

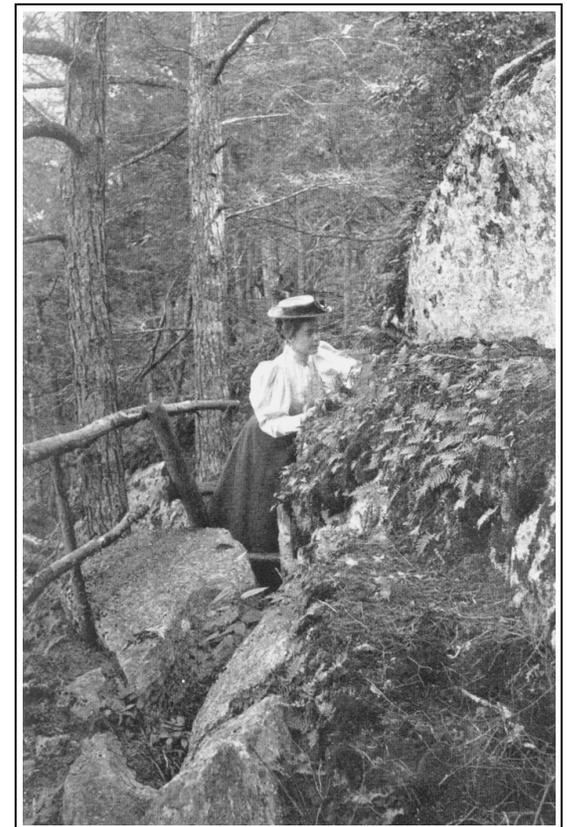
**Ferns and fern allies (clubmosses and horsetails)** are among the most ancient lineages of plants on our modern day earth. This group is distinguished from other higher plants by reproducing by spores rather than by seed. While the modern world is dominated by flowering plants, ferns and fern allies dominated plant life during much of prehistoric time, including the dinosaur age. Many coal and oil deposits are the result of decomposition of the remains of great fern-dominated swamps over many hundreds of millions of years.

While of lesser importance today, ferns are still omnipresent in New Hampshire, especially in moist habitats, such as Quincy Bog, where more than two dozen types have been found. Additional types have been reported in the past, but have not been confirmed by recent sightings.

*“If it were required to know the position of the fruit-dots or the character of the indusium, nothing could be easier than to ascertain it. But if it is required that you be affected by ferns, that they amount to anything, signify anything to you, that they be another sacred scripture and revelation to you, helping to redeem your life, this end is not so easily accomplished.”*

-Henry David Thoreau

## A Checklist of the Ferns and Fern Allies of Quincy Bog, Rumney, NH



“The cheerful community of the polypody”

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Abundance	Location
<b>FERNS</b>				
	Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	common	moist to dry woods
	Hayscented Fern	<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	common	especially in drier, sunnier sites
	Silvery Glade Fern	<i>Deparia acrostichoides</i>	uncommon (1small pop.)	rich, moist woods; nr stonewall at trail station #29
	Boott's Fern	<i>Dryopteris x boottii</i>	uncommon	moist to wet woods; found near trail station #11
		<i>[cristata x intermedia]</i>		
	Mountain Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris campyloptera</i>	uncommon (1small pop.)	cool moist woods, acidic soils;off trail away fr pond afr #17
	Toothed Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	widely scattered	moist, shady woods
	Crested Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	widely scattered	wet woods
	Intermediate Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	common	moist to dry woods
	Marginal Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	scattered	rocky areas
	Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	common	wet woods and marsh
	Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	common	wet woods and marsh
	Interrupted Fern	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	scattered	moist to dry woods
	Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	scattered	wet woods and marsh
	Narrow Beech Fern	<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>	common	under shady hardwoods
	Polypody	<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	scattered	on boulders and ledges
	Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	scattered	rocky areas and under hardwoods
	Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	common	especially in drier, sunnier sites
	New York Fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	common	especially in drier, sunnier sites
	Marsh Fern	<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	scattered	wet woods and marsh
	Blunt-lobed Grape Fern	<i>Botrychium oneidense</i>	unconfirmed	
	Rattlesnake Fern	<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>	unconfirmed	
	Clinton's Fern	<i>Dryopteris clintoniana</i>	uncommon	in woods off trail near trail station #18
<b>CLUBMOSES</b>				
	Bristly Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium annotinum</i>	scattered	dry woods
	Running Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>	scattered	dry woods
	Shining Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium lucidulum</i>	scattered	cool, moist woods
	Southern Ground Cedar	<i>Diphasiastum digitatum</i>	scattered	moist to dry woods
	Princess Pine	<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i>	scattered	moist to dry woods
	Prickly Tree Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i>	scattered	sunny dry woods S of bog
	Hickey's Clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium hickeyi</i>	scattered	moist to dry woods
<b>HORSETAILS</b>				
	Woodland Horsetail	<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	scattered	damp woods E side of bog
	Field Horsetail	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	scattered	damp, partially shaded areas; N end of pond

Note: Toothed Wood Fern (*D. carthusiana*) = Spinulose Wood Fern (*D. spinulosa*); Intermediate Wood Fern (*D. intermedia*) = Evergreen Wood Fern