1960) reported: “In the last thirty years of the 19th century my grandfather built boats and launched them into Meadow Brook at Merrick [Nassau Co.]. He used cedar planking in his boats . . . While the supply of white cedar held out it was the miracle wood. It came into use wherever and whenever endurance was sought without the protection of paint. Our forefathers built their houses of it. The womenfolks loved white cedar floor planking because it scoured white. When put down for pier piling, it lasted indefinately. The staves of molasses barrels, cider barrels, and storage vats were white cedar. It made telephone and telegraph poles that never needed replacement. Because of a certain resonant quality it came into demand for wooded pipes in pipe organs.” Smith (1960) also mentioned the use of C. thyoides in the construction of water supply pipes in New York City from 1774 to 1804, before the advent of cast iron piping (Fig. 3).

The distribution and abundance of C. thyoides on Long Island has been incompletely reported during the past 100 years. Taylor (1915) reported it as “scattered on western L. I.” and in 1916 added, “All of the stations for it on Long Island are on the coastal plain except those near Riverhead, where it is found between the Harbor Hill and Ronkonkoma Moraines. These stations near Riverhead are mostly scattered trees, there being no grove of any considerable area.” Today, the populations near Riverhead are among the largest on Long Island. Harper (1917) considered C. thyoides “not native to northern Queens” and Svenson (1936) noted, “The white or swamp cedar [is] now almost extinct on (continued on next page)
Long Island. Peters (1973) reported no North Shore populations west of Hauppauge and listed fewer than half the total number of populations reported by us.

The objectives of our study include (a) determination of the past and present distribution of *C. thyoides* on Long Island, and (b) comment on the current status of each population.

**Methods.** The past and present distribution of *C. thyoides* on Long Island is based on the authors’ extensive field work and personal observations from the 1970s to present, herbarium collections, published literature, and field work and personal communication with local botanists and naturalists including Victoria Bustamante, the late Rich Kelly, MaryLaura Lamont, Allan Lindberg, Bob McGrath, Michael Sperling, Ray Welch, Steve Young; Carol Stern and Janice Angliss, Research Librarians at Glen Cove Library; New-York Historical Society; Phil Blocklyn, Executive Director of the Oyster Bay Historical Society and Jane Jackson of the North Shore Land Alliance for their help with the research.

**Results and Discussion.** Historically, 32 populations of *C. thyoides* have been known to occur on Long Island and today 18 are extant. Eighteen of the 32 populations are/were associated with watersheds flowing south across Long Island’s outwash plain into bays before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean, seven flow/flowed into Long Island Sound and seven flow/flowed into the Peconic Bay watershed on the East End.

In the following discussion, past and present occurrences of *C. thyoides* on Long Island are presented alphabetically by county followed by the town closest to each population. Some localities have common place names (e.g., Silver Lake County Park) listed after the town. For each occurrence from Kings, Queens and Nassau counties we include current status (extant or extirpated), locality (latitude and longitude), published reports by earlier investigators, annotations from herbarium collections, summary of land use history when known, and our personal field observations from the past 30+ years. The entries for Suffolk County have been shortened because of space restrictions. An expanded version of this article is being prepared by us for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

**Kings County**

**Newtown.** Cedar Swamp. (extirpated)
40.714303 Lat., -73.931228 Long.

This historical occurrence of *C. thyoides* represents the westernmost population on Long Island and was likely extirpated by the mid-1800s when the natural landscape of the Newtown Creek watershed had been significantly altered by human activity. This population also represents the only known occurrence of *C. thyoides* in Kings County.

An early account of the “Cedar Swamp” near Newtown has been provided by Thompson (1839), including a description of the locality: “near the road from Williamsburgh [sic] to Jamaica.”

Today, the road is known as Metropolitan Avenue and for the past 200 years it has crossed the headwaters of Newtown Creek just east of Williamsburg. Svenson (1936) also mentioned the “Cedar Swamp” near Newtown and Clemants (1999) reported the locality as the headwaters of Newtown Creek in Kings County. Today, the region surrounding Newtown Creek consists of commercial and residential urban development.

**Nassau County**

**Baldwin.** Silver Lake County Park. (extirpated)
40.647906 Lat., -73.61607 Long.

The Baldwin locality mentioned by Smith (1960) and Peters (1973) is approximately 2.7 km south of the town of Baldwin; a small, isolated, and disturbed remnant of the original habitat has been preserved at Silver Lake County Park. This locality includes the headwaters of Parsonage Creek and the stream that flows south into Parsonage Cove. Smith (1960) reported “one tree (which with a four foot, six inch diameter) was the largest white cedar on Long Island at the time.” Peters (1973) reported, “In 1957 isolated trees still remained” but “In 1972, all were gone.” The Parsonage Creek watershed was surveyed by Turner in 2013 and no *C. thyoides* was found; the region has been negatively impacted by human activities.

**Franklin Square.** (extirpated)
40.687277 Lat., -73.675733 Long.

We have found only two reports (and no herbarium collections) of *C. thyoides* from the vicinity of Franklin Square: Smith (1960) noted “a small group of three or four stands in Franklin Square” and Peters (1973) noted “isolated trees still remained at Franklin Square.”

The locality of this historical population is not currently known. It might have been located in the headwaters and along the northern borders of Hook Creek, the only stream running through the Franklin Square community. We and others have searched for *C. thyoides* throughout the region with no success. Today, the headwaters of Hook Creek have been destroyed and filled in for various industrial and commercial uses and much of the creek has been channelized.

**Freeport.** Brookside Preserve. (extirpated)
40.658959 Lat., -73.602777 Long.

The locality of the Freeport population was recorded by William Ferguson on annotation labels of his herbarium collections of *C. thyoides* [14 Oct 1922, Fergusan s.n., NY; 2 sheets]: “N of RR, between reservoir and swamp” and “1/5 mi NE of Reservoir, N of RR.” Milburn Creek flows south through this watershed and empties into Baldwin Bay. The watershed property north of the railroad tracks was owned by the City of Brooklyn as part of the Brooklyn Water Works from 1852 until 1988
Visits in the late 1980s to the Milburn Creek watershed region by the authors and others revealed two live trees of *C. thyoides* along the creek in Brookside Preserve just north of the railroad tracks. At the time, these individuals represented the westernmost occurrence of *C. thyoides* on Long Island. The area was surveyed by Turner in 2011 and no live *C. thyoides* was found. Michael Sperling (pers. comm.) of South Shore Audubon Society reported, “The last two trees of *Chamaecyparis* had died in the mid-1990’s, one from destruction by vandals who cut it down and the other from being wind-tossed in a storm.” The remains of the wind-tossed tree were still visible in 2011.

**Glen Cove.** Cedar Swamp. (extirpated)
40.843197 Lat., -73.616617 Long.
We have been unable to find much information on the occurrence of *C. thyoides* in the vicinity of Glen Cove. Our primary source is Harper (1907) supplemented with three historical maps of Long Island from the mid-1800s. We speculate that this *C. thyoides* swamp occurred along the main stream flowing north through Cedar Swamp Valley into Glen Cove Creek and into Long Island Sound.

Harper (1907) noted, “Some maps of Long Island (such as can be seen in almost any railroad station on the island) show a settlement named “Cedar Swamp” about three and one half miles northeast of Roslyn, in the glaciated region; but on a recent visit to the spot indicated I could find no perceptible aggregation of houses, no *Chamaecyparis*, nor even any swamp. Inquiryt at a house near by elicited the information that the road I was on was called the Cedar Swamp Road, but my informant did not know why, and after walking along it for several miles I knew no more about it than before.”

Three maps of Long Island from 1842 to 1859 show “Cedar Swamp” just southeast of Glen Cove at the intersection of what is now Cedar Swamp Road and Chicken Valley Road. The maps include *Geological Map of Long Island with the Environs of New York* by W. W. Mather (1842), *Map of Long Island* by J. H. Colton (1852) and *Map of Queens County* (1859).

Today the stream flowing north, adjacent to Cedar Swamp Road, has been negatively impacted by human activities, with much of the water now piped underground to accommodate a variety of residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational uses. The area was surveyed by Turner in 2013 and no *C. thyoides* was found.

**Hempstead.** Hempstead Lake State Park (extirpated)
40.666479 Lat., -73.652902 Long.
One of the largest Atlantic white cedar swamps on Long Island occurred in the headwaters of Hempstead Lake and extended south along Mill Creek, past Rockville Centre. Torrey (1843) noted *C. thyoides* “occurs in considerable quantities . . . near Hempstead” and included the locality in a list of four large white cedar swamps on Long Island. Bicknel (1908) reported, “Of the localities mentioned by Torrey (1843) that at Hempstead is probably now reduced to the two companion trees at Rockville Center [sic] on the stream flowing south from Hempstead, which was dammed and excavated over thirty years ago, I am told, to form the Hempstead reservoir and associated ponds.” The region’s natural hydrological features have been significantly altered by human activities and *C. thyoides* is considered extirpated from this locality.

**Massapequa.** Carman Creek. (extant)
40.670023 Lat., -73.433301 Long.
The Atlantic white cedar swamp at Carman Creek was mentioned as being near Amityville by Nicols (1907), Bicknell (1908), and Peters (1973) but we refer the locality to Massapequa because Amityville is in Suffolk County and the cedar swamp is in Nassau County. The site was surveyed by Turner in 1985 and 22 individuals of *C. thyoides* were observed. A 2012 site visit revealed the population had declined to five large, living trees growing in a section of Carman Creek immediately north of Merrick Road. All of the trees occurred on the eastern bank of the creek, with a group of three approximately 45 meters north of the road and...
the other two about 120 meters north of the road. Evidence of reproduction was not observed; seedlings and saplings were not found.

The site is surrounded by high density residential development on the eastern side of Carman Creek and a commercial parking lot on the west. The site is highly degraded with no quality streamside wetland habitat remaining; the backyards of adjacent residential properties nearly abut the trees, providing very little buffer. Considering the downward trend in the number of surviving trees, it is likely this population will become extirpated in the near future.

Merrick (east). Meroke Preserve. (extirpated)

40.664095 Lat., -73.54233 Long.

The Atlantic white cedar swamp in the Baldwin Creek watershed east of Merrick was once considered “the largest on Long Island” (Taylor 1916). Harper (1907) noted, “The Chamaecyparis occurs for some distance . . . there are some thousands of the trees” and Nichols (1907) reported “a good colony of the tree.” Bicknell (1908) reported: “this cedar swamp is the same one to which an excursion of the T orrey Club was conducted by Miss F. A. Mulford on May 30, 1906. Upon that occasion the swamp was explored at a point over half a mile north of the railroad. Dr. Harper traced the cedars several hundred yards south of the railroad. Hence it appears that the growth extends nearly a mile north and south along the stream. Probably no more extensive growth of this tree occurs within a much greater distance from New York [City].” Taylor (1916) contributed a detailed description and analysis of this “grove of several hundred acres” and noted, “About twenty-five miles from the City, at Merrick, on the south shore of Long Island, there is a cedar swamp more than a mile long and varying in width from a few yards to nearly half a mile.”

Although the cedar swamp was large, early botanists also reported a lack of reproduction of C. thyoides and a state of decline caused by negative human impacts. Harper (1907) noted, “The fact that no trees less than three inches in diameter were seen would seem to indicate that no young ones have come up for several years, perhaps ever since the reservoir was made.” Taylor (1916) described negative impacts on the cedar swamp “caused by the damming of the stream about a hundred years ago.” . . . “All of the region now occupied by the pond was once covered by white cedar trees, submerged stumps of which may still be seen in the clear water.” . . . “To the southward the swamp has suffered much from fire and from pumping operations of the City, a reservoir having been made just north of the railroad, thereby clearing the trees from this area.” Smith (1960) provided a summary of various factors contributing to the decline of C. thyoides along Baldwin Creek. Peters (1973) reported the population extirpated by 1972.

A visit to Meroke Preserve by Turner in 2011 failed to reveal any living trees although a few decomposing logs in the northwestern section of the preserve appeared to be Atlantic white cedar.

Merrick (west). (extirpated)

40.659600 Lat., -73.567206 Long.

Smith (1960) reported three individuals of C. thyoides “in the northeast quadrant of the Meadow Brook Parkway–Babylon Turnpike clover leaf” west of Merrick. The clover-leaf is adjacent to East Meadow Pond in the Meadowbrook watershed. The area was surveyed by Turner in 2013 and C. thyoides was not found. The remnant colony reported by Smith (1960) may have been part of a larger population destroyed by road construction and other human caused disturbances.

Oyster Bay Cove. Tiffany Creek Preserve. (extant)

40.864418 Lat., -73.502535 Long.

The population of C. thyoides at present day Tiffany Creek Preserve occurs on the eastern edge of the preserve at the head of Shutter Lane Pond, one of two ponds that form the headwaters of Tiffany Creek. The creek flows north into Oyster Bay Harbor and ultimately into Long Island Sound. The property was part of the Henry Fleet Farm at the turn of the 20th century. Allan Lindberg has been monitoring Tiffany Creek Preserve since it was acquired by Nassau County in 1992.
Grier (1925) reported C. thyoides from “Tiffany Estate, CSH.” This report refers to cultivated specimens once planted at Laurelton Hall, the L. C. Tiffany Estate in Cold Spring Harbor (A. Lindberg, pers. comm.). We have found no published reports or herbarium collections of C. thyoides from Oyster Bay Cove.

In 2011 and 2012 Turner surveyed the site and recorded the following observations: 16 trees, loosely grouped in a grove encompassing approximately 465 m². Individuals of C. thyoides grow on raised hummocks (dominated by several species of Sphagnum) ranging from approximately 10 to 30 cm above water level. Individuals vary in age and dbh; mature individuals range from 50 to 60 cm dbh and most other trees range from 25 to 30 cm. No seedlings were observed but cones were found on many individuals and fallen cones were found mixed with the leaf litter. No threats to the population were observed. Water levels appeared natural and no discharge of pollutants into the swamp was observed.

Seaford. Tackapausha Preserve. (extant)
40.668837 Lat., -73.481137 Long.
The westernmost extant population of C. thyoides on southern Long Island occurs in the southern portion of the Seaford Creek watershed at Tackapausha Preserve, owned by Nassau County. The preserve is situated in a heavily suburbanized region.

William Ferguson collected a voucher of C. thyoides from this population in 1926 [17 Jul 1926, Ferguson 5033 (NY)]. Smith (1960) reported “three or four [trees] in the Tackapausha Preserve at Seaford” and Peters (1973) reported: “In 1957 isolated trees still remained at Seaford” and “In 1972, a few trees” remained.

Observations of the cedar grove and vicinity by Turner from the early 1980s to present has revealed a decline in the population due to negative impacts by human activities, including soil compaction along a hiking trail, vandalism of cedar trees, dumping, and human caused fires. A 2011 restoration project of portions of Tackapausha Pond’s shoreline included planting ten young individuals of C. thyoides (from Long Island origin) on both sides of the path to the bridge.

In December 2017 Turner visited the cedar grove and counted 21 live trees of various ages, ranging in size from 32.7 cm to 127.3 cm dbh. No seedlings or young saplings were observed and several smaller trees had died since a visit in 2012. Two live, mature trees had been wind-tossed into the pond and a hummock during a recent storm. The cedar grove had been vandalized: five trees, including the third and fourth largest, had been cut with a hatchet and had bark stripped off their trunks. Some of the hummocks had been trampled and eroded by humans walking along a trail running through the cedar grove.

We recommend restricting access to the cedar grove by eliminating the hiking trail thereby reducing soil compaction and vandalism and restoring habitat favorable to the germination of C. thyoides seeds.

Queens County
Aqueduct. Baisley Pond Park. (extirpated)
40.674216 Lat., -73.787853 Long.
Bicknell (1908) described the decline of an “ancient” colony of C. thyoides east of Aqueduct in present day Baisley Pond Park: “The westernmost station [of C. thyoides], a mile and a quarter east of Aqueduct, is a swampy spot in the woods which, though it now becomes dry in summer, was once evidently a more permanent swamp and formed the source of a small brook. Here is an assemblage of white cedars not more than a few rods in extent, the remnant of an ancient colony as attested by the size of some of the trees. When last visited, May 9, 1906, many of the trees were dead or dying, the most vital appearing green in the upper parts only. The largest trunk measured 7 feet 6 inches in circumference close to the base and 6 feet 9 inches a foot above the ground.” This cedar swamp was also noted by House (1924).

Baisley Pond Park was surveyed by Lamont in 2012 and C. thyoides was not found. The swampy woods and small brook described by Bicknell (1908) were gone; instead, the site consisted of a landscaped New York City park with athletic fields, tennis courts, and paved walkways around a pond. The park is surrounded by residential and commercial buildings.

Rockaway. (extirpated)
40.579819 Lat., -73.837237 Long.
Torrey (1843) reported C. thyoides from “near Rockaway” and noted “it occurs in considerable quantity.” In 1896, Ericson collected C. thyoides from “Rockaway Park”. Bicknell (1908) reported, “Wherever Torrey’s Rockaway station may have been, there can be little doubt that it no longer exists.”

Suffolk County
Babylon. Belmont Lake State Park. (extant)
40.709205 Lat., -73.327103 Long.
A large population of C. thyoides was reported from the vicinity of Babylon by Torrey (1843). A 2012 survey by Turner of Belmont Lake State Park revealed one live individual of C. thyoides in a freshwater swamp immediately southeast of Southards Pond. A nearby dead cedar had been blown down during a winter storm in 2010. No seedlings or young trees were observed despite the presence of suitable habitat.

Calverton. (extant?)
40.900890 Lat., -72.761505 Long.
In 1923 Roy Latham collected two vouchers of C. thyoides from “Calverton” and “between Calverton & Riverhead villages”. Peters (1973) referred to a “report” of C. thyoides from Calverton but provided no specific information. Since the early 1980s we (continued on next page)
have searched unsuccessfully for *C. thyoides* in the vast Peconic River watershed between Calverton and Riverhead. Because abundant suitable habitat still occurs we speculate a few scattered individuals persist and more field work is needed.

**Flanders.** Birch Creek-Owl Pond County Preserve, Hubbard County Park, Sears-Bellows County Park. (extant)
40.886121 Lat., -72.563448 Long.
Thousands of multi-aged individuals of *C. thyoides* dominate parts of the Birch Creek, Mill Creek, and Hubbard Creek watersheds in the morainal hills of Flanders and along the coastal streams flowing north into Flanders Bay (Fig. 6). This region supports the largest, most extensive and diverse mega-population of *C. thyoides* currently known on Long Island. A population of dwarf individuals of *C. thyoides* occurs on “moated islands” in several ponds including House and Division ponds in Sears-Bellows County Park. The trees are only 1-1.5 m tall and usually occur in dense stands. The small islands are surrounded by moats of open water; the water table lies close to the surface all year.

**Hauppauge.** Hauppauge Springs. (extant)
40.824134 Lat., -73.230231 Long.
The population of *C. thyoides* occurring in the headwaters of the Nissequogue River, south of present day Veterans Memorial Highway (Route 454), has been known to local botanists and naturalists for more than 100 years. Herbarium vouchers collected from 1909 to 1936 and Peters (1973) list the locality as “Hauppauge” and “Hauppauge Bog.” Potente (2005, 2017) called it “Hauppauge Springs.” A field survey of Hauppauge Springs by Turner in 2017 revealed approximately 48 individuals of *C. thyoides* on the south side of Route 454, east of Old Willets Path.

**Islip.** Connetquot River State Park Preserve, Bayard Cutting Arboretum. (extant)
40.748115 Lat., -73.156058 Long.
A large population of *C. thyoides* once occurred in the Connetquot River watershed in Islip (Torrey 1843). Today, only a few live individuals remain in the headwaters north of Route 454 in Connetquot River State Park Preserve and near the mouth of the river, north and south of Sunrise Highway (Route 27). In 2019 the dam failed at West Brook (a tributary of the Connetquot River) and the man-made pond drained revealing stumps of Atlantic white cedar that had been submerged for more than 100 years (Turner 2019).

**Laurel.** (extirpated)
40.977544 Lat., -72.557287 Long.

**Montauk Point.** (extirpated)
41.074269 Lat., -71.859462 Long.
Remnants of an ancient Atlantic white cedar swamp, currently mostly submerged in the Atlantic Ocean a few meters off the north shore of Montauk Point, have been reported by Englebright and Lamont (2011).

**Nissequogue.** Blydenburgh County Park. (extant)
40.828984 Lat., -73.226056 Long.
*Chamaecyparis thyoides* was collected several times from the Nissequogue River watershed in the 1920s and reported from the vicinity of Nissequogue by Peters (1973). The population is now restricted to the southwest corner of Stump Pond in Blydenburgh County Park. Visits to the site by Turner and Lamont since the 1970s have revealed a stable population of approximately 140 mature individuals; numerous seedlings were observed by Turner in 2015 suggesting a healthy population.

**North Sea.** (extant)
40.925978 Lat., -72.409774 Long.
Four dense groves of *C. thyoides* occur in North Sea, each in a topographical depression aligned north to south with Little Fresh Pond; three groves are north of the pond and one is to the south. The two northernmost groves epitomize cedar populations growing in deep, poorly drained peat-filled depressions; corings obtained from the northernmost grove by Alice Belling in the 1970s revealed a nearly twenty
foot layer of peat (Belling 1977). Roy Latham collected *C. thyoides* from North Sea in 1954 and the locality was also mentioned by Peters (1973).

**Plum Island.** (extirpated)  
41.174965 Lat., -72.200498 Long.  
Roy Latham (1969) documented an Atlantic white cedar swamp in the extensive freshwater wetland on Plum Island’s southwestern corner. Norman Taylor of Brooklyn Botanic Garden collected bark from this species on Plum Island in 1915 (voucher at BKL) and wrote on the herbarium label: “a good sized grove of dead trees.” Lamont & Stalter (2011) reported cedar stumps still persisting at the locality.

**Quogue.** Quogue Wildlife Refuge. (extant)  
40.836875 Lat., -72.615653 Long.  
Atlantic white cedar is scattered along Quantuck Creek in the southern half of Quogue Wildlife Refuge; four groupings occur - three groves on the east side of Quantuck Creek, the northernmost located in the forested wetlands just south of the berm at North Pond, and two others further south, the southernmost found at the juncture of the Main and Bridge Trails. Another group occurs on both sides of the creek and both north and south of the wooden bridge that crosses the creek, from which these grouping of trees can be easily seen. We estimate the entire refuge population at about 100 trees.

**Riverhead (north of Peconic River).** Kingswood Parkland Preserve and Sawmill Creek. (extant)  
40.929138 Lat., -72.663333 Long.  
A population of several hundred Atlantic white cedar trees occurs in a forested wetland bounded by Northville Turnpike, Ostrander Avenue and Kings Drive east of Merritt Pond in Riverhead. Another population of about a dozen trees occurs on the east side of Northville Turnpike just south of its intersection with Oliver Street, in the watershed of Sawmill Creek. This population includes individuals that are infected with the fungal disease caused by *Gymnosporangium* (Fig. 7). A little north of this population, also on the east side of Northville Turnpike, are two additional cedar stands containing approximately 40 trees. This population appears to be expanding with several younger trees along the water’s edge.

**Riverhead (south of Peconic River).** Cranberry Bog County Nature Preserve, Peg Lane Pond, and David Sarnoff Preserve. (extant)  
40.909637 Lat., -72.642110 Long.  
The various and extensive groves of *C. thyoides* within Cranberry Bog County Nature Preserve and adjacent properties constitutes one of the two (along with the Flanders mega-population) largest, most intact and least disturbed Atlantic white cedar populations on Long Island. The Riverhead mega-population collectively includes thousands of trees. A few hundred cedars grow along the shoreline of Swezey’s Pond and the stream that feeds the pond. Hundreds of individuals also occur around Cheney and Cedar Ponds on the north side of County Route 51. In the David Sarnoff Preserve 34 trees grow adjacent to County Route 104 along the western edge of the unnamed pond situated in the extreme northern end of the state property.

**Riverside.** (extant)  
40.909637 Lat., -72.642110 Long.  
Based on a 2013 visit by Turner, 7 individuals of *C. thyoides* occur in a swamp bordering a pond and outlet stream flowing north into the Peconic River on the southwest corner of the intersection of State Route 24 and County Route 105.

**Sagaponack.** Adjacent to Sagg Swamp Nature Preserve. (extant)  
40.938505 Lat., -72.285696 Long.  
Three discrete groves of Atlantic white cedar occur in Sagaponack south of Route 27 and north of The Nature Conservancy’s Sagg Swamp Preserve. The groves are found in a low-lying area in the headwater system that flows through Sagg Swamp.

(continued on next page)
and are aligned in a northwest-southeast orientation. The two outer groves each contain several dozen trees and the middle one contains about a dozen trees. What may be the largest Atlantic white cedar on Long Island, with a DBH of 28.82 in., was found by Turner in 2019 growing on the eastern edge of the middle grove (Fig. 8).

**Shirley.** (extant)  
40.801846 Lat., -72.883819 Long.

One Atlantic white cedar tree was observed by Turner in 2013 on the east side of the Carmans River south of Sunrise Highway.

Although we have found no previous reports or collections of *C. thyoides* from the Carmans River watershed we speculate there was a larger population at this locality in the past.

**Stony Brook.** (extirpated)  
40.913668 Lat., -73.146620 Long.

The only reports we have found of *C. thyoides* from the vicinity of Stony Brook include Saxton’s (1790) report of “a cedar hassock which was . . . on the east side of Smithtown bay” and Blydenburgh’s (1832) report of “a certain cedar hassock in Stony Brook mill pond”.

**Tiana.** Munn County Park. (extant)  
40.871005 Lat., -72.545266 Long.

Dozens of Atlantic white cedar trees occur south of the Ronkonkoma Moraine along Tiana Creek and on the eastern shore of Munn’s Pond and south of Montauk Highway on the east side of the creek north of the Long Island Railroad tracks.

**Watermill.** (extant)  
40.912020 Lat., -72.375452 Long.

Four distinct colonies of Atlantic white cedar occur in relatively close proximity to each other on both sides of Seven Ponds Town Road in Watermill. The two colonies on the east side of the road and the northern colony on the west side consist of scattered individuals within a shrub swamp. A large and dense cedar grove occurs in the western portion of an extensive wetland on the west side of the road.

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**Literature Cited.**


THOMSON, B.E. 1839. History of Long Island. Published by E. French, New York.


FIELD TRIPS

APRIL 18, 2020 (SATURDAY) 10:00 AM
Muttontown Preserve North, Nassau County NY.
“The Seven Ponds Woods”
Trip Leader: Al Lindberg
email alindberg@optonline.net

At the center of Muttontown Preserve North, the Seven Ponds Woods are the last remnants of pro-glacial “Lake Muttontown” which was locked between the Harbor Hill Terminal Moraine and the retreating Harbor Hill ice sheet. Once part of the H.I. Hudson Estate, this area has been recognized as a significant wetlands since 1916. While exploring the woodlands, we will view one of Muttontown Preserve’s two persimmon Diospyros virginiana populations, and look for Hop hornbeam Ostrya virginiana, and whatever we find along the way. We will meet at The Bill Paterson Nature Center. Dress for the weather, waterproof footwear may be useful. Hand lens, camera and binoculars are recommended. Bring a liquid and snack or sandwich, as desired.

Directions: The Bill Paterson Nature Center is located at the end of Muttontown Lane south of Northern Blvd. (Rte 25A) in East Norwich. From the Long Island Expressway take Exit 41 North (Rte 106) to East Norwich, make a left on Northern Blvd (26A) for one block to Muttontown Lane. Turn left (south), the road ends at the Nature Center Parking Area.

MAY 2, 2020 (SATURDAY) 10:00 AM
Ashley Schiff Preserve, Stony Brook Univ., Suffolk County NY.
Trip Leaders: Sue Avery & Andy Greller
email suea483@gmail.com and agreller2@optonline.net

Sue & Andy will guide us through this 26-acre preserve on the Stony Brook University campus. Located on the Harbor Hill Terminal Moraine, the preserve features 75 plant species, including trailing arbutus, mountain laurel, winterberry and spotted wintergreen, all native to the deciduous forest.

Directions: We will meet at the Ashley Schiff Preserve kiosk, which is situated on Circle Road. There is a visitor parking lot, free on weekends, also on Circle Road next to the Life Sciences building. https://goo.gl/maps/avWvzGJ1ipfoYDzYA

Dress for the weather, hand lens, camera and binoculars are recommended. Bring a liquid and snack or sandwich, as desired.

SAVE THE DATES

Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 9am – 3pm.
Tobay Beach Kennedy Preserve, Nassau County NY.
Joint trip with NYFA, “Rare plants and Cyperus of Jones Beach”
Leader: Steve Young

Saturday September 26, 2020, 9am – 2pm.
Greentree Foundation Property, Manhasset, Nassau County NY.
Leaders: Stephane Perreault and Jim Stevenson

RICH KELLY DAY AT CAUMSETT

June 17-24, 2020
(date to be determined; a warm, sunny day)
12 Noon
Caumsett State Historic Park,
Lloyd Neck, Suffolk County

We will gather in memory of Rich Kelly and count butterflies.

If you are interested in attending this special event please email Sue Feustel (suefeustel@optonline.net) and you will receive more details.

For background info, see

1) the web page: caumsettprojects.org (it includes information/photos on the Baltimore Checkerspot population at Caumsett) and

Upcoming Programs

April 14, 2020* Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Andrew Greller: “Great Ferns I have Known.” Ferns occupy niches in almost every terrestrial ecosystem. Their forms vary from tall trees to paper-thin epiphytic “films.” Ferns formed the first land forests in Earth’s history. They are perhaps the most beautiful leaf forms among plants today. Long Island is fortunate to have many fern families represented in its flora. We will review the great taxonomic diversity of ferns, their life cycle, ecological niches, and their geological history. Andy is Vice President of LIBS and Professor Emeritus of Biology, Queens College, CUNY.

May 12, 2020* Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Douglas Futuyma: “World Birding: Travels of an Evolutionary Biologist.” In this talk Doug will share some of his birding experiences within a broader natural history context. Doug is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolution at Stony Brook University and a Research Associate on staff at the American Museum of Natural History. His research focuses on speciation and population biology and he is the author of a widely used undergraduate textbook on evolution.

June 9, 2020 Tuesday, 5:30 PM
(please note early start time for the barbecue)
Annual Barbecue: The annual barbecue, featuring Chef Eric’s made-to-order hamburgers and hot dogs. Salads, deviled eggs, desserts, etc. gladly accepted. The traditional location – on the green behind the Muttontown Preserve nature center.

* All programs held at Bill Paterson Nature Center, Muttontown Preserve, East Norwich
Refreshments and informal talk begin at 7:30 p.m. Formal meeting starts at 8:00 p.m.
Directions to Muttontown: 516-354-6506