

general features of this locality in so far as they affect the character of the molluscan fauna.

The Lake Simcoe district differs considerably from that of Toronto in its flora and fauna, which is of a more northern character, due to its comparative remoteness from the modifying influence of Lake Ontario and its somewhat greater elevation, Lake Simcoe being about 475 feet above Lake Ontario. Whereas Toronto may be said to be on the edge of the Carolinian or Upper Austral Zone, Lake Simcoe is typical of the Alleghanian or Transition Zone. The shores of the lake are almost everywhere low and flat and in the vicinity of De Grassi Point are for the most part inclined to be more or less swampy. The existence of the "Point" is due to the presence of a somewhat higher area of boulder clay forming an angular prominence, the shores of which face north and east to southeast respectively. The clay banks rise abruptly to a maximum height of about ten feet near the apex of the prominence but gradually descend on either side to the usual low level.

The clay area is connected with the higher land farther from the lake by a sand-covered ridge, which follows a southwesterly direction roughly parallel to the lake shore for about three-quarters of a mile. On the southeast side of the ridge there is a gentle slope to the lake shore, while on the other side is an extensive area of low, densely wooded land, bounded on the north by the north shore of the "Point."

The tree growth of De Grassi Point consists of a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees, presenting a considerable variety of forest types within a very limited area. The clay area is largely covered by a fine grove of red oak, particularly along the shore where the summer cottages are situated, while the characteristic trees of the sandy ridge, are red oak, white pine and balsam fir, although many other kinds are also present.

The southeastern slope is partly occupied by pastures but there is a considerable area of woodland, varying in character from a mixture of coniferous and softer deciduous trees, which prevail on the lower areas, particularly near the shore, to a typical hardwood forest on some of the higher parts of the slope. The prevalent trees of the former type are white cedar, balsam fir, aspen and balsam poplar, canoe-birch, elm, black ash, white spruce, etc., while in the typical hardwood areas sugar maple, beech, basswood, yellow birch and hemlock are the principal species, though many others occur. The extreme hardwood forest type is represented by a small area, wooded almost entirely with sugar maple and beech, with a scattering of other trees, such as butternut and basswood and having a very rich soil, as indicated by the larger size of many of the herbaceous plants, notably the red and white trilliums and adder's-tongues and the presence of several species such as the spring beauty and squirrel-corn, which do not occur elsewhere