

Wintertime

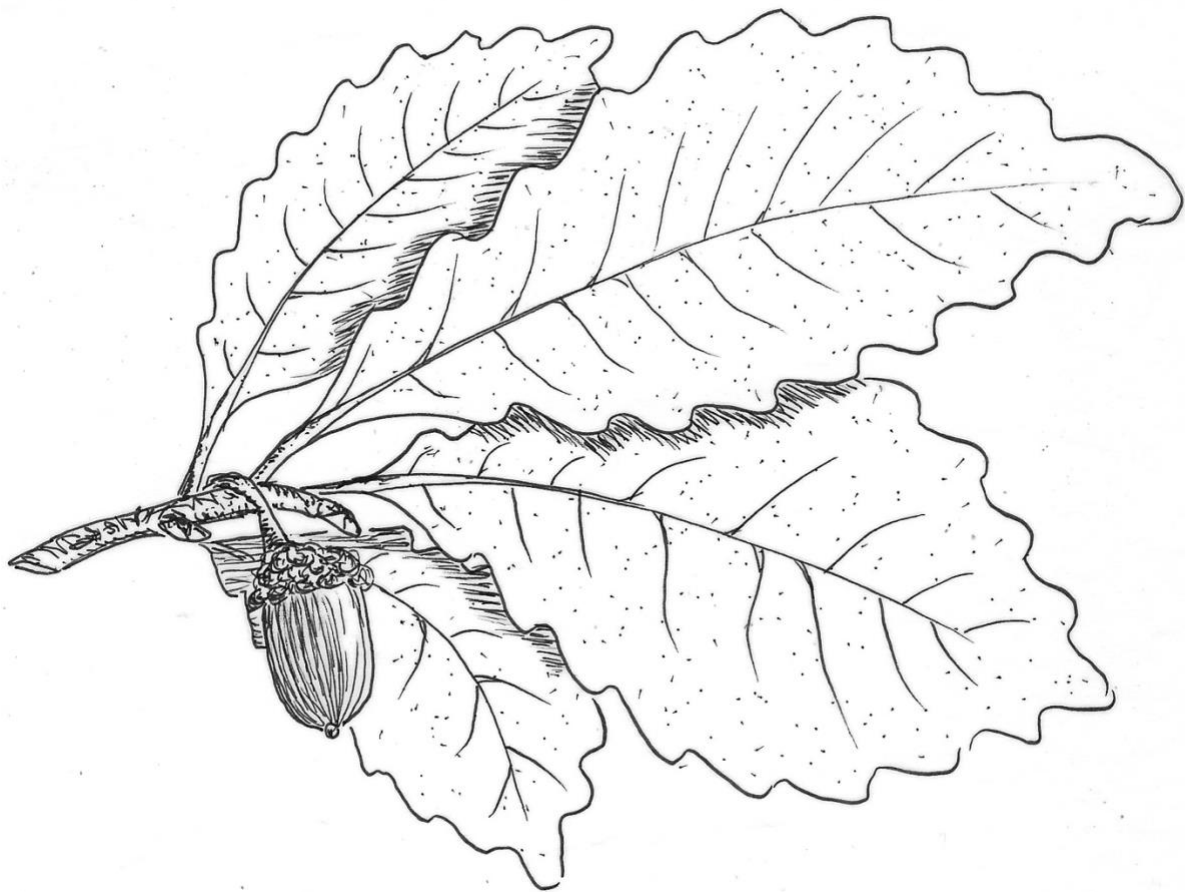
In late fall, the emphasis goes from flowers to fruits ... and to thoughts of spring. Our oaks, of which Chestnut Oak is one of our most important, provide wildlife with acorns all winter long.

Greenbrier, sometimes called Catbrier, produces dark blue berries. Who eats them? And who eats the red berries of Flowering Dogwood and American Holly?

There's a surprising amount of green in our winter woods. Christmasfern is one of our evergreen ferns. Another spot of green on the forest floor is the bumpy leaf of Cranefly Orchid. Think you've found one? Turn the leaf over to be sure. If it's purple underneath, you've got it. By next summer, this leaf will disappear, replaced by a stalk of tiny purplish, greenish flowers about the size of mosquitoes.

As soon as the days begin to lengthen, the first flowers of spring appear. Among them is Trailing Arbutus, whose pale pink flowers and rough green leaves peek out from under the leaf litter. Look for them along the bluffs, near Morgan's Steep for instance.

The flowers shown in this nature journal are just a tiny sample of what's growing on the Domain of Sewanee: the University of the South. So far, more than 1100 different species of native and naturalized plants have been found living here, in many habitats, interacting with each other and the wildlife and helping to make Sewanee the special place that it is.



Chestnut Oak, *Quercus montana*



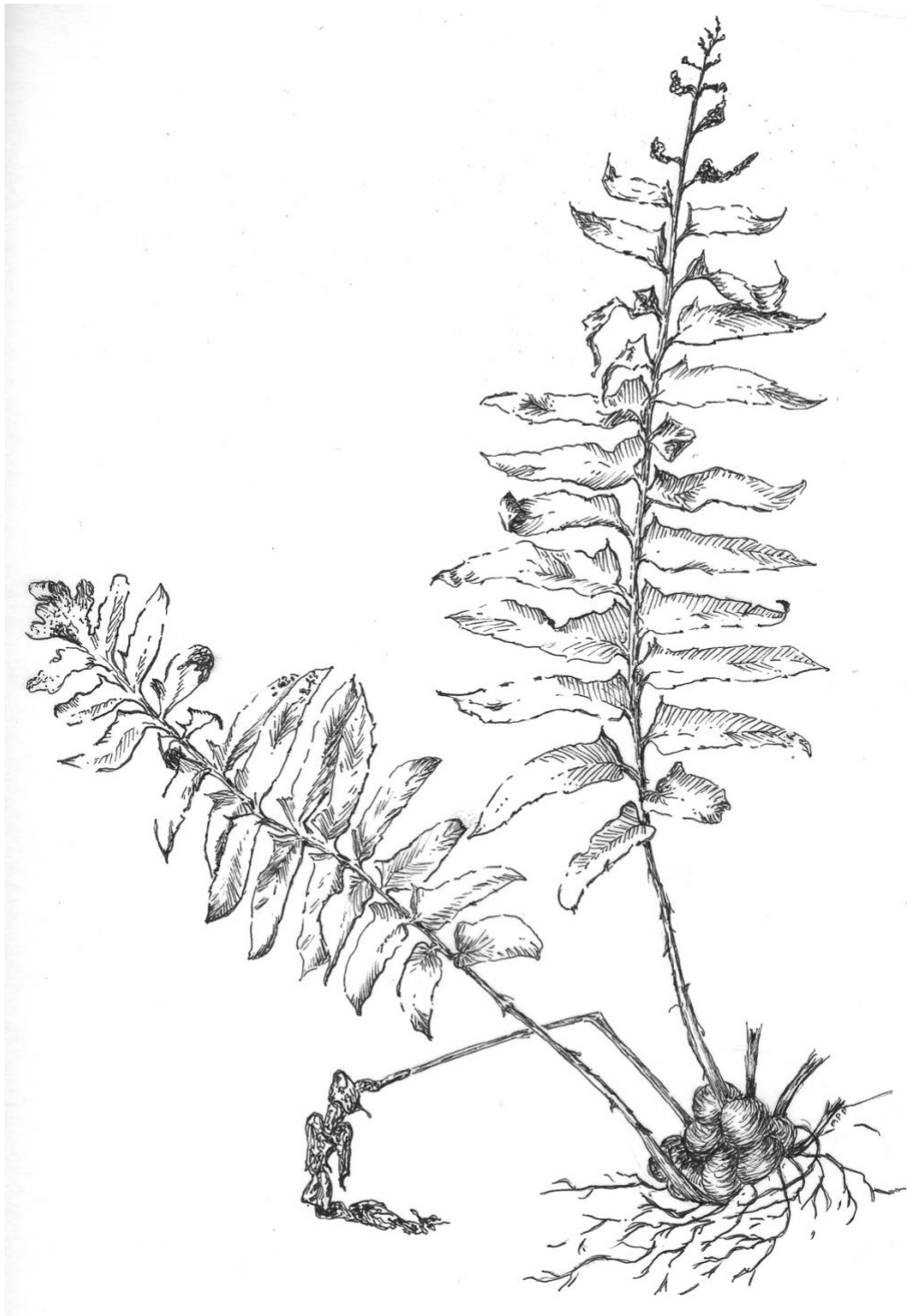
Greenbrier, *Smilax bona-nox*



Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida*



American Holly, *Ilex opaca*



Christmasfern, *Polystichum acrostichoides*



Cranefly Orchid, *Tipularia discolor*



Trailing Arbutus, *Epigaea repens*