

# REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE

## COLVIN CREW

### RECOVERY 22 CONTINUED

#### LONG LAKE JULY 28 & 29, 2012

The reader is referred to Superintendent Vianna's February 26, 2011 report for background information on Colvin's April, 1897 survey of his baseline on Long Lake. The crew was successful in recovering only the Moose Island station in the winter of 2011. However, this past summer we were very successful in recovering baseline points but unsuccessful in recovering the points for the two townships.

There are six stations along the Long Lake baseline. They are in order from the southwest end of the lake to the northeast, Moose Island, Pine Island, "R", Watch Rock, Ferris (now called Camp Islands) and Outlet Point. There are two Township Islands that cross the lake which Colvin tied into his baseline. These are Townships 19/20 and 22/50. Also there is an auxiliary base point B located from the Moose Island station.

On Saturday, July 28, twelve crew members and guests including superintendent Vianna and clerk Webb gathered at the public boat launch site in the hamlet of Long Lake, New York to start the weekends activities. The weather was partly cloudy, sometimes cool and then warm and humid turning to overcast and rainy then back to a nice day. Very much Adirondack weather. We rented a pontoon boat to transport most of the crew and to use it for a



floating base to spread out maps etc. Crew member Paquin acted as captain for the weekend. We had two other motor boats that acted as scout boats for the mother ship. This combination worked very well as the water level was low due to the dry year and we didn't want to do any damage to the pontoon boat.

Under the direction of recovery guide Steve Sehnert, we headed northeast down the lake, getting an overview of the lake on our way to look for the Outlet Point station. In looking for these points one must keep in mind that it has been 115 years since these points were set. There was very little habitation of the shores of the lake for Colvin to reference his points to in 1897. Colvin's field notes indicate that the points were set near the waters edge and we learned that the lake level varies as much as twelve feet. His survey was in April on ice and most likely at a low water time. We were there in July at a low water time this year but is the lake normally this low? So how do the points described as being at the edge of the water relate to the waters edge today?

**Outlet Point is located on private property so permission was secured by Webb and Sehnert and the search began. Not much to reference to and its obvious that there is much erosion of the shore here. After about a half hour of looking by twelve separate people we abandoned our search for this point and moved on to Ferris Island.**

**A most gracious owner of the Ferris Island property allowed us to dock our boats at his dock and pointed us in the direction of this baseline station. Without much effort the typical Colvin, Nickel plated pin, sunken center copper bolt, set in rock was recovered. Pictured below is our findings. GPS, physical ties and photos were taken for**



**possible return for measurements between stations. After a short conversation with the owner we were on to Watch Rock.**

**At our first attempt at Watch Rock we were greeted with no one home but a big dog so we decided to come back Sunday. Sunday was clear blue skies, nice mid to upper seventies and everyone dried out from the rains of Saturday. While the rest of the crew was busy getting together and retrieving our pontoon boat from the Long Lake Marina, Superintendent Vianna, made arrangements with another gracious owner to dock our boats at his docks. This station was very easily recovered at the direction of the owner and is the same as Ferris Island with its own markings. Similar recordings to Ferris Island were made and a few accompanying pictures are below.**



**Back to Saturday. The rain has stopped and after a missed identification of the location we got ourselves**

reoriented and on track to station "R". Superintendent Vianna, with the aid of another property owner walk up and down a stony beach in the location of station "R". We were informed by the owner that there was a large building in this area and that there had been a fire and a lot of earthwork in the area years ago. By the general looks of the shore and the described location of the station it was assumed that the station had been destroyed.

Sunday began a most perfect Adirondack day and after our return to Watch Rock and that recovery we headed on to the Pine Island station. The possible location of this point is confusing because Pine Island may no longer be an island but part of a causeway that takes Route No. 30 over the lake and to the west. We circled around this area with our boats but decided we didn't know where to look so we moved on to the last baseline station, Moose Island. The reader may remember that this was the only baseline station recovered in the initial Recovery 22 in February of 2011. It was again easily recovered and became the location of Sunday's lunch. Pictures below.



We now have three of the six stations of Colvin's Long Lake baseline, Moose Island, Watch Rock and Ferris or now called Camp Island plus the auxiliary off Moose Island, station B2, recovered in February of 2011. We did not revisit that station. Some crew members would like to return and make survey grade GPS observations on the three recovered stations to compare the distances with Colvin's observations. No date has been set but we have field notes to aid in recovery at any time of the year should anyone like to try this.

Till the next recovery,  
Respectively submitted

Stephen Sehnert  
Recovery 22 Continued guide