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November 6, 1998

Bob Masson
Morristown National Historical Park
Jockey Hollow
Washington Place
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Dear Bob,

We are writing to present an update and summary of our ongoing evaluation of the six state-listed plant species in Jockey Hollow, MNHP. The following is a summary of work completed in the spring and summer of 1998. The following species were reported in the 1995 herbaceous plant inventory.

1. Dwarf Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera repens*): No specimens of this species were found during our search of the woodlands in 1998. Two non-flowering but extensive populations of *Goodyera pubescens* (Downy Rattlesnake Plantain) were recorded. Since *Goodyera repens* grows in similar habitats, we will survey these areas again in 1999.

2. Dwarf Ginseng (*Panax trifolius*): This species is not listed as a NJ rare or endangered species. Several healthy, flowering populations of this species are present at MNHP, along Primrose Brook. The conspecific *Panax quinquefolius* (Ginseng) is state-listed but was not cited as the target species. However, after reviewing notes from the 1995 archives, we noted a speculative report of *Panax quinquefolius*. We recommend removing this species from further searches.

3. Strict Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium montanum*): Despite using field notes from the 1995 inventory and returning to the approximate location of the citation, no specimens of this species were found during our search of the grasslands in 1998.

4. Oak Fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*): Despite returning to the forest below the Cross Estate and searching appropriate habitat within Jockey Hollow, no specimens of this species were found in 1998.

5. Slender Pinweed (*Lechea tenuifolia*): No specimens of this species were found during our search of the grasslands in 1998.

6. Twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*): No specimens of this species were found during our search of the woodlands in 1998.

NOTE: Report of this species may be erroneous. The single sighting was not verified. Furthermore, in 1995, small leaves of Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) were occasionally mistaken for Twinleaf. We recommend removing this species from further searches.

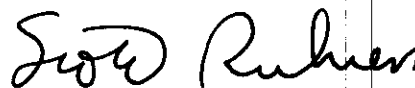
We recommend trying to relocate populations of species 1, 3, 4, and 5 in the spring and summer of 1999. If populations are located we can then pursue the initial goals of this study, determining the range and population size of these state-listed plants in Jockey Hollow. Furthermore, if we locate *Panax quinquefolius*, we will add this species to our survey and monitoring.

Our related experiment on restoring native wildflowers in MNHP is continuing with optimistic results in plots that are protected from deer.

Sincerely,



Steven N. Handel
Professor



Scott Ruhren, PhD
Post Doctoral Associate