Tribbett’s Woods Nature Preserve

County: Jennings
Size: 31.6 acres
Ownership: Oak Heritage Conservancy

Location and Access

No parking or trail. From the SR 250 exit (exit 41) off I-65, go east on SR 250 about 4.3 miles to CR 700 W. Turn left (north) and go about 2.0 miles to CR 750 S. Turn right (east) and go about 0.5 mile to the southwest corner of the preserve. Park along the road.

Description: This is a fine example of an old-growth southeastern flatwoods, which grow on soils that are often referred to locally as “white clay flats.” These are grayish-white clay soils that are poorly drained and sticky after rains, but hard as brick when dry. This creates growing conditions that are different from those on richer, better drained soils, and results in intriguing tree associations that are common in parts of southeastern Indiana, but basically nonexistent elsewhere. Tree species composition consists of beech, sweet gum, red maple, white oak, and swamp chestnut oak. The giant 150-foot beech and oak trees tower above the lush understory. The serenity of the quiet, near-virgin forest is often interrupted by the songs of numerous birds, and the drilling of woodpeckers. This woods was in the Tribbett family since 1887. As long as could be remembered, only dead or dying trees were removed. Funds from the Indiana Natural Heritage Protection Campaign helped purchase Tribbett’s Woods.

Further Information:
Oak Heritage Conservancy, Box 335, Hanover, IN 47243. (812) 866-4299 or (513) 404-8268.
www.ohclandtrust.org/protection.html
Division of Nature Preserves Southeast Regional Ecologist, Jason Larson: jlarson@dnr.in.gov

USGS Quad map: Hayden
DeLorme ® page: 51-52