

Jim Baletus - LCCV

Garden of the Gods

"To honor the spirit of those who first immigrated to Illinois, this guide follows an east to west description. It is interesting to consider the hopes and dreams of those people as they viewed the new land and began the search for their place in this wilderness. We can still see some of the beautiful vistas and gorgeous valleys of those early days and in some small way compare our efforts with theirs. Perhaps, as we notice that all of the most beautiful places have old wagon road remnants, we will realize that they too shared a spiritual need for the power of such beauty."

*John O'Dell, Chairman
River to River Trail Society*

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RIVER TO RIVER TRAIL GUIDE

ACROSS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS



**Battery Rock on the Ohio River
to
Grand Tower on the Mississippi River**

FOR HIKERS, BACKPACKERS, AND EQUESTRIANS

Second Edition

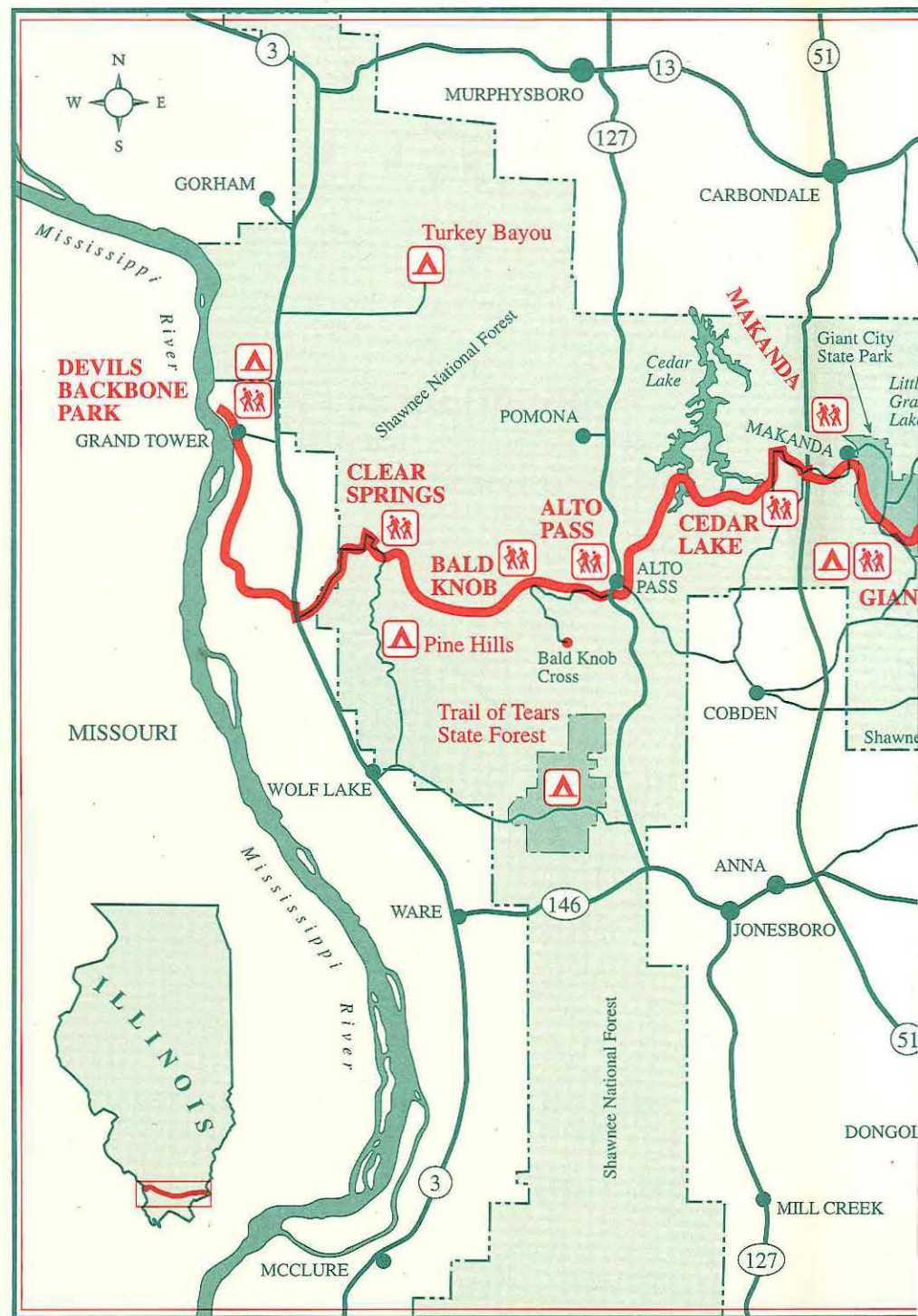
Trail Milages

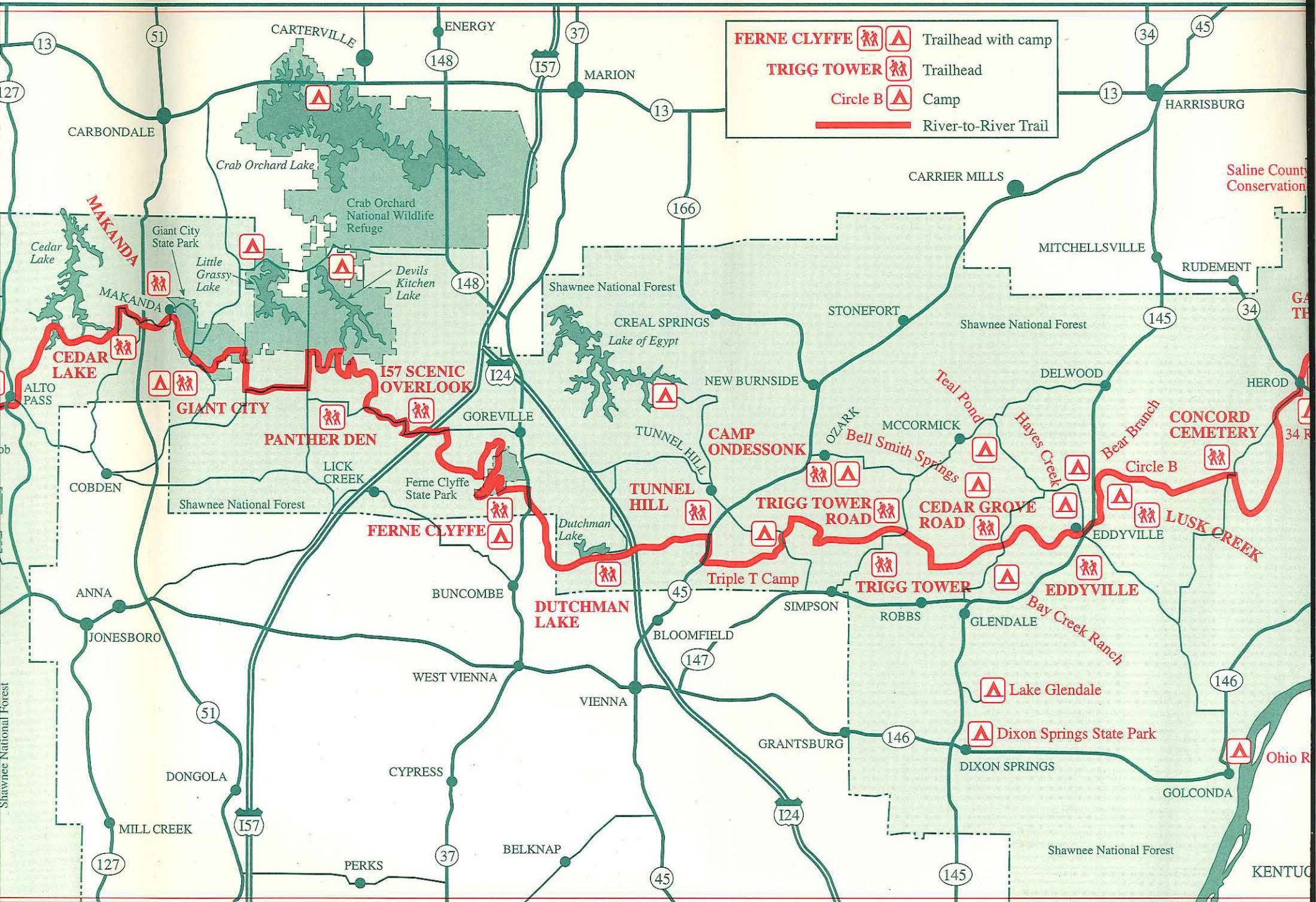
Location	Section distance	Total distance from Battery Rock
Battery Rock	0	0
Camp Cadiz	19.25	19.25
Garden of the Gods	12.75	32.00
Herod	6.80	38.80
Lusk Creek	14.90	53.70
Trigg Tower	17.60	71.30
State Highway 45	11.10	82.40
Dutchman's Lake	6.70	89.10
Ferne Clyffe	13.25	102.35
Wayside	9.00	111.35
Giant City	11.20	122.55
Route 51	8.90	131.45
Cedar Lake Causeway	6.30	137.75
Alto Pass	2.90	140.65
Godwin Trail	2.50	143.15
Pine Hills Road	5.00	148.15
Devils' Backbone Park	11.00	159.15

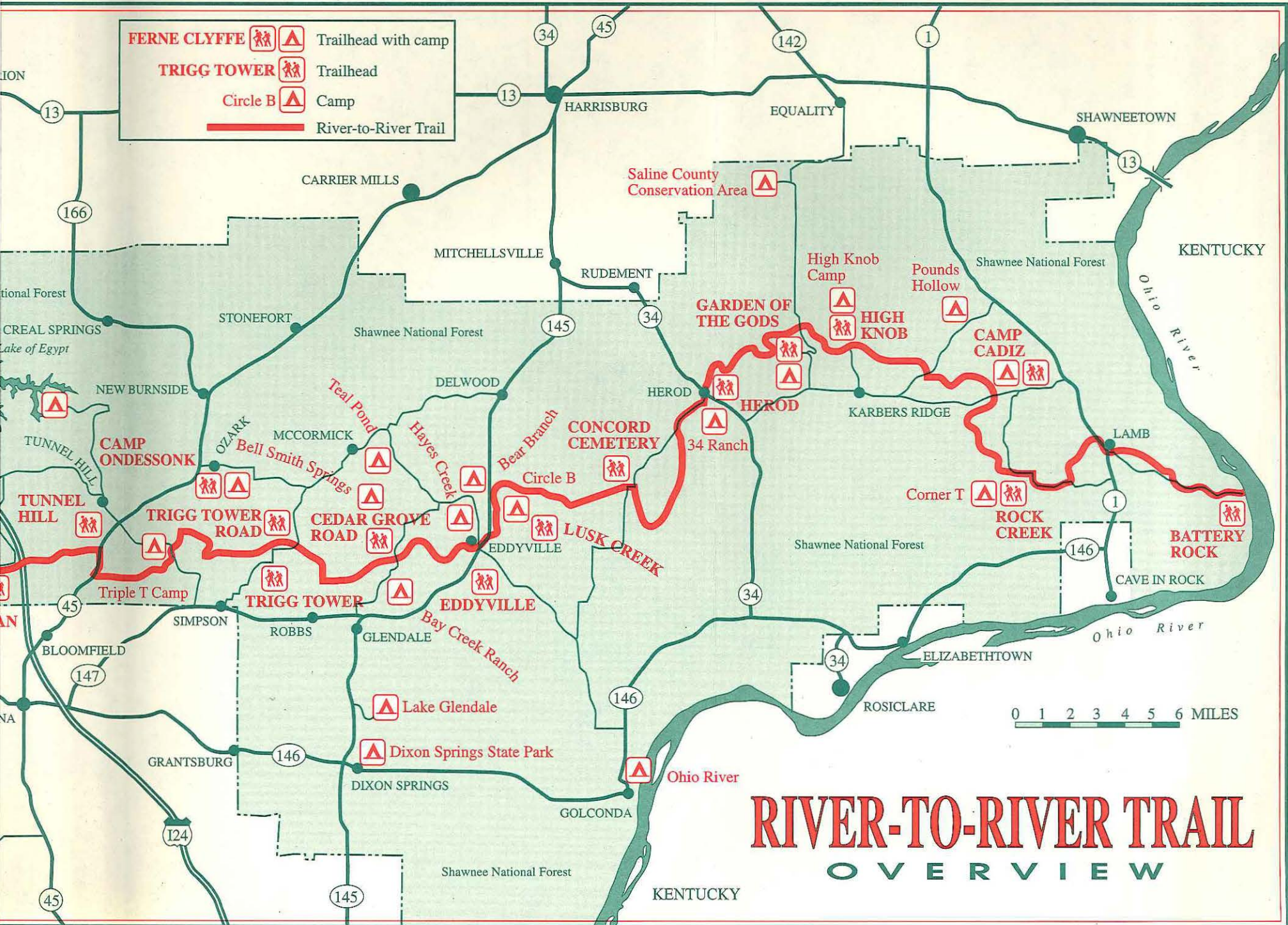
From time to time the trail may change due to maintenance and relocation, therefore, mileage may change also. Please remember that in most wilderness areas, you will only average about 1 mile per hour. Through hikers should allow at least two weeks for the entire trail.

Important telephone numbers:

Shawnee National Forest—618-253-7114,
 State Police—618-845-3737 or 618-542-2171,
 County Sheriff—Gallatin—618-269-3137, Johnson—618-658-8264,
 Pope—618-683-4321, Saline—618-252-8661,
 Williamson—618-997-6541, Jackson—618-684-2177.







RIVER-TO-RIVER TRAIL

OVERVIEW

RIVER TO RIVER TRAIL GUIDE

ACROSS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

**Battery Rock on the Ohio River
to
Grand Tower on the Mississippi River**



This book was partially funded by the National Park Service,
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program.

This publication made possible by a grant from the Recreational Trails Program

Trail descriptions and history—John O'Dell
Cartography and Design—Jim Balsitis, Lick Creek Cartographic Works

Disclaimer

It must be recognized by all who undertake to hike, ride, and explore in the outdoors that this is an imperfect and unpredictable universe. We cannot give warning of all the possible dangers, so one should prepare as much as possible in whatever you do. Those who enter, just as those who hunt, swim, rock climb, assume the risk of their behavior.

We have done our best to give the best representation possible for the clearest understanding of this trail. The trail has been placed on the topographic maps as accurately as possible, however, over time the trail may change for a variety of reasons. Trail maintenance, improvement, or relocation, may make this guide inaccurate in places. It is recommended that you contact the River-to-River Trail Society for up-to-date trail conditions before your trip. Your comments related to this guidebook are very much appreciated for our use in improving future issues.

We wish you God speed and fulfillment.

The River-to-River Trail Society

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Harrisburg, Illinois 62946

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Created by the River-to-River Trail Society

Designed by Jim Balsitis, Lick Creek Cartographic Works

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The River-to-River Trail Society assumes no responsibility or liability for accidents or injuries by people using this book to explore the hiking trails described.

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Acknowledgements

The writer wishes to express his sincere appreciation to several very important people without whom the River-to-River Trail and this guidebook would not have been possible.

First to Ray Morris who was able to get the first signs approved by the Forest Service, and setting up the approval of the trail going through Ferne Clyffe and Giant City state parks and did heroics in marking and maintaining the trail. To Allan Green, who, while part of the Forest Service, put us in contact with Reese Lukei of the American Discovery Trail and was most helpful in our fledging by placing the trail as the number one recreational priority of the Forest Service. To Don Coale and Ned Enrietto of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources who helped in gaining access to the two state parks that the trail passes through, and who have been so supportive of the trail. To the River-to-River Trail Society Board of Directors (please read the list) who mark and maintain each section of trail and particularly Jeanette Dove and Angie Middleton who attended more meetings and gave more support than anyone, to Darrel Livesay, who got us through a really tough section around Dutchman Lake and

during this second edition provisionally helped in an area through Panther Den. To Dan Dosier of the Crab Orchard Fish and Wildlife Refuge who allowed us to go through a great section and get us off road. To the Nine Day Trail Ride who came through with a nice contribution at a really important time. To Lee Smith, who will be installed soon as the new chair of the Society, who did a lot of leg and creative work when I began to slow down, and lent his partnership and computer expertise. To Jon Musgrave who keeps having those really bright ideas and helped us with a large gift from the Boy Scouts, and to the Boy Scouts of American, and the Department of Tourism through Marilyn Hurst for their contributions. To Louise Odegaard, the Supervisor of the Shawnee National Forest, who listened and then helped in developing the recreational aspects of this powerful asset in Southern Illinois and for giving us Ken Peterin of her staff who has been such a big help to us and trail development in the forest, and continues to do so (thanks so much my friend), and to Dan Moriarity and Pat York of the Forest Service who led us through some important changes. One of the big steps in the development of

the trail happened when Scott Curry of the Forest Service put the trail on one map, and allowed us to use this as the base from which we did our brochure and the trail guide.

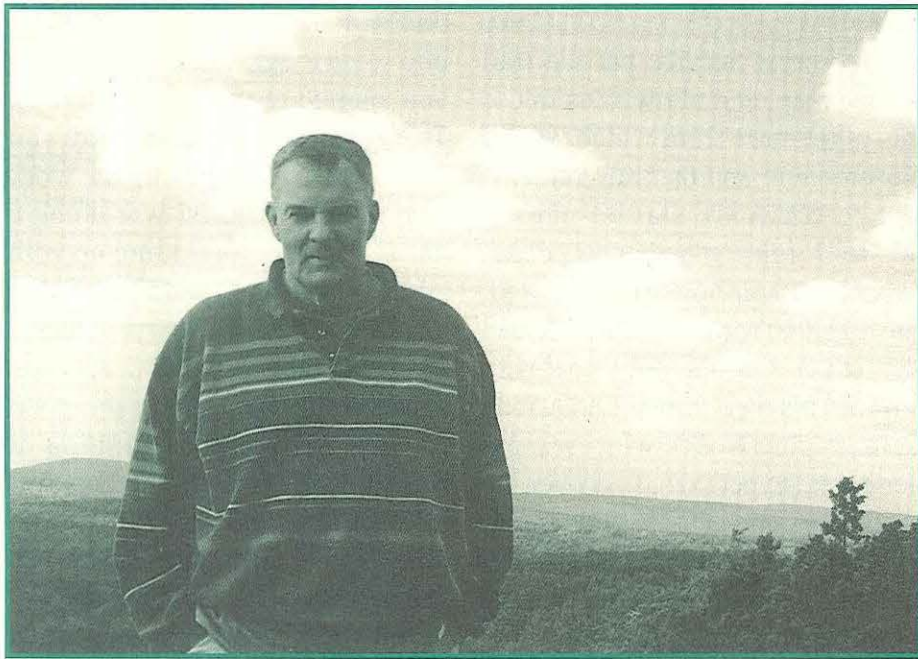
When we started putting this trail guide together we didn't have a clue on how to get started. Jim Balsitis, formerly of American Resources Group, Ltd., and who now has his own firm of Lick Creek Cartographic Works, with great patience and expertise got us over the rough part and made many excellent format suggestions that resulted in a product that has been widely acclaimed and accepted.

During this second edition, Andre Gaither, of the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service shepherded a grant for us at a critical time that emerged into this second edition. To Ed Hoffman, Dick Westfall, and Jim Hart of the Department of Natural Resources Planning Division, who have been supportive of the American Discovery Trail and the River-to-River Trail, through many ways including the State Greenways and Trails Council. To Mike Ulm of the Illinois Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, and to Reese Lukei, National Coordinator of the American Discovery Trail and my mentor and guide. A special thanks to the Governor of the State of Illinois, Jim Edgar, who was interested enough to walk the

trail with me even though I got him into some tough spots, but was gallant enough to make it humorous. To my wife Marilee and my son Mark who had to pick up the workload at home while I was doing a lot of marking, for putting up with all those little expenditures that took away from our home budget.

I thank the Creator for such a marvelous land, and for this good project. Although frustrating at times, I thank God for the opportunity to be associated with something so beautiful, so worthwhile and to be associated with such wonderful friends. It has been a great and good lesson.





River-to-River Trail Society founder, John O'Dell.

Dedication

For those who will be seeing Southern Illinois for the first time, there are many surprises. Beautiful scenic overlooks, complex and vast wilderness, opportunities, space, landmark historical settings, a homeland to the rest of the state, all add up to a special quality and could be summarized by saying this is a unique place. This perspective is not the interpretation of this generation but has been regarded with the same feeling as previous generations, some of which have left their names upon the land. It seems that once a person learns of this uniqueness, then a deep love develops. Many of those who have loved Southern Illinois have made a great effort to develop the potential that the region has to offer. O.L. Trigg, Delyte Morris, Waymon Presley are among the many. This guide book is, therefore, dedicated to all those who have made the effort, those families who form the history of the region, and the people who have and who now love Southern Illinois.

Best Hikes

These sections are in sequence. Pick your time and preference such as from High Knob to Lusk Creek would total 2 days.

Rock Creek to High Knob	1 day
High Knob to Garden of the Gods	1/2 day
Garden of the Gods to Herod	1/2 day
Herod to One Horse Gap	1/2 day
One Horse Gap to Lusk Creek	1 day
Lusk Creek to Crow Knob	1/2 day
Crow Knob to Bay Lake	1/2 day
Bay Lake to Trigg Tower	1/2 day
Ferne Clyffe to Panther Den	2 day
Panther Den to Makanda	1 day
Makanda to Alto Pass	1 day
Bald Knob to Inspiration Point	1 day

Interesting Things to See Close to the Trail That Can be Driven To

Battery Rock • Cave In Rock • High Knob Vista • Garden of the Gods • Williams Hill • Burden Falls • Bell Smith Springs • Millstone Bluff • Jackson Hollow • Trigg Tower Vista • Ferne Clyffe State Park • Dutchman Lake • Cache Lakes • Tunnel Hill • Panther Den Wilderness • Giant City State Park • Cedar Lake • Alto Pass • Bald Knob • Pine Hills • Little Grand Canyon • Turkey Bayou • Fountain Bluff • Grand Tower and Tower Rock • Cairo • Mound City National Cemetery • Fort Massac • Fort de Chartres • Modoc Rock Shelter • Randolph County Courthouse • Saline County Courthouse.

The American Discovery Trail in Southern Illinois

The American Discovery Trail is more than 5,000 miles of trail that extends coast to coast from Point Reyes National Seashore to Cape Henlopen State Park in Delaware. It connects six national scenic trails, ten national historic trails, 23 national recreational trails and hundreds of local and regional trails. It connects fourteen national parks and sixteen national forests. The ADT crosses California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., and Delaware.

There are two American Discovery Trails in Illinois. The southern route extends from St. Louis to New Haven, Illinois, a total of approximately 300 miles. The northern route enters Illinois at Moline and continues to Dwyer.

The southern route passes through some of the most scenic areas in the country with a combination of plains, rocky wilderness with canopy, and wetland bayou. The Shawnee National Forest covers most of the east/west portion of this trail which also contains the Lusk Creek Canyon National Scenic Area and several wilderness areas such as Garden of the Gods Wil-

derness, Clear Springs Wilderness and Panther Den Wilderness. The trail also passes through Giant City and Ferne Clyffe state parks and Devil's Backbone Park. Although regarded as a rugged trail, this trail passes through country that has species of plants and animals native to north and south, and east and west, in the woodlands and wetlands, and then in the next mile be high enough for a wonderful vista.

When the trail enters Illinois via the Eads Bridge from St. Louis, it intersects the levee off the pier walkway down to ground level. Immediately, the trail passes the riverboat casino and continues on through to the levee. The first town is Sauget (pronounced saw-jay) followed by Cahokia, the oldest town in Illinois established in 1699. Levee walking is often paralleled by blacktop roads that run alongside bluffs of the Mississippi River, that were formally buffalo trails. Incidentally, these levees were designed and laid out by Robert E. Lee and some by Ulysses S. Grant as far back as 1850. Stops in Cahokia are worthwhile because of the French Provincial Church and Courthouse that has been reconstructed showing the perpendicular and elegant log construction

avored by the French, rather than horizontal log building of the English. Further down the levee, there will be Fort de Chartres near the town of Prairie du Rocher. Historically, this was a very strategic location for a fort and so the French decided to invest in three towns in the New World: i.e. Montreal, New Orleans, and Chartres. They spent \$3,500,000 in 1750 to build a stone fort while other forts were all made of wood, including Montreal. The whims of politics diminished its importance and some of its walls were used for construction of the Eads Bridge.

The ADT continues along the levee to Devil's Backbone Park in Grand Tower where it picks up the River-to-River Trail. The trail is well marked with wooden diamonds and blue "i"s eastward to Route 1 through the Shawnee National Forest.

At Route 1, which is about seven miles north of Cave-in-Rock, the ADT goes north along the road until it intersects with Route 141, north of Omaha, and turns east to New Haven where it exits into Indiana. Daniel Boone's older brother ran a mill in New Haven in about 1790.



Hikers on the American Discovery Trail.

The River-to-River Trail

Battery Rock to Devils Backbone

The River-to-River Trail as a concept has been a part of the Shawnee National Forest since its beginning. Until recently, however, the trail started from Cave-In-Rock and ended at the crossing of route 45 for a distance of about 80 miles. Over the past decades there have been several attempts at establishing a permanent route extending completely from river-to-river. This has appeared to be a pet project of Delyte Morris, then president of Southern Illinois University, aided by the Geography Department and Egon Kamarasy, a faculty member and a horseman. Indeed, the trail owes a debt of gratitude for its existence because, for the past generation, it has been kept open and cleared by horsemen using these old trails.

More recently, the Hike a Nation Effort walked across the state followed by the American Discovery Trail exploring team of Eric Seaborg and Ellen Dudley who passed through Southern Illinois exploring the feasibility of a east to west trail from coast to coast. The American Discovery Trail (ADT) is now a designated "Discovery Trail" in the National Trail System that overlays the River-to-River Trail. The ADT enters Illinois from Indiana at New Haven then turns

south until it's intersection in Hardin County. On the west side the ADT travels north from Grand Tower up the levees and roads to its point of departure on Eads Bridge at St. Louis which is explained in another section.

Another feature of interest is that this area is a transition zone for many species of plants and animals. The division between north and south and even east to west overlaps to a considerable degree, so it is possible to see a eastern and western bluebird, a northern and southern garter snake, blue herons, cypress swamps, and mosses and lichens that have adapted from the ice age. Because trail walking is quieter than walking on leaves, it is possible to walk up on wildlife before either knows of the others presence. Remember to bring your camera! There are poisonous snakes, both copperheads and rattlesnakes. I have never seen a poisonous snake on the trail nor have there been any reports of hikers seeing or being bothered. There are reports of bobcats and other unsubstantiated reports of cougars but undoubtedly you will never be bothered by these.

Most trails are passable all year, except for the coldest days in January or February. The average

winter temperature however will be in the 40s which is good hiking or riding weather. Summer brings the usual Midwestern insects, but August has cobwebs in the woods to accompany the heat which can make it uncomfortable for the less seasoned hiker. August has some cool days when a front moves in, but we do not recommend a lot of backpacking unless you are out to lose weight.

The Trail is marked with wooden diamonds painted white overlaid with a blue "i" which has been the symbol of the trail from the beginning. Some "i"s may be painted on trees. Generally, when a trail turns, the diamond will be pointed in the direction of the turn. Interesting side trails may be marked with only the white diamond.

Measurement of the trail on the map yields 160 miles. Almost all hikers find they can only cover about 1 mile per hour because much of the trail goes side to side although it is shown as a straight line. Through hikers find that it takes at least fourteen days to do the total trail. It is our hope that more people will make several weekend trips rather than trying to do the whole trail at once. Once becoming familiar with the each section of the trail, it is interesting to return and hike the side trails.

The terrain varies from moderate to difficult. Although this trail does not have the long sustained climbs that might be found in the mountainous areas, some of the grades are pretty rugged. You should never attempt to use the trail without a compass and adequate water. Frequently, a hiker will be looking down or away and miss a trail sign. If you become confused, it is better to walk back to the last marker you saw and start again from that point. There will be times when side trails go off and look as though you should turn. If there are no signs, a rule of thumb is to follow the main tread.

This trail guide cannot be precise in measurements but it is as close to reality as we can make it at this point. I have found that many people like to set records that have no particular significance to us. It is far better to take your time, and your enjoyment will be increased.

This is the second edition of our trail guide and it is better than the first, but it is still not all that we want it to be. This is a shared trail between horses and hikers to our mutual benefit.

Long hikers often report of special circumstances that seem almost mystical. These wondrous events often take the form of some extraordinary luck and is called "Trail Magic." If any of these events occur to you, please report

them to the Society for sharing with others.

To honor the spirit of those who first immigrated to Illinois, this guide follows an east to west description. It is interesting to consider the hopes and dreams of those people as they viewed the new land and began the search for their place in this wilderness. We can still see some of the beautiful vistas and gorgeous valleys of those early

days, and in some small way compare our efforts with theirs. Perhaps as we notice that all of the most beautiful places have wagon roads to them, we will realize that they too shared a spiritual need for the power of such beauty.





Remember to bring your trail etiquette and carry out whatever you carry in. Tread easy. The trail is a blessing to everyone, so please respect that.



River-to-River Trail marker.

Lee Smith, Southern Illinois Images.

GENERAL MAP KEY

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|------------|
|  | River-to-River Trail |  | Trailhead |
|  | Side Trail |  | Campground |

Trailheads

The following connections can be made starting from the east and continuing west:

Battery Rock: Follow Lamb Road which is on Route 1 about 5.5 miles north of Cave-in-Rock. When the road turns to gravel, and then dirt, follow the blazes. As this guide is being written, a pull through parking lot is being planned at the point where the trail goes the last 100 yards to the river. Going west, the trail goes along back roads back to Route 1 and then turns north to Pope County mile marker 6.53 and turns east. This goes to Rock Creek.

Rock Creek: From Route 1, turn west at Mt. Zion Church (mile marker 6.43), and go about 1 3/4 miles and then turn right (first road to the right). Proceed to the Corner T Tack shop which is Rock Creek. The trail crosses this gravel road about 100 yards past the Rock Creek Church. The Corner T Tack Shop may be closed. The trail is just north of Rock Creek and goes to Camp Cadiz.

Camp Cadiz: From Route 1 take the Camp Cadiz Blacktop. From the Karbers Ridge Blacktop the camp is on the west side of the road. From Camp Cadiz, cross the road going east, then follow the signs to Rock Creek. The trail goes through

Camp Cadiz and the trail at the back of the camp goes to High Knob.

High Knob: A very conspicuous and scenic hill off the Karber's Ridge Blacktop about 20 miles southeast of Harrisburg. Follow the highway signs and you can drive to the top of High Knob. The trail goes near the top and you can go both directions. There is a horse camp before you reach the parking lot at High Knob. Go west to Garden of the Gods.

Garden of the Gods: From the Garden of the God's parking lot the trail goes west to Herod about eight miles.

Herod: Herod is on Route 34 approximately 20 miles southeast of Harrisburg. The trail passes through on the way south and makes a slight dog leg over the bridge. From here go either north to Garden of the Gods or south to One Horse Gap. Markers are right on the main highway.

Lusk Creek: From Harrisburg, take Route 145 south following the Eddyville signs. Go about 17 miles to the River-to-River crossing signs just before Eddyville. Turn left and go north on the gravel road for about two miles. This is a "pull through" parking lot across from Circle B Ranch.

Eddyville: Eddyville is about 20 miles due south of Harrisburg on Route 145. The trail runs past the post office so ask there. Going east will take you to Lusk Creek Canyon, going west will go to Crows Knob and Hayes Creek. These beautiful areas are not right on the trail but you can spend a day off trail in these areas.

Trigg Tower: Between Route 45 and Route 145 is Route 147. Approximately halfway between the two routes is Simpson. At this point there will be a sign indicating Trigg Tower. At Trigg Tower you can connect with the trail about a quarter of a mile west by taking the trail on the west side of the road. Also, up the gravel road about two miles is a trail head and parking lot. East goes to Bay Lake and west goes to Trigg Tower.

Camp Ondessonk: On Route 45 at Ozark, Camp Ondessonk, (Catholic Summer Camp) is about six miles off the road, just follow the signs. This is an excellent place to stay and the trail is two miles south.

Tunnel Hill: About ten miles north of Vienna on Route 45 or 20 miles southwest of Harrisburg on Route 45. The Rails-to-Trails project goes north and south at this point and the River-to-River Trail crosses about 2 miles south of Tunnel Hill. You can hike through the tunnel going south until you come to the inter-

section and then go east to Max Creek (across the highway) or west to Dutchman Lake and on to Ferne Clyffe.

Dutchman Lake: Between Route 45 and Route 37 there is a blacktop. Approximately half way is a sign saying Dutchman Lake. The trail crosses the spillway. This is a little gem similar to Cache Lakes, and Bay Lake. See Livesay Spring here.

Ferne Clyffe State Park: The trail enters the park on the south side outside and not through the main entrance. The trail follows through the park on the equestrian trail. Incidentally, trails are closed to horses in Ferne Clyffe and Giant City from November through April.

I-57 Scenic Overlook: On Interstate 57 at the Goreville Exit, there is a scenic overlook. The trail passes in front on the blacktop road. Go east one quarter mile and then south into Cedar Bluff. Or go west following the markers until "Way-side" at the large antenna. "This will go to the Panther Den Wilderness Area.

Panthers Den: Off Interstate I-57 take the blacktop road west to the "T" and turn right. Follow the trail signs past the Wayside antenna, turn right at the next stop. On this road right at the corner, you will see the Panther Den Wilderness sign and parking. The trail is up the road about a mile.

Giant City: The River-to-River Trail overlays the park's lower equestrian trail going east to west. The lodge is a terrific place to stay (it looks like old Yellowstone) and the trail goes right in front.

Makanda: The trail goes through Makanda. Go east and you will return to Giant City. Go west and the trail crosses Highway 51 and then goes to Cedar Lake.

Cedar Lake: From Route 127 ten miles south of Murphysboro there is a parking lot for Cedar Lake. Take the south trail until you find the leg going toward Alto Pass.

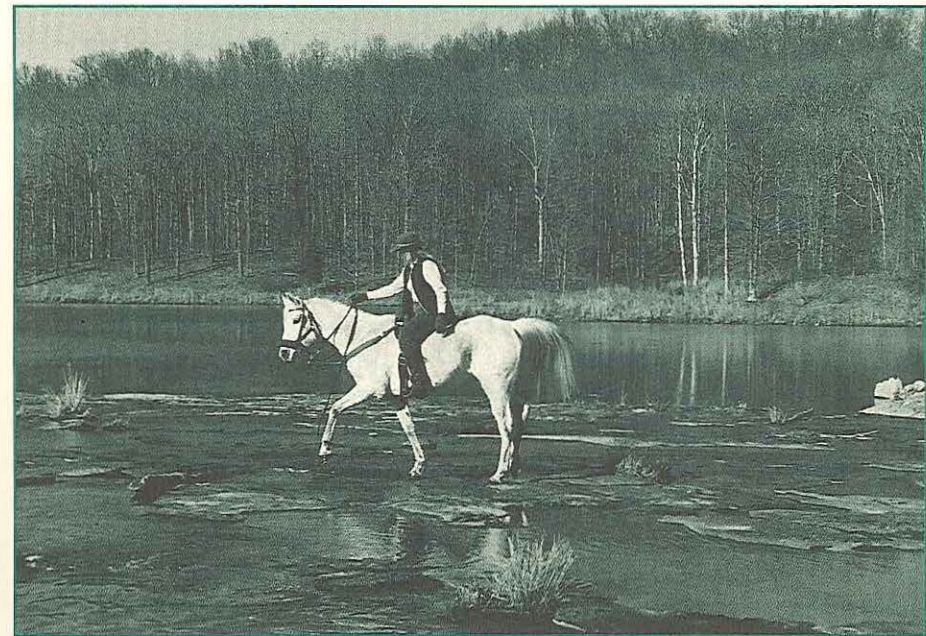
Alto Pass: The trail crosses main street in the downtown section.

Bald Knob: One of the best vistas around. The trail goes along the Bald Knob Blacktop and enters the

woods at the "Godwin Trail." At the top of Bald Knob is the largest Christian Monument in North America, a stainless steel cross, 111 feet high.

Devil's Backbone Park: Located at the north end of Grand Tower, the River-to-River Trail ends/begins here. Go east along the levee to Pine Hills and the Clear Springs trail.

The trailhead locations are not intended as a description of the trail. Make careful plans for your trip by obtaining contour maps or a trail guide and ask at the trail head for more information on that section, or call the Trail Society at 618-658-8409. Always take a compass and a companion with you.



The River-to-River Trail at Cedar Lake.

Battery Rock to Rock Creek Map 1 and 2

Battery Rock is located about five miles upstream from Cave-in-Rock. To get to Battery Rock you should turn off Highway 1 at Lambs Road about five miles north of Cave-in-Rock. The blacktop road has a fork to the north that is part of the trail but for the short cut to Battery Rock proceed straight ahead. The blacktop will turn into gravel shortly after the community of Lamb and at the next fork stay to the left. About one mile down the road there will be a turn around after you pass a field that has a nice view of the Ohio River. There will be a signed Forest Service gravel parking lot large enough for three horse trailers to pull through where the road ends. If you are a purist and are counting on the full experience, proceed down the trail to the bottom of the bluff. There is a nice beach with cliffs and a spring/waterfall close by. You may wish to make the ultimate gesture by filling a bottle of Ohio River water to pour into the Mississippi at the end of the River-to-River Trail.

Battery Rock was used as a fortification during the Civil War so the roads were probably leveled for use in the 1860s. The road leading up to Battery Rock, however, was used probably about 1800 because the Brown Cemetery further down the road has headstones of about that date with some Revolutionary War veterans in it. I have also seen an old river pilot's book that was dated 1813 and noted

Battery Rock even then. Battery Rock was a location for the films "Davey Crockett," and "How the West Was Won." It is hard to imagine that James Stewart, Walter Brennen and other superstars once trod these paths.

The engraved names with dates of 1861 indicate that Union troops camped here idled away the hours on such tasks. The square holes in the rock were for the placement of the guns. The troops bedded down in the rock overhangs. This writer has not seen it, but the impact craters from Confederate warships are on the river side of the rock.

If you have an opportunity, the view from the river looking toward Battery Rock is wonderful. In the summer it looks as if lush woodland vegetation on massive rocks roll right into the river. The trail beginning is the small ten foot white sand beach at the end of the road surrounded by a heavily wooded hollow.

To follow the River-to-River Trail, proceed back to Lamb following the markers and turn north [right] up Belt Hill. At the top of the hill the trail turns west [left] along an abandoned road bed for about two miles. It will emerge from a tree covered dirt road, and make a short "S" and then continues west. Near the approach to Route 1, you walk down Tucker Hill, turn right and continue to the stop sign. You will pass a road going northward which leads to Blind Hollow which is

worth a trip sometime because of its lush vegetation, steep cliffs and narrow valley. At the end of this hollow is a campground in the woods right on the river with a cypress swamp close by. One of the many legends about Blind Hollow is that a headless dog haunts it.

Please note: between Battery Rock and Rock Creek is the longest section on roads. These roads are gravel and scenic but it remains that you may wish to walk directly from Battery Rock on the Blacktop through Lamb to Route 1, turn right for one-half mile and then left at Mt. Zion Church and proceed directly to Rock Creek. There are some trails that travel along cliff tops and through some wonderful wooded hollows that are part of the Jim Price Trail. It is hoped that this will become part of the River-to-River Trail in the near future but until then just follow the markers. Watch for the eagles. From Battery Rock to Route 1 is about five miles. To Rock Creek is four more.

There are many interesting points of interest in this vicinity including Crazy Lady Cave in which a woman who was run out of Kentucky lived in for two years.

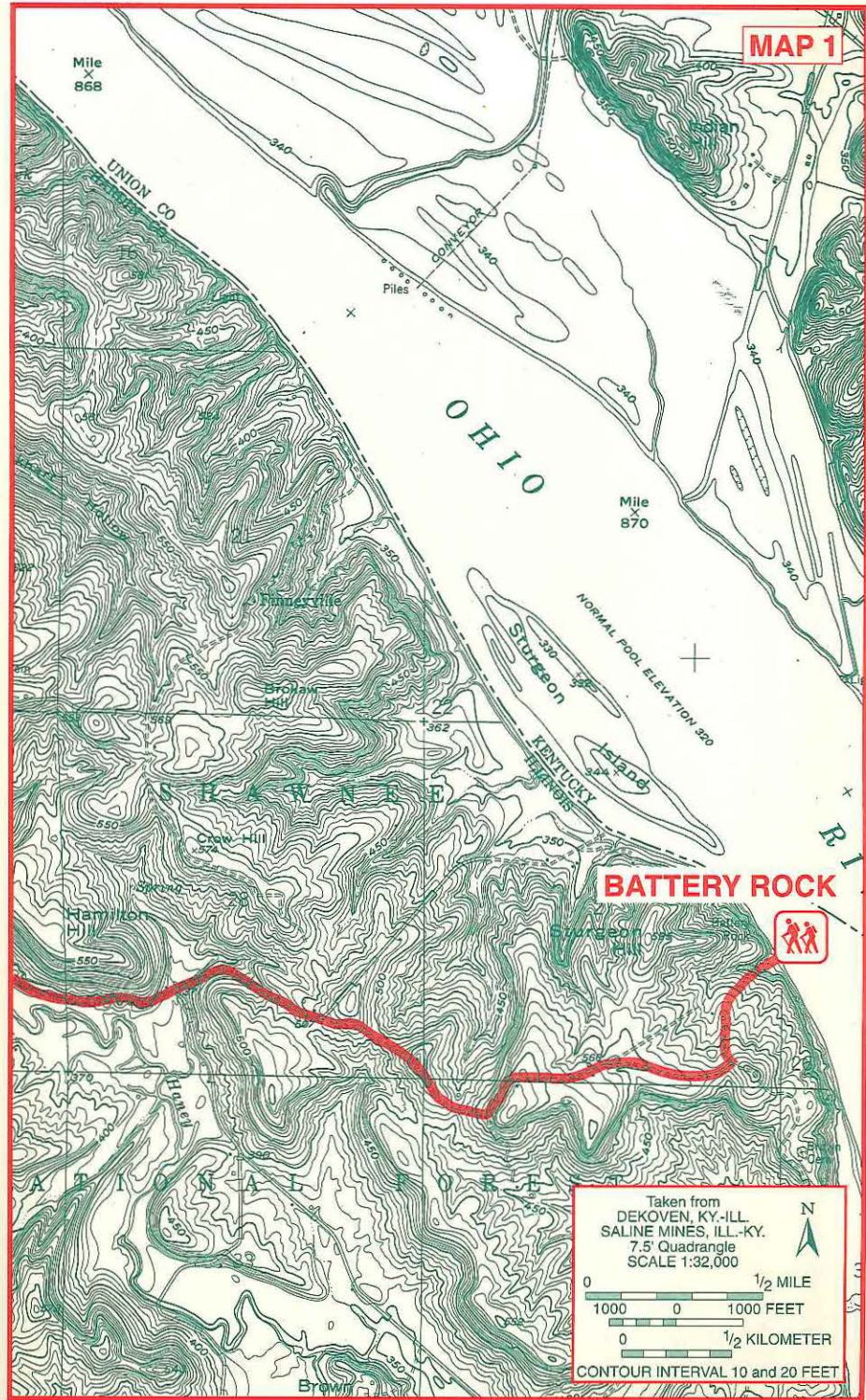
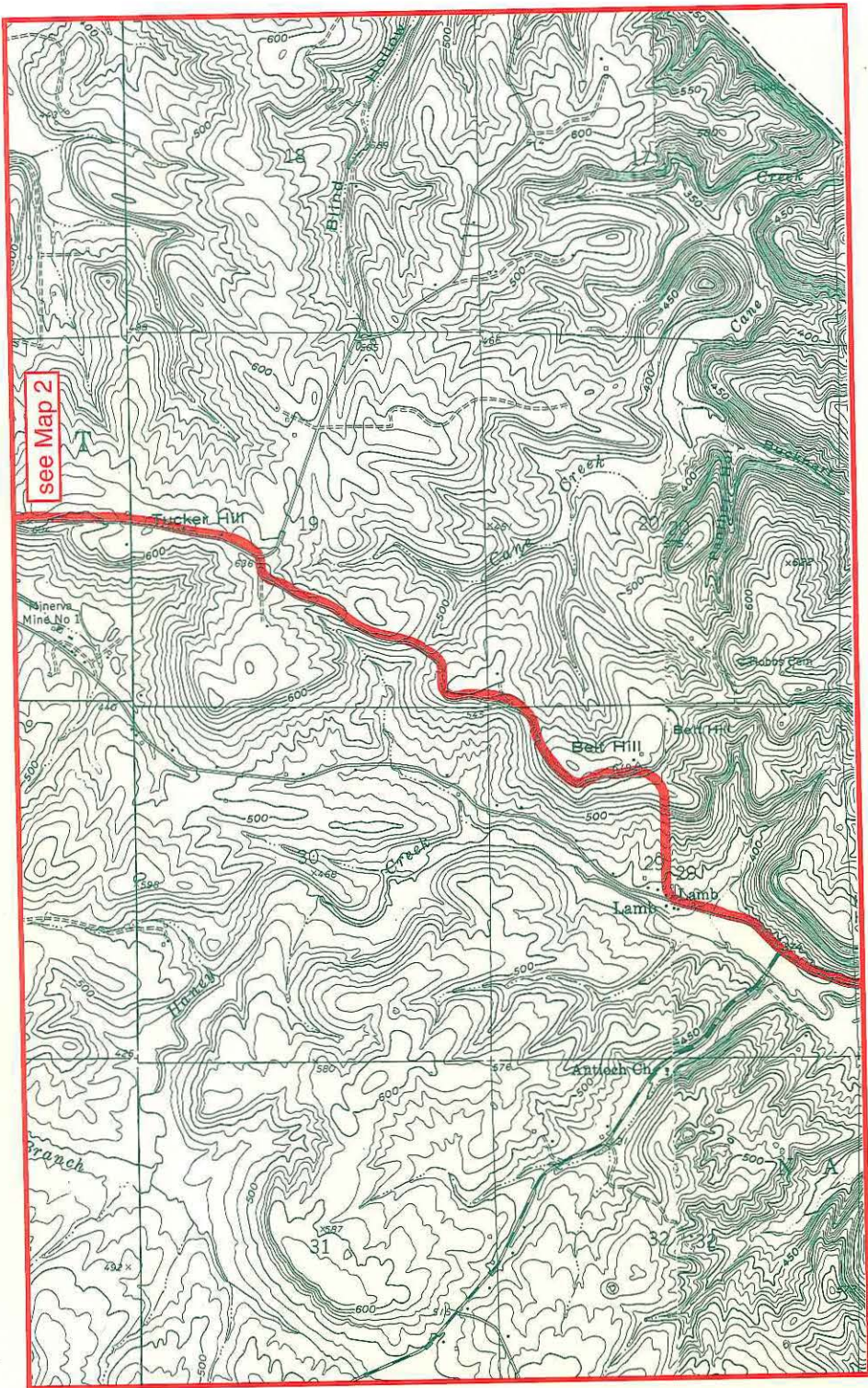
Upon reaching Route 1, turn right (north) and travel about one half mile and turn left (west) at Mt. Zion Church. Proceed along this gravel road for approximately 3.5 miles to Rock Creek. There will be a vista on the right and then one on the left. The Corner T Tack shop is near the trailhead and may have some trail services. As of this writing, they haven't

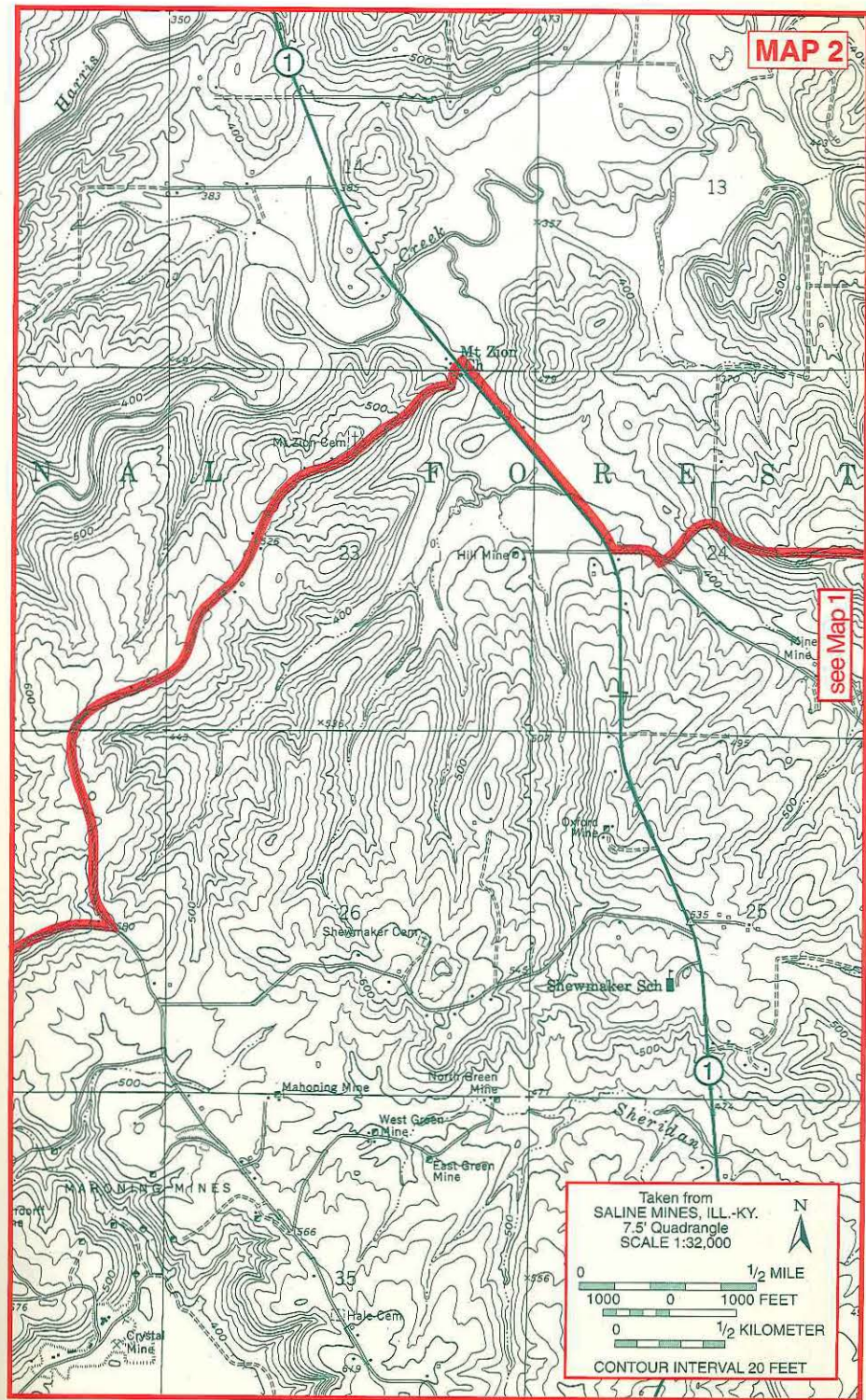
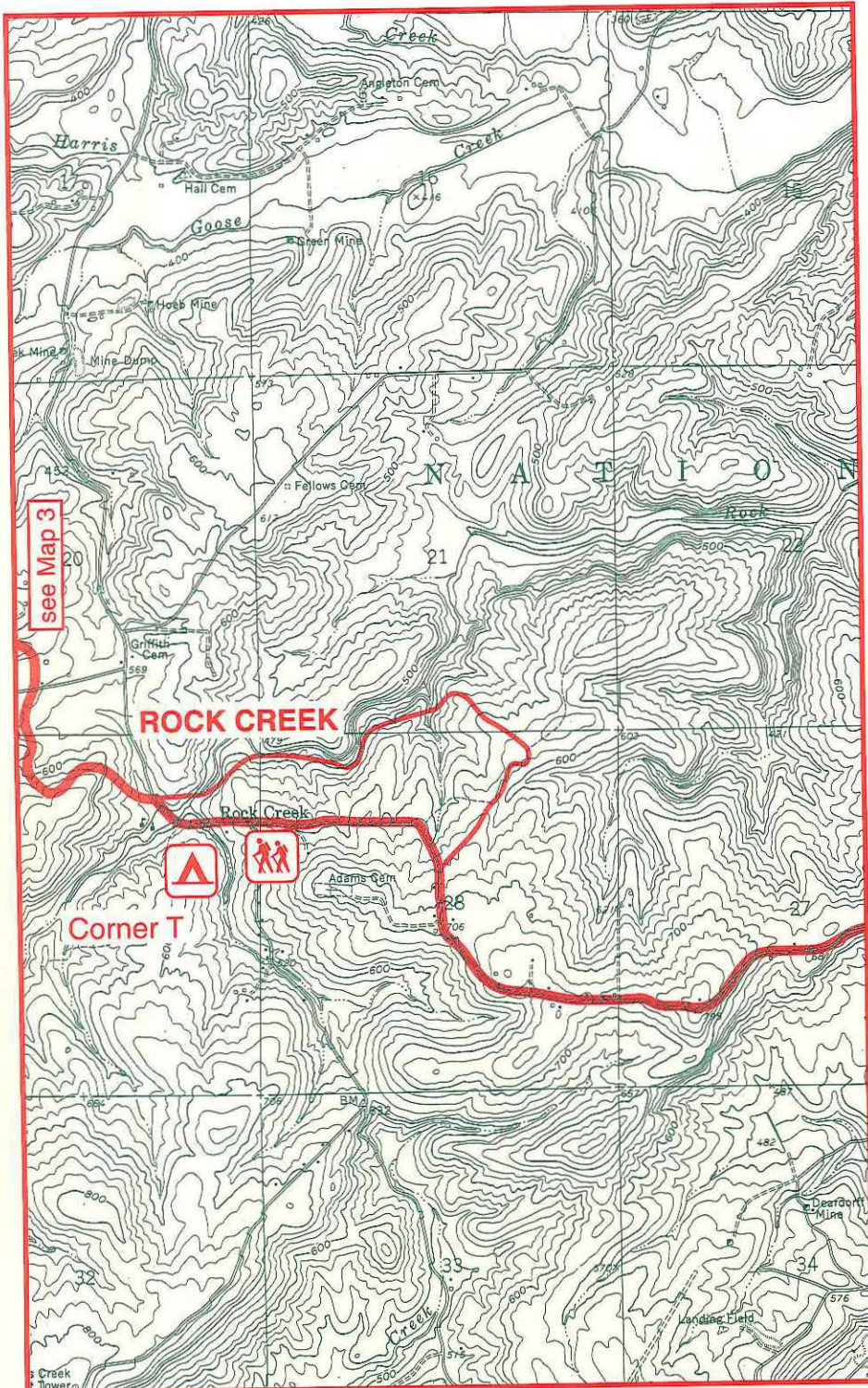
been open recently.

Rock Creek is the approximate location of the Anna Bixby cabin. A fascinating account says Anna Bixby was a pioneer doctor who discovered the cause of milk sickness fifty years before the rest of the world. Abraham Lincoln's mother died of this malady as did whole communities. By asking a Shawnee Indian woman she had befriended, she found that a type of nightshade bloomed in August on which cattle foraged and was the source of the toxin.

The Rock Creek Hollow is one of three such hollows that narrow and then meet in approximately the same location. You can actually stand in one spot and see the mouth of two others. Hooven Hollow is one of the three but is on private land.

Not far from the turn off onto the gravel road from Route 1 is Pott's Tavern which is on private property. Billy Potts was a pirate who preyed upon travelers as they completed their first days journey in the new land. After dinner the men were enticed to go outside and then disposed of, while Mrs. Potts murdered the women and children inside. He often worked in concert with the Fords Ferry Gang who had an establishment at Fords Ferry which was north of Cave-in-Rock. His crimes ended when he slew his only son when he returned as a grown man of some substance and he killed him before he found his true identity. An almost unbelievable account of the area between 1800 and 1840 can be found in the publication "Satans Ferryman."





Taken from
 SALINE MINES, ILL.-KY.
 7.5' Quadrangle
 SCALE 1:32,000

0 1000 0 1000 FEET

0 1/2 MILE

0 1/2 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

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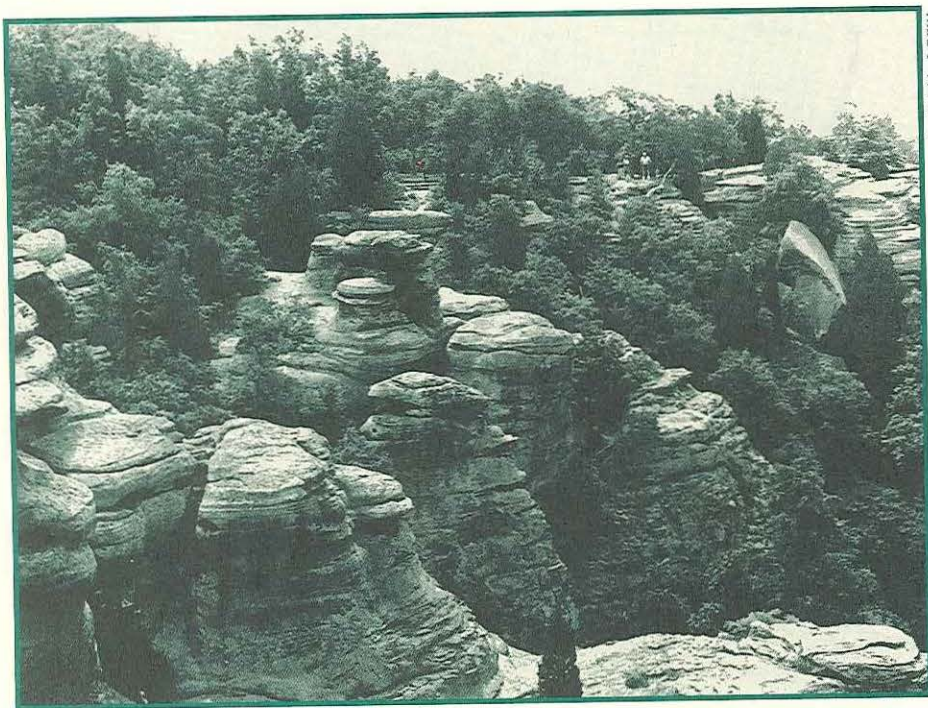
Rock Creek to Camp Cadiz Map 2 and 3

The River-to-River Trail can be accessed at Rock Creek. There is a trailhead sign along the gravel road about 1/4 mile from Corner T Tack. Or you can go into the woods across from the tack shop.

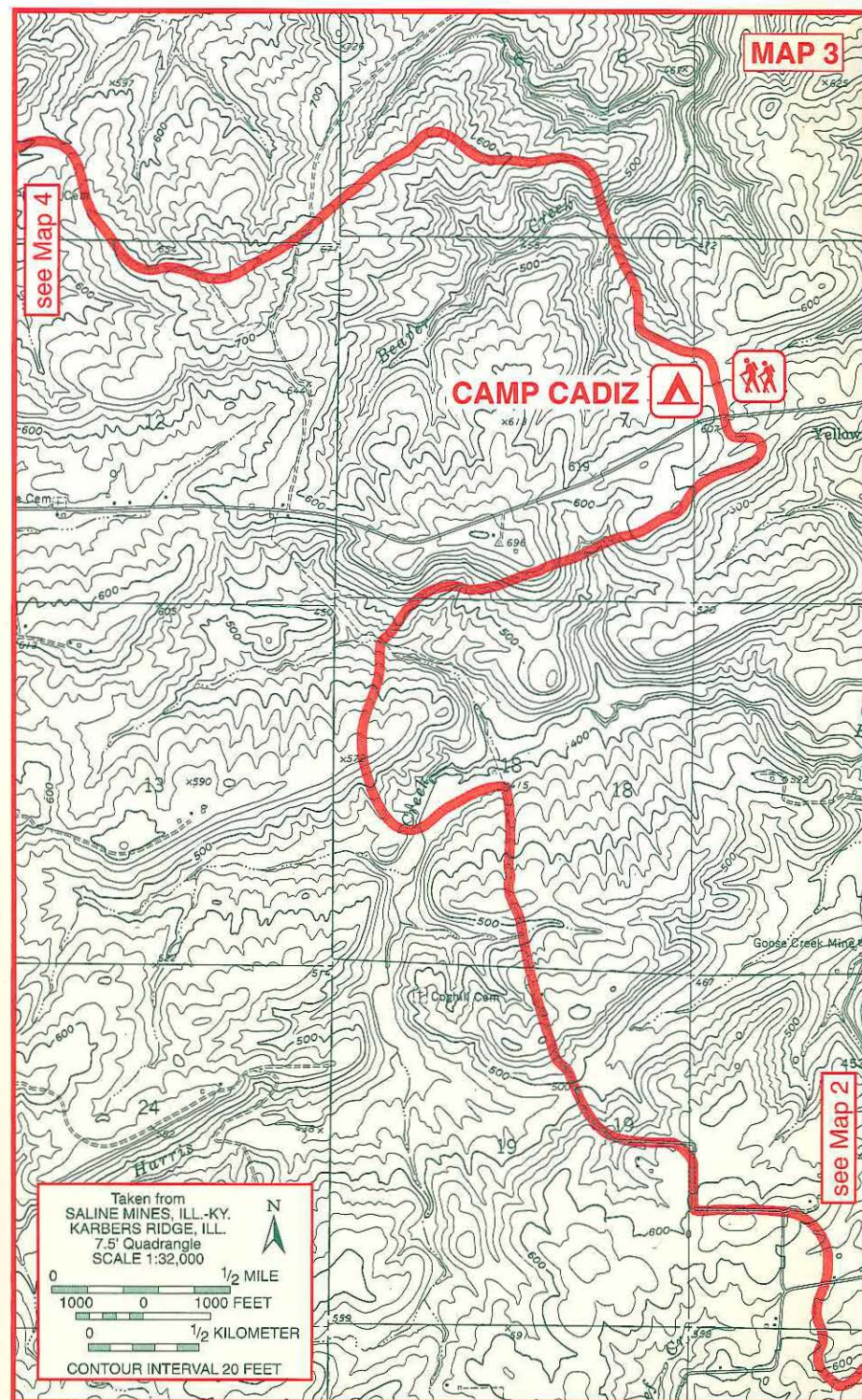
Before you leave the Rock Creek area, take a look at the "H" tree in the Rock Creek Church yard. Rock Creek is a registered ghost town. At one time this was a home to approximately 500 people. A story I heard was that a prominent landowner passed on surprising

wealth to his heirs and wasn't until later that it was strongly rumored that he had been involved with a gold robbery in California and walked back to protect the money.

The trail crosses the gravel road about 50 yards north of the church. Cross a field and proceed down the lane. Harris Creek is about two miles up trail and has a nice wide area for rest. Continue up trail and up hill to Camp Cadiz. There seems to be an extra large number of turkeys in this area. Rock Creek to Camp Cadiz is about four miles.



Garden of the Gods



Camp Cadiz to High Knob

Map 3 and 4

Camp Cadiz was a Civilian Conservation Corps camp of the Depression Era. The buildings are now gone and what remains is a multiuse campsite. The River-to-River Trail enters the camp from the south and exits through the camp at the north end. A gravel road intersects the camp. Shortly after leaving the camp the trail takes a sharp left turn to the west. This section of the trail is very straight forward and proceeds about three miles until reaching the blacktop and turn right until reaching the Karbers Ridge blacktop about 100 yards after turning. Continue directly across the blacktop and proceed about 100 yards and the trail turns to the west (left). High Knob is a prominence with a spectacular view. High Knob Campground is located at the road entrance so this would be a good place to start or stop. There are also some caves and cliffs worth seeing and the trail from the blacktop is old growth forest. Even though it is very beautiful at this spot there are not many visitors. I believe that most people feel that Garden of the Gods is the only thing in the area and don't bother to go any further, but High Knob is only five miles away by road. There are bound to be special

things that happen at a place like this, but my family and I were there one time when migrating monarch butterflies decided to rest there.

This area has lots of trails so be certain to follow the signs and the trail with the most prominent tread.

To the west of Camp Cadiz and south of High Knob is the settlement of Hicks. In this vicinity a volcano bulged the surface and raised the area hundreds of millions of years ago that brought fossils to the surface that are normally much deeper. Fortunately or not, the volcano exploded underground and did not break the surface. This feature was discovered when pilots flying overhead noticed that the surface looked like a volcano and prompted enough attention to seek an answer to the anomaly. Hicks Dome is now a well known feature of the area.

High Knob to Garden of the Gods

Map 4 and 5

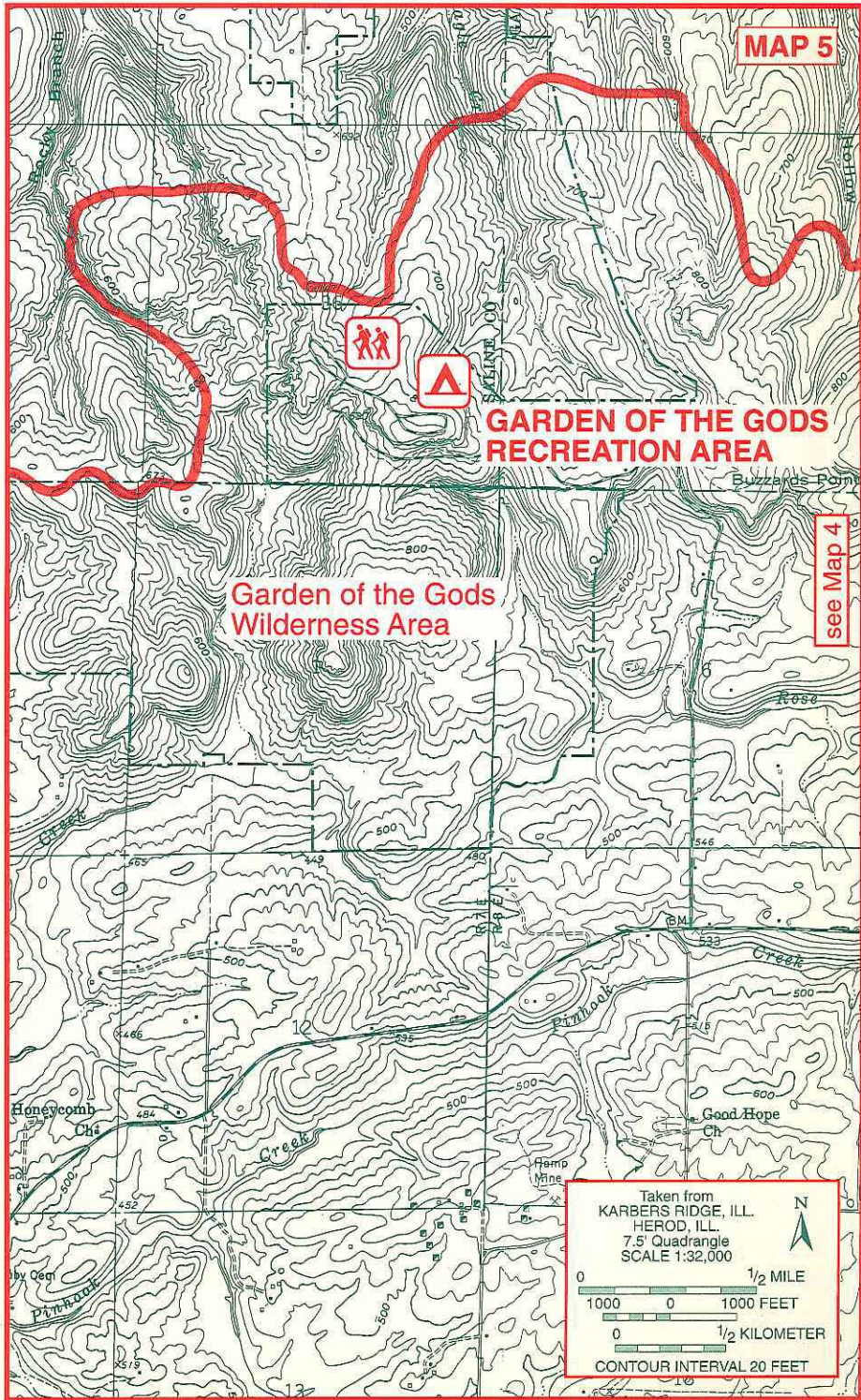
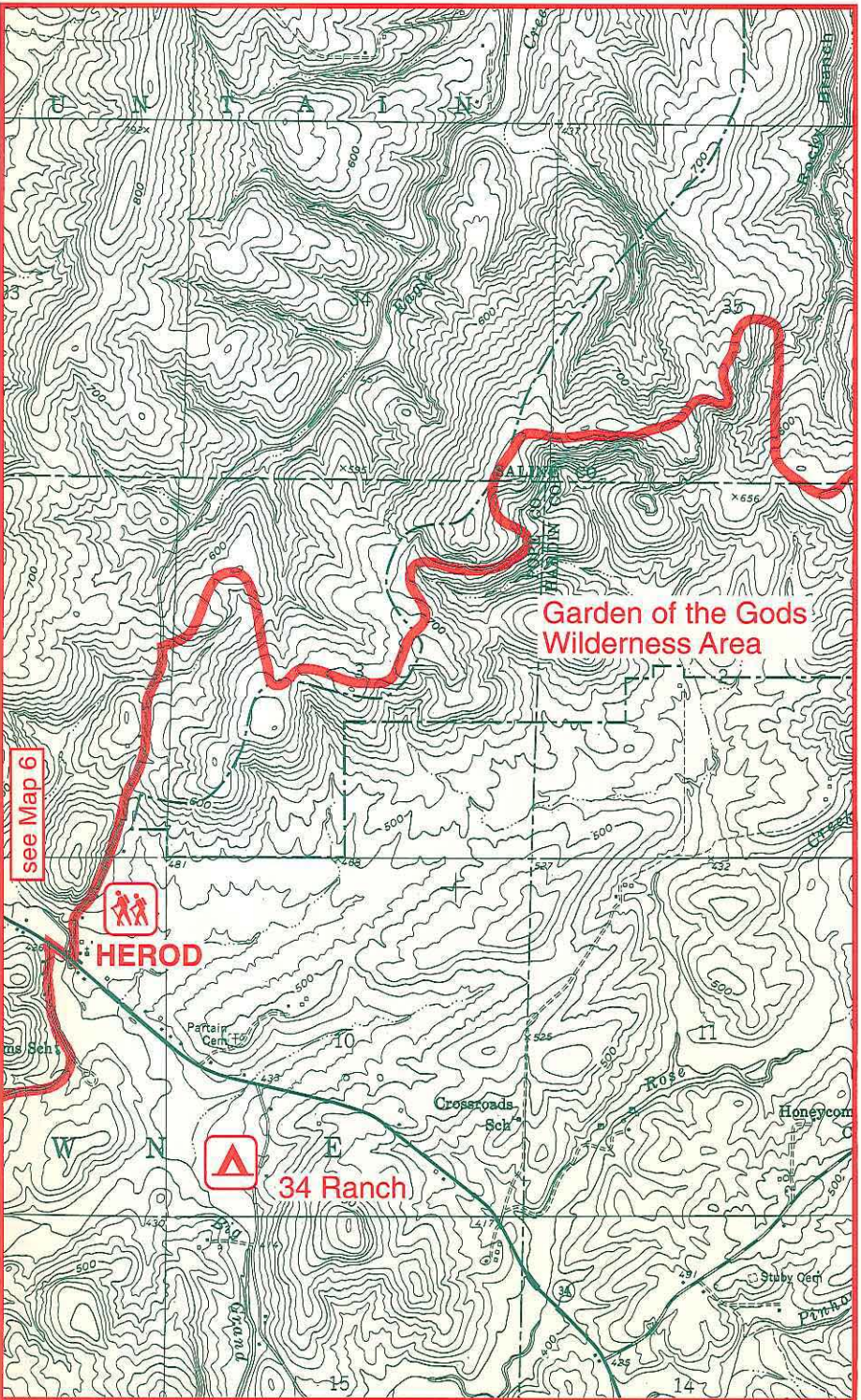
One of the best known attractions of Southern Illinois is Garden of the Gods. The geologic formations have exotic representations of various objects such as Camel Rock. In addition the area is largely surrounded by the Garden of the Gods Wilderness so the view inside and outside make it worth a special trip. There are many tourists present during the summer and fall but at other times there are very few visitors. Even so, this is one place you will probably want to return frequently. There are campsites, water, and supplies two miles away in Karber's Ridge and Herod.

To reach Garden of the God's from High Knob, follow the trail from High Knob or High Knob Campground which is privately owned, to the west and cross the gravel road. After about a half mile the trail will turn off the gravel road and enter the woods going north. Watch for the painted blue "i"s on the trees although the brush in the summer may make it a little difficult. The distance to Garden of the God's is about five miles by following the regular trail. This trail is somewhat longer and has some rough spots in it. Up trail from the first scenic overlook that some call Buzzard's Roost there is a trail go-

ing to the west while the regular route goes almost due north at this point. Watch for a plain white diamond. This is a designated trail and is much more direct and easier going and will arrive at a sign that points to the Garden of the God's parking lot. There are several scenic overlooks at this point and all are worth enjoying. Make certain you follow the contour maps and don't try to second guess this area because Mother Nature can play tricks on you with such rapidly changing topography.

Inside the sandstone are concentrations of iron ore from marine creatures living millions of years ago which form the whorls that are a prominent part of all this area and in Garden of the God's particularly. During the Civil War this ore was refined at a spot not far from here called "Iron Furnace." Undoubtedly the Mound City Shipyards located about 100 miles to the South, used some of this product in constructing the iron clad boats that changed the course of naval history and warfare.

The campground located at Garden of the Gods is just east of the parking lot. They have lots of exploring around them as well as being in such a nice setting.



Garden of the Gods to Herod

Map 5 and 6

The trail from Garden of the Gods can be started from the parking lot, or the campground. The trail goes northwest from the parking lot, and intersects the regular River-to-River Trail in about 3/8ths mile then takes a long loop to the north before turning south and then west to exit on the Herod Blacktop about five miles away. The trail enters this road about a half mile above Herod and turns left or south to continue. At Herod, the trail turns right to cross the bridge, and then immediately turns left or south on Raum Road.

The trail around Garden of the Gods is all in wilderness areas and has some spectacular old growth forest and vistas. Shortly after leaving Garden of the Gods parking lot, you will see Anvil Rock. In about two miles, the trail is going due south again and before it starts going southwest there is a natural "H" in one of the cliffs on the east side of the trail.

Herod is located on Route 34 before you get to the Karber's Ridge Blacktop and can be identified upon passing a house built into the side of the cliff.

Garden of the God's road can be reached from the Karber's

Ridge Blacktop which is the next major road past Herod. (Turn left off Route 34, then left again off Karber's Ridge Blacktop) This road leads north past Garden of the God's and goes toward Equality and also passes Glen O. Jones Lake. About five miles to the north is Old Stone Face. This is one of the most unique features of Southern Illinois but is not well marked. Another entrance to this attraction is off Route 34 near Rudement.



Hiker near the River-to-River Trail in Jackson Hollow.

Herod to One Horse Gap and Concord Cemetery

Map 6 and 7

Route 34 passes through Herod going from Harrisburg toward Elizabethtown. Hiking from Garden of the Gods to this highway and after crossing the bridge having turned right, then look for the sign directing a left turn across Route 34 to Raum Road which is gravel. The next trail into the woods is about 1 1/2 miles on the left hand or east side. You will pass the William's Hill Road on the right after 1/2 mile, and after another mile cross a concrete ford and start up a small hill and the markers will be found at the forest edge on the east side.

William's Hill, the highest point in Southern Illinois at 1064 feet, is about two miles away. If you use the Williams Hill Trail, there is an entrance/exit across the road from the concrete ford. The mountain trail is about two miles out of the way but there are some very unique things along the way. A tower to be finished soon should give you the best view in Southern Illinois. There are some nice trails to the northeast of the high point that go into another forested area. Wamble Mountain lies across Route 34 from William's Hill ...yes the latter is higher.

Upon entering the trail from Raum Road, there will be some trees close by that have been felled by beaver. The trail crossed a beaver dam previously but it has been washed away. The trail crosses the creek and proceeds on a slow climb up the hill to Benham Ridge. The trail will soon turn right and proceed to the top of the ridge. During the summer it is difficult to see but this is a ridge trail with views to both sides. The trail joins a dirt road and then a gravel. After about two miles, the trail leaves the road on the east and follows the base of the ridge along the rock facing. The rock shelters that are found here have been used by Indians so be on the alert for artifacts in the trail tread. After the largest shelter the next landmark is a short cave followed by the walkable separation in the rock that is about the only convenient way to gain the ridge top for some distance. This is One Horse Gap. The trail continues down the ridge for 3/4 miles (without going through One Horse Gap), and turns west for another 3/4 mile and intersects a gravel forest road. Turn right and go about 200 yards and there will be a road going north leading to Concord Cemetery. This

gravel road parallels the trail but is about a half mile away and it's location could not possibly be described except by visualizing it on a map. If you know it however, you can drive down this road until you find a plain diamond, park, and then take a short cut to the gap.

There is a loop off the trail that leads to a small trail that goes along the cliffs edge, and is beautiful...one of my favorite trails. Look for the plain white diamond.

Herod to Concord Cemetery is about six miles. One Horse

Gap Lake and 34 Ranch is within a mile of the Gap.

This is a beautiful section with a good mix of rock shelters and vistas. I took a friend through One Horse Gap telling him what it was. We then turned right at the bottom and went between two rocks that were leaning on each other. We ducked under as we went through and he exclaimed, "What is this...No Horse Gap?" There is a waterfall behind in the corner and a good sized rock shelter.

Concord Cemetery through Lusk Creek to Eddyville Map 7 and 8

From Concord Cemetery proceed west on Raum Road for a short distance to the next curve and continue straight ahead down the lane. You will walk about 2 1/2 miles before things really start getting interesting. The River-to-River Trail continues in more or less a straight line through this area and finally emerges about five miles from the cemetery on a gravel road that has a well developed trail head with ample parking for horse trailers near the Circle B Ranch which is private. Continue through this park and in another mile you will enter the outskirts of Eddyville at the north edge. The trail zigzags

through town and reenters the forest on the west edge of Eddyville on the only road going west. It has a dog leg to the right and another quarter mile before you find the trail straight ahead of you.

The Lusk Creek Canyon area within the Lusk Creek Wilderness is some of the most beautiful in the world. In order to see the best of it you must leave the trail in the middle and travel to the north or south when you come to Lusk Creek. By following the contour maps you should be able to see some of the reason why this area is a National Landmark. Indian Kitchen, a great overlook where

nothing man made can be seen, a natural bridge and plenty more for someone who may wish to take more than a day and hike this area. In the central part surrounding the state owned property there is only hiking permitted. The Indian Kitchen is accessed by finding the rock wall which looks like a pile of rocks now and turning right. The first small path leading to the niche in the cliff about 100 feet above the creek is only for the agile and brave.

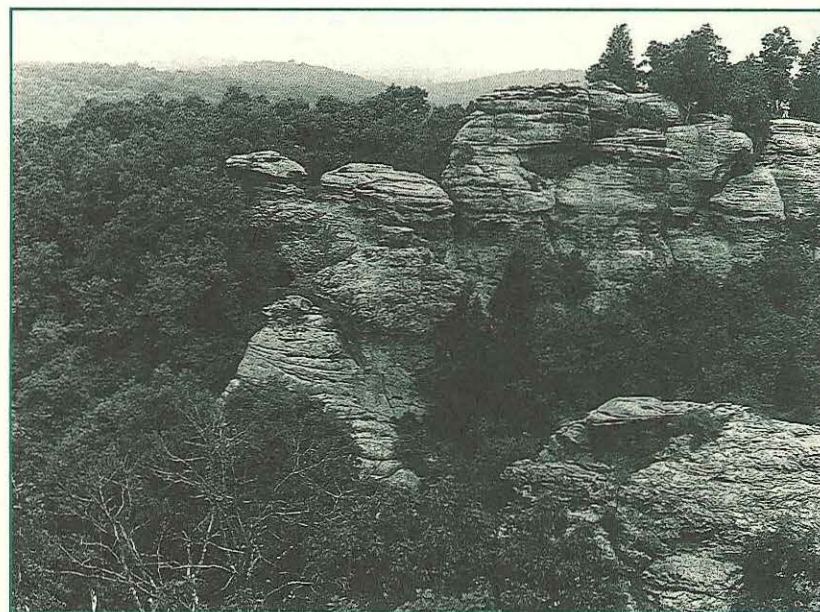
At one point I found an arrowhead in the trail, went down into the creek where there were rock shelters on both side, very tall trees and I watched a beaver swimming in the creek. If you are there during the week days, you are not likely

to see anyone. Leave the artifacts there for others to see.

If you go from the trail to Indian Kitchen then you may wish to take a more direct route from there to Eddyville.

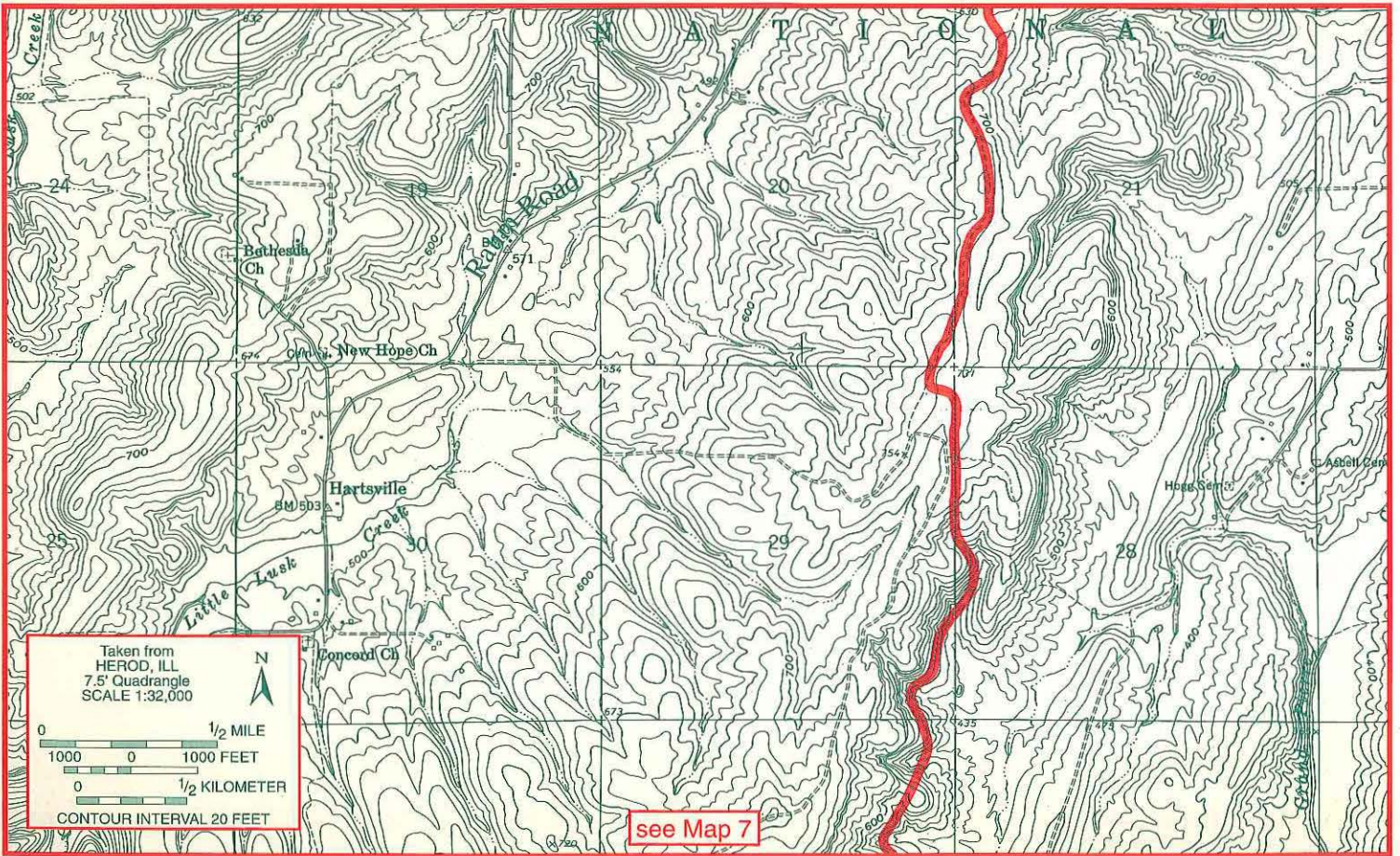
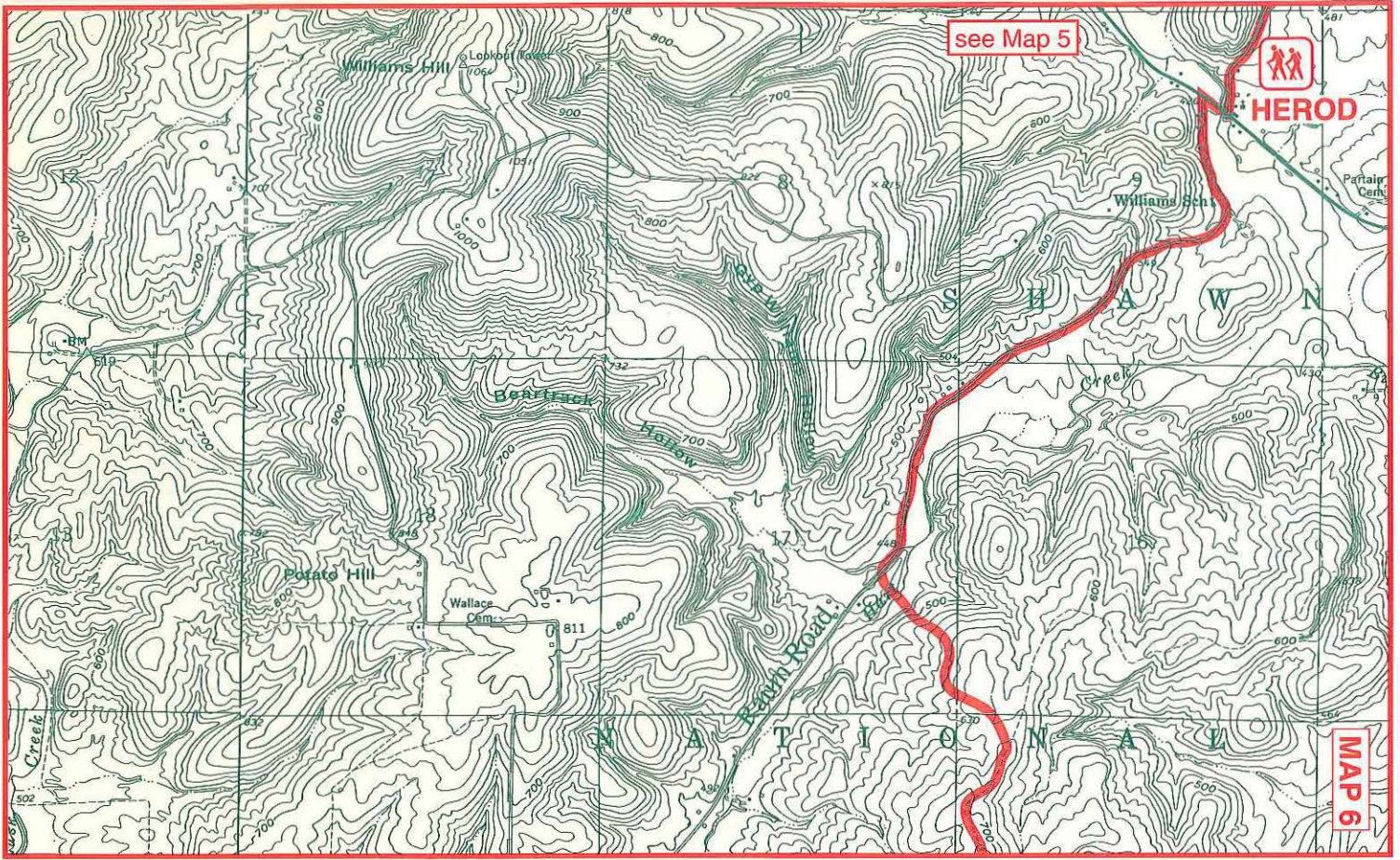
There will be some supplies in Eddyville as well as a post office. If you follow the plain white diamonds from the parking lot you will find first Bear Branch Campground and later Hayes Creek Campground before rejoining the River-to-River Trail on the other side of Eddyville.

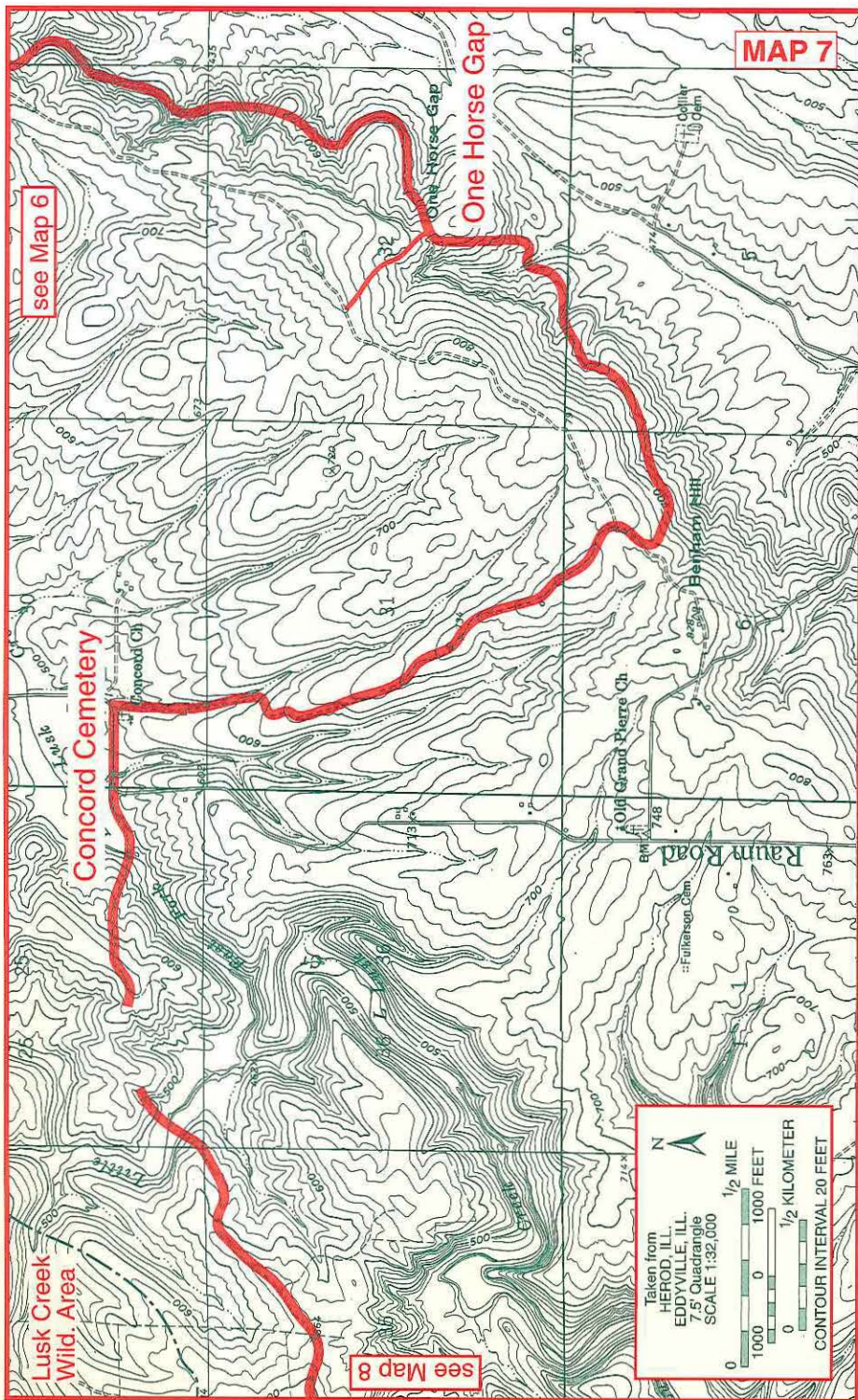
Concord Cemetery to Eddyville is about seven miles, but take two days at least to see this beautiful area.



Jim Balsitis, LCCW.

Camel Rock at Garden of the Gods Recreation Area.





Eddyville to Cedar Grove Church Road Map 9

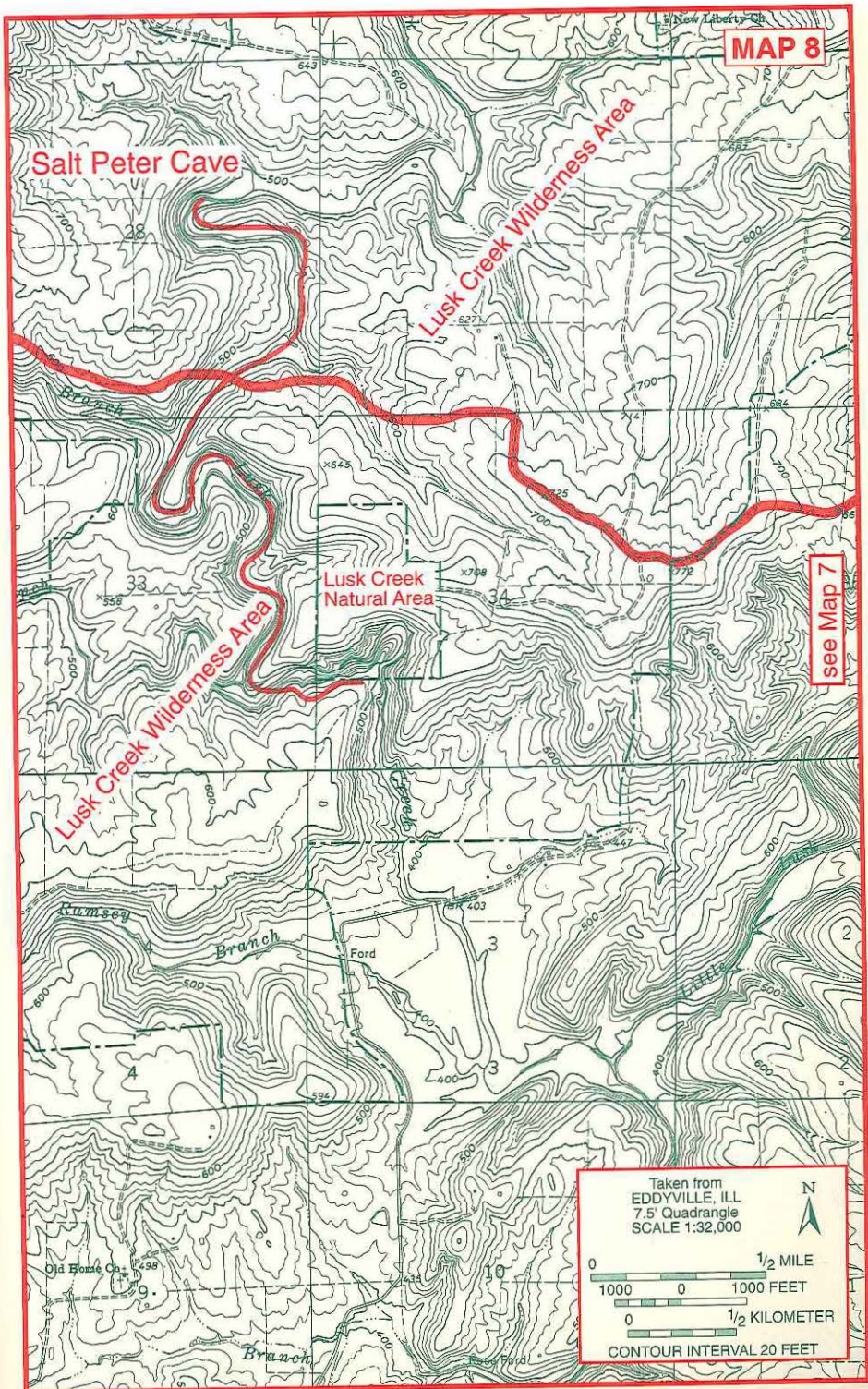
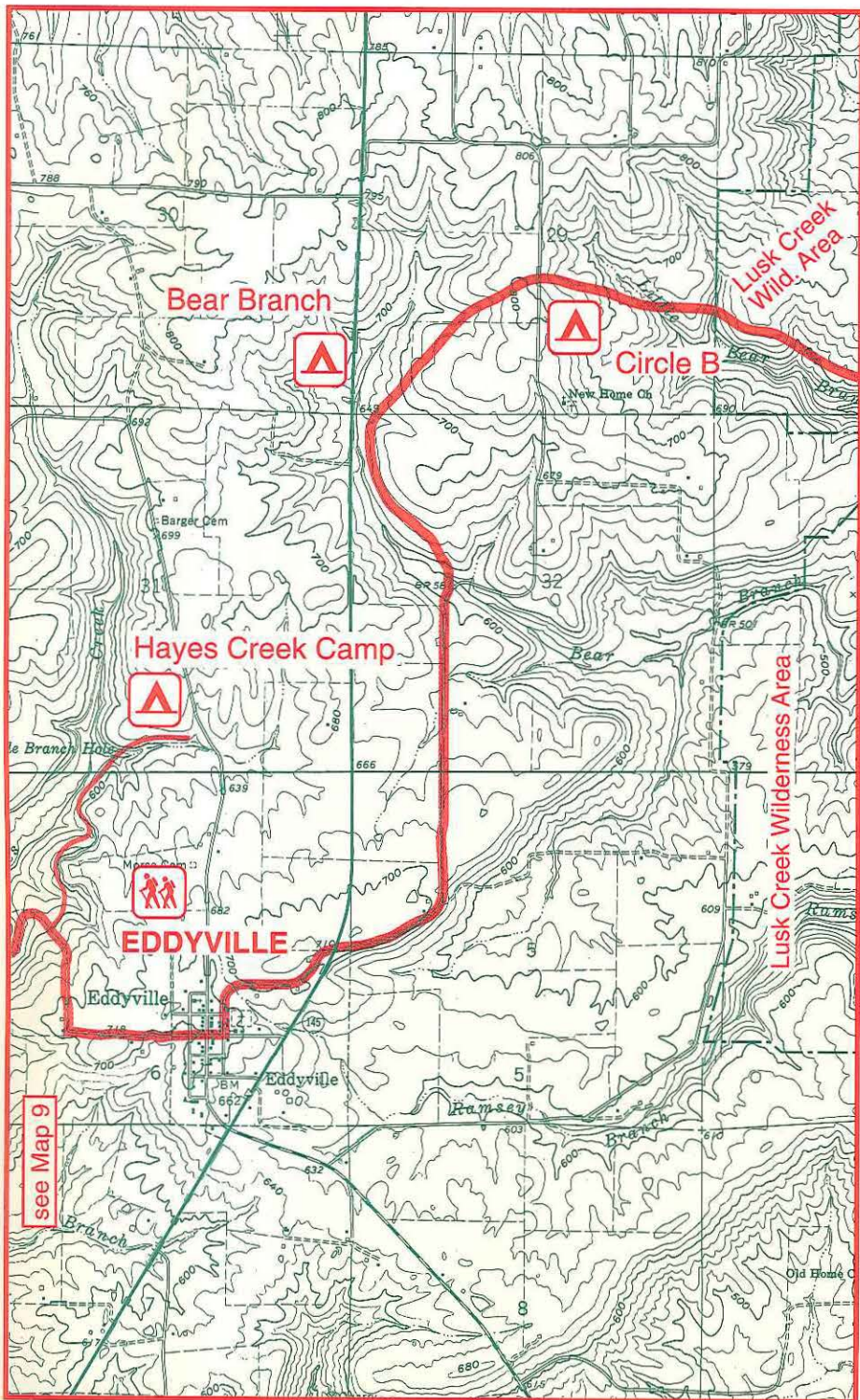
The trail leaves Eddyville on the western edge. Follow the trail through Eddyville to the only road going west and then turn north. The trailhead is about a quarter of a mile. The first trail going north off this trail goes to Hayes Creek Campground or Hayes Creek which has a natural waterslide called Double Branch Hole. Follow the plain diamonds to access Hayes Creek Camp, Jackson Hole and Peter Cave although the latter is on private property. This trail is pretty straight forward and passes through the Crow Knob Natural Area on the western end. Don't miss it. Not too far away is Miller's Cemetery which is all that remains of a community of freed slaves. Their church was burned out so the story goes so they began meeting on top of Crow Knob. Cedar Grove Church Road is another mile. Cedar Grove Road is off Route 147 between Millstone Bluff and the junction of route 145. Proceed north about 2 1/2 miles until you find where the trail comes out of the pines on one side and enters the pines on the other. You will pass Bay Creek Campground on this road.

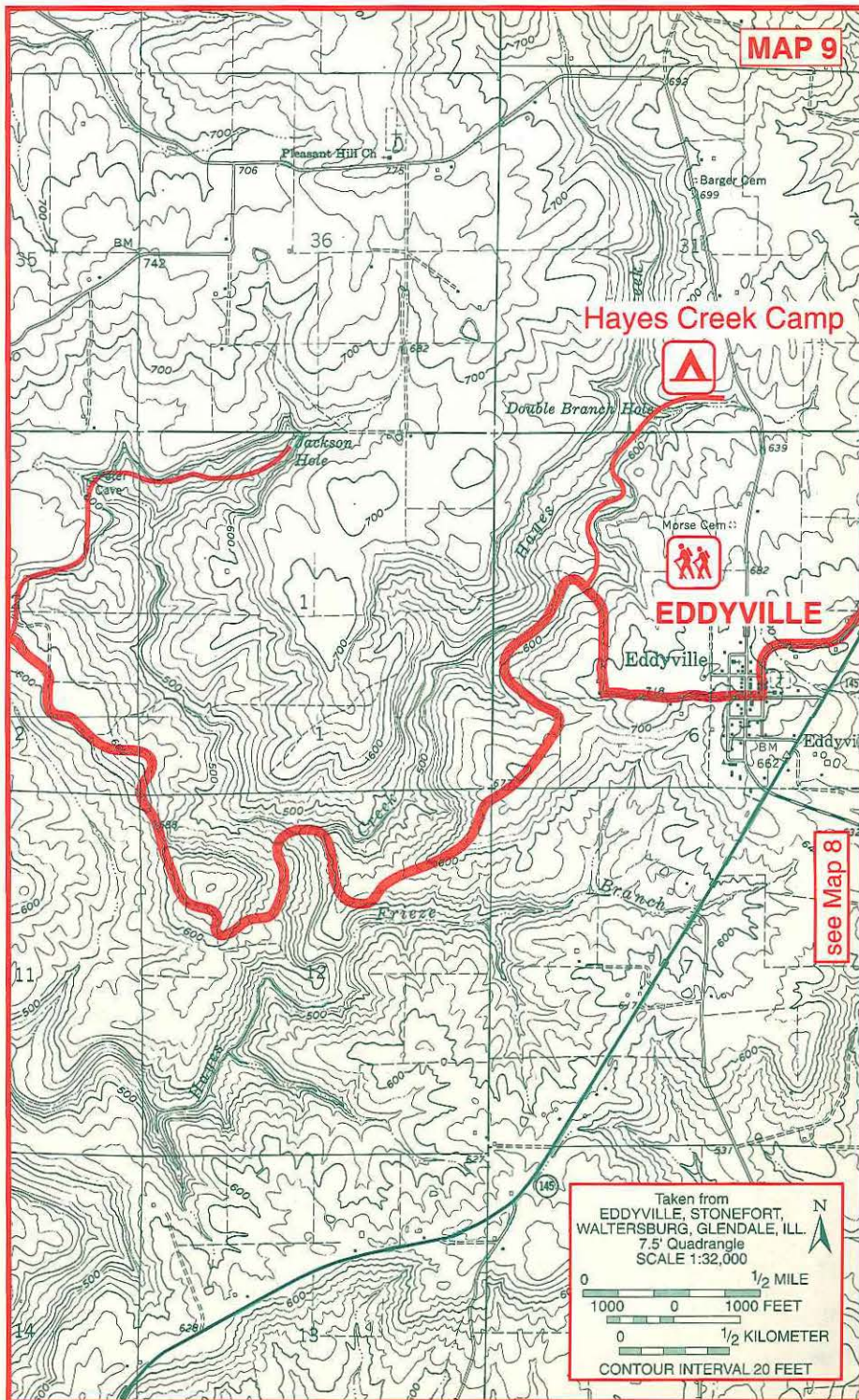
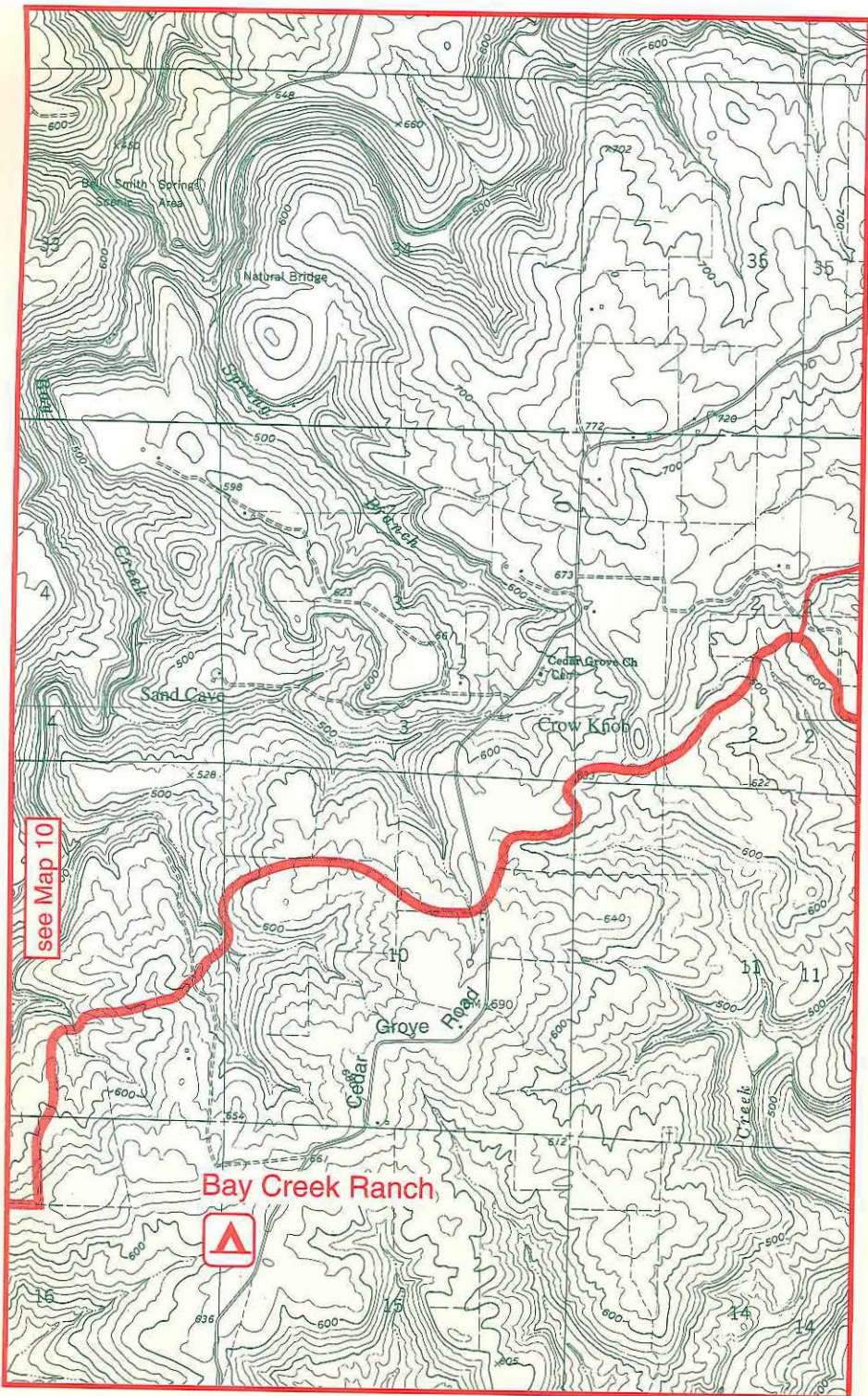
Eddyville to Cedar Grove Road is a short three mile section

and can be made in one day. It would be doubtful that a group could make Trigg Tower in one day however.

Also in this area that is worth seeing is Bell Smith Springs which has a large natural bridge, Sand Cave which is a very large room, Jackson Hollow Railroad Tunnel which is different from Jackson Hole, Burden Falls, and the Millstone Bluff National Historic Site. Millstone Bluff is a very distinctive prominence where millstones were quarried by pioneers, but more importantly, it has been found to be a site where a group of Mississippian Indians lived about a thousand years ago. The Forest Service has made a very good walking tour of the area. The petroglyphs are very unique.







Cedar Grove Church Road to Bay Lake Map 9 and 10

Starting from the intersection of Cedar Grove Road and the trail continue through some second growth timber and pines to the intersection of an old road bed and the trail turns right or to the west. A trail continues straight ahead that leads to Bay Creek Campground. The trail turns back to a ridge that gradually grades downward through old growth forest. You will be able to see Bay Lake through the trees on the right hand as you go. The trail turns away from the lake and then intersects county road 463 and turns to the right. The trail will continue down this road straight ahead, but a road to the right goes to the spillway and dam and other trails leading north from the dam.

Bay Lake is one of those hidden gems. Although it may not be facilitated for swimming, the fishing is reported to be excellent.

To reach county road 463 and intersect the trail, the road lies to the east of Millstone Bluff and west of Cedar Grove Road from Route 147. It is a little difficult to spot at first but it does have a good look at the back of the bluff and the pleasant valley beyond. It is marked by a Pope County highway sign 2.0.

The trail comes out of the woods on the east and proceed up the road for about a half mile until it goes straight toward the railroad tracks and turn right. There is one enormous oval culvert that passes beneath the railroad tracks.



Cliffs edge in the Shawnee Forest near the River-to-River Trail.

Bay Lake to Trigg Tower Road and Trigg Tower Map 10

Starting from County Road 463 the trail and road turns right or north and parallels the railroad track for awhile. After about a mile the trail crosses under the railroad tracks through an oval culvert and then starts up hill. Shortly before getting to Trigg Tower Road you begin seeing some hardwoods then pines. When you cross Trigg Tower Road there will be another excellent trailhead with trailer parking. This would be another starting point to go either direction but would be a long day on horseback and for only ironmen to go to Eddyville. Trigg Tower is about two miles down the trail and then a quarter mile off the trail to the left at the point marked. Trigg Tower has a spectacular view but is a little adventuresome if you go to the top. It is such a good landmark and so pretty that we chose to make the section end here.

Trigg Tower can be reached off Route 147 at Simpson or on the next country road just beyond. Trigg Tower is pretty well marked from all directions.

Jackson Hollow lies just north of Trigg Tower about 1 1/2

miles. Look for a deep cut in the bank that looks like a well worn trail going east off the road easement. This has actually been cut to allow the water to get off the road at this point, and soon turns into a spectacular trail. You can also cross the Bay Lake spillway and follow Map 10. I understand you can go from here to Millstone Bluff but ask at Bay Creek.

From Bay Lake to Trigg Tower is about three miles.



Trigg Tower to Max Creek to Route 45 Map 10, 11, and 12

If a hiker were to leave from Trigg Tower, the trail across the road from the tower will take you to the River-to-River Trail after a short quarter of a mile. The trail is traveling southeast at this point and soon finds its way along a roadbed. After approximately two thirds mile at a connecting dirt road running north, look for the pioneer cemetery in a clearing on the northeast corner. A few minutes after the cemetery in a clearing cross a plank bridge over the west branch of Cedar Creek. Upon reaching the blacktop shortly thereafter, turn left over the concrete bridge. This section of the trail crosses the Simpson blacktop and goes south (left) on the road and over the bridge (the branch of Cedar Creek) for a few yards before turning to the west and going up hill. The trail does a semi-circle at the top of the hill but then continues west and soon comes to some nice rock formations along the valley. The trail turns onto an old road which leads out to the Tunnel Hill-Simpson blacktop right at the top of a curve in about a mile. At this point the trail goes north and south and when you reach the blacktop, Triple T-Cedar Lake Campground will be on the right.

When the blacktop turns east, the traveler continues straight down a smaller road (country road 158) and arcs to the west until it reenters the forest. The first fork to the right goes back to Cedar Lake Campground, but the trail goes on down to cross Max Creek. This part alone is worth the trip.

After crossing Max Creek take the west trail, it winds up a ledge trail that is unique but at the top goes through some feed plots before meeting a small road that leads out to Highway 45. This is the theoretical midpoint of the trail.

Among other features of this area, there are some painted buffalo on cliffs from the Middle Woodland period of early Americans. I have seen one at Gum Springs off country road 90 near the Simpson Blacktop. (This is the West Branch of Cedar Creek at the Double Bridges.) I have heard of another north of the rocks mentioned above.

There are also some nice vistas on the road going to the southeast from Trigg Tower, but the best view is from the tower.

Trigg Tower to Route 45 is about six miles.

Route 45 to Dutchman Lake then Ferne Clyffe Map 12, 13, and 14

The trail crosses Route 45 about four miles north of Vienna and two miles south of Tunnel Hill. There are some radio towers close to the road and power lines going to the northwest. The trail turns right (north) for one mile or until you see the post in the ground indicating a left or westward turn. Proceed down this lane for about a mile and a half until you find the railroad bed. The railroad bed is a Department of Conservation Rails-to-Trails project. The River-to-River Trail does a small zag to the left and then continues across the spillway of Little Cache Lake. The trail directly across the rail bed goes to the right to the lakeside...and what appears to be a good stopping spot. These are lakes that the source of the Cache River.

Shortly after crossing the railroad bed, the trail will cross Cache Lake no. 1 along the dam. After passing through about a half mile of woods the trail finds its way along a roadbed, turns left at the blacktop, and proceeds west under Interstate I 24. At the "T" there is a dogleg to the left and enters some old growth forest. At the end of the woods the trail crosses Dutchman

Lake Dam and goes up through some woods to another road that will emerge on blacktop going north that goes to Route 37 and continues north.

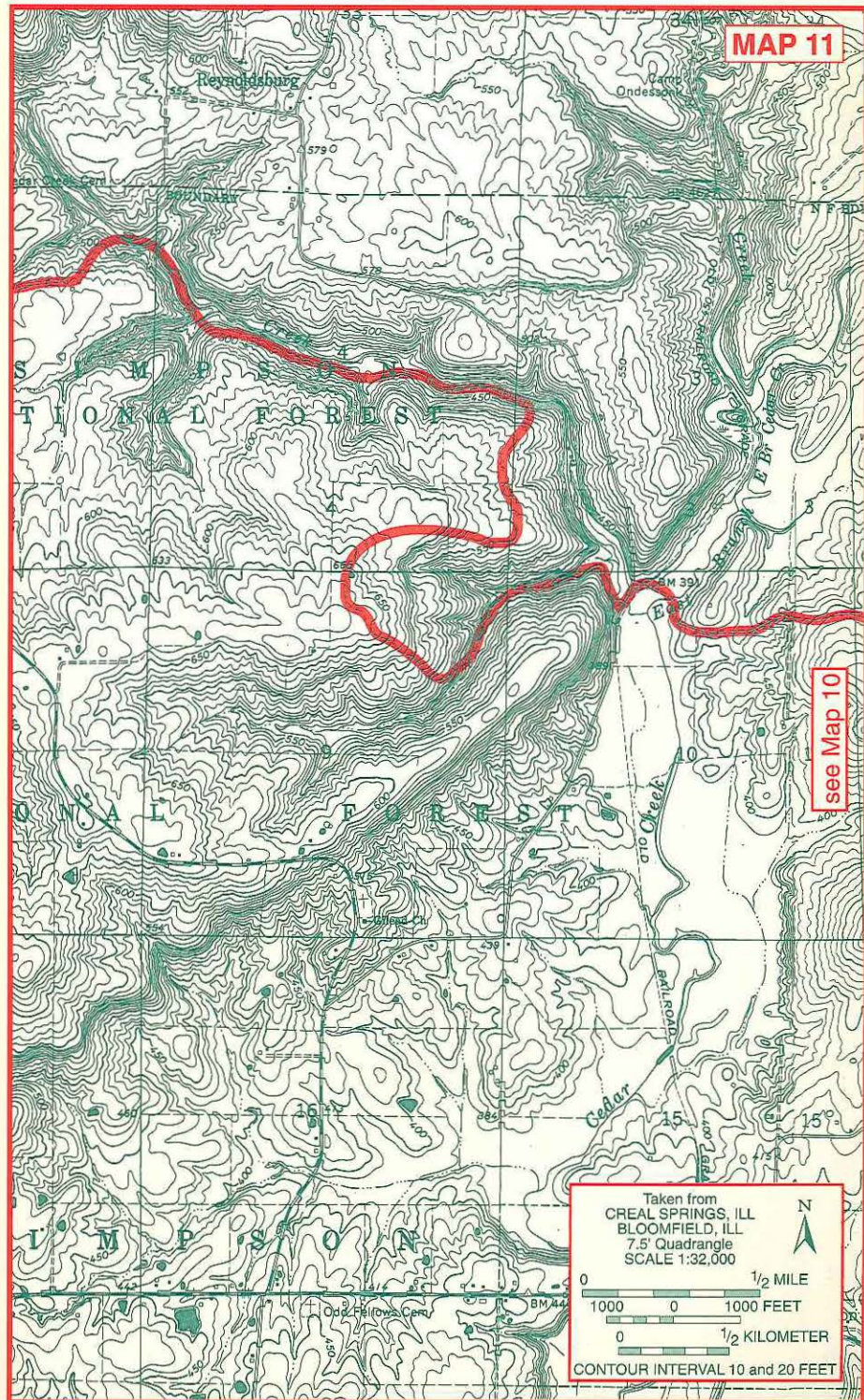
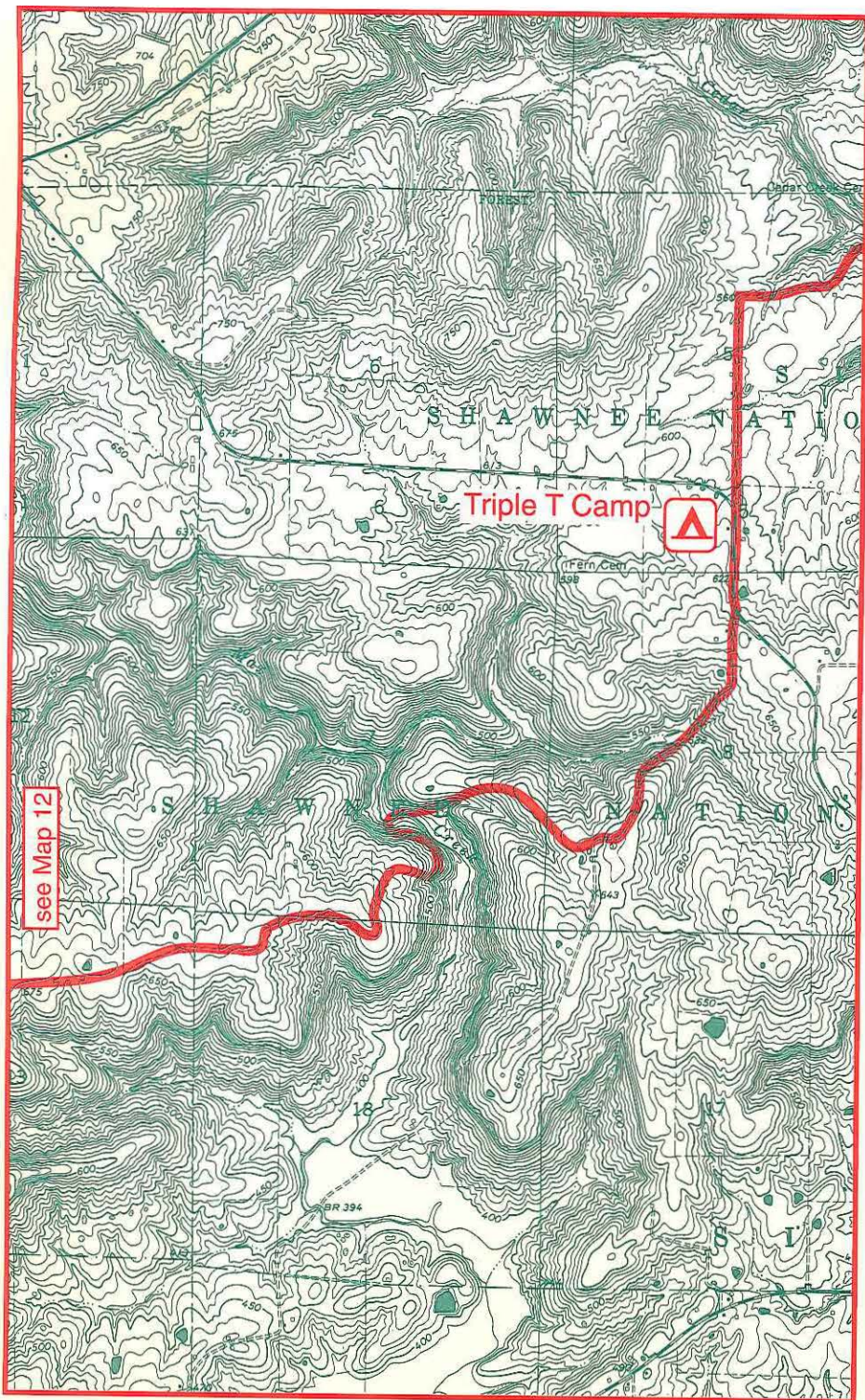
The trail will turn west off Route 37 shortly before getting to Ferne Clyffe State Park. Proceed west for about a mile until arriving at a parking lot and follow the signs north.

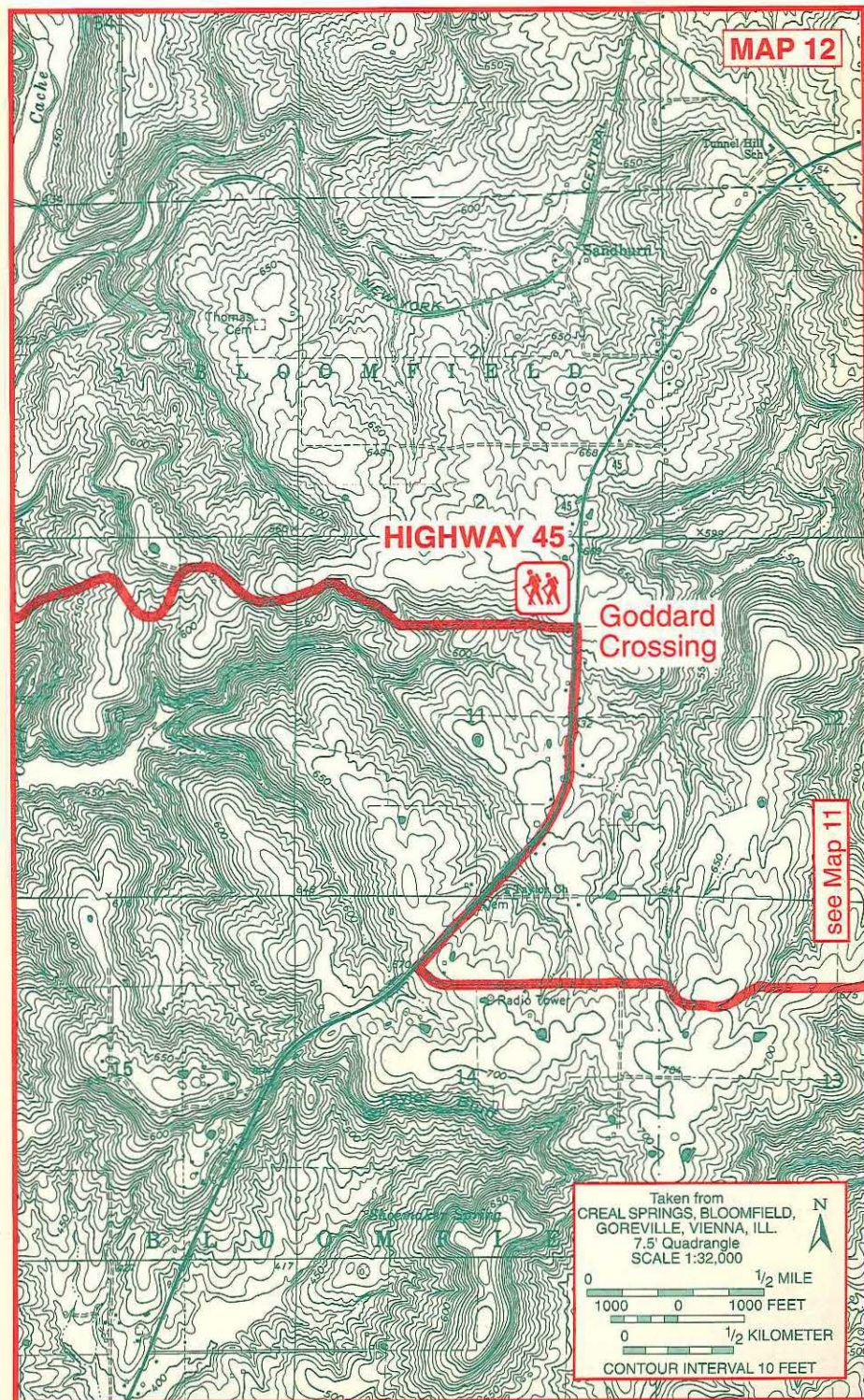
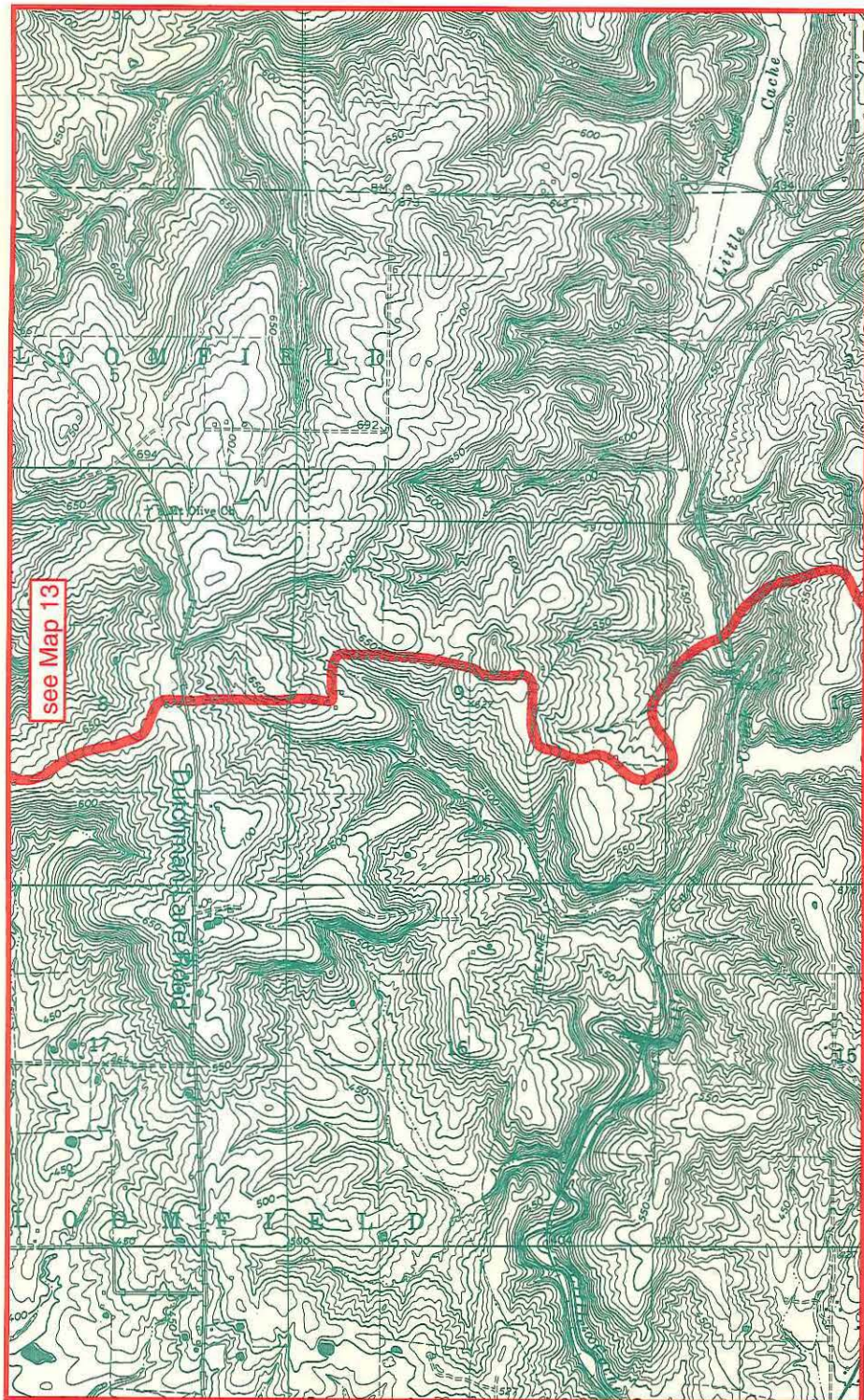
The Cache Lakes are another hidden treasure. The trellis going over the Cache at this point is the highest in the state that crosses a body of water at about 75 feet. The canyons here are very steep and very pretty.

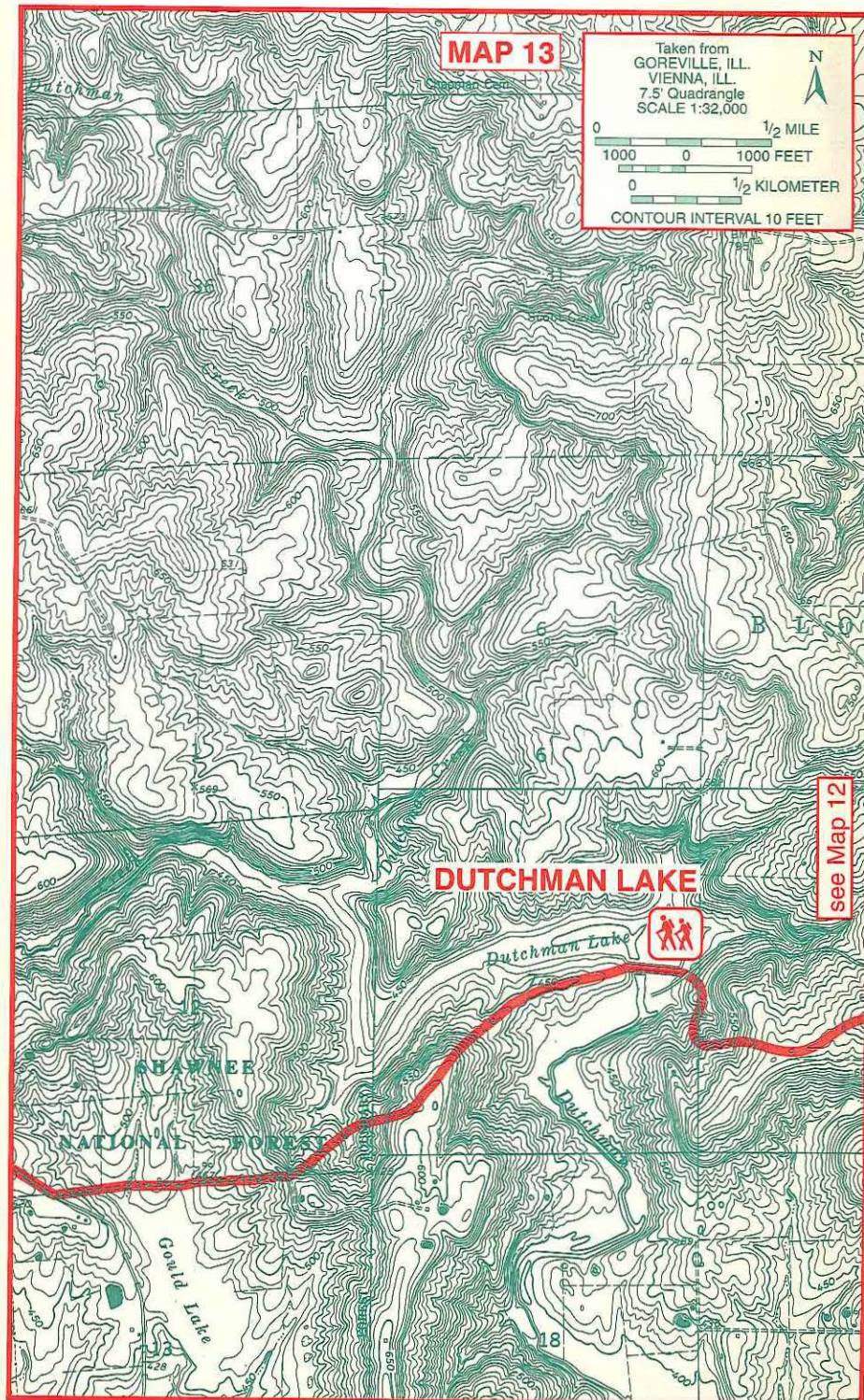
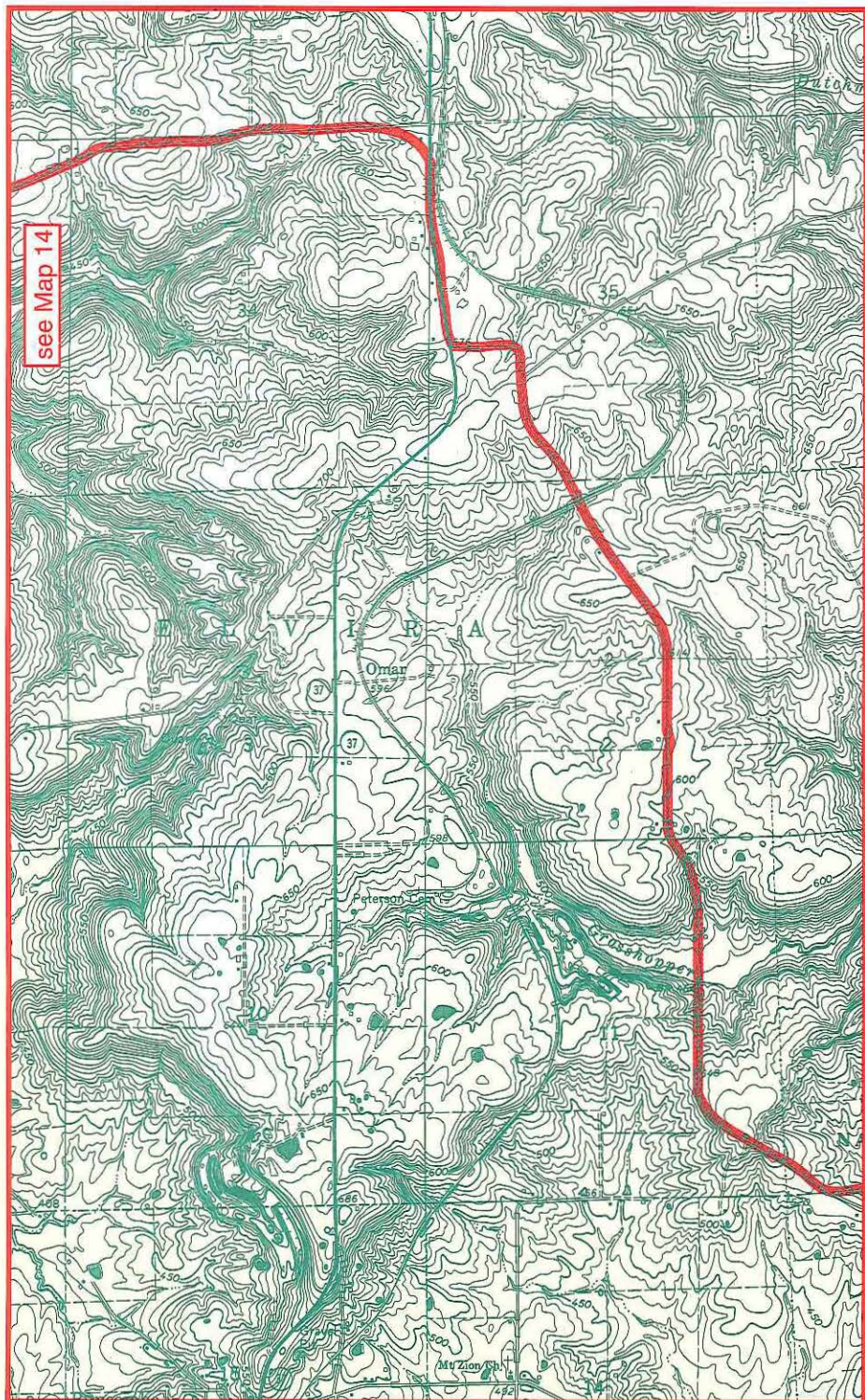
At the spillway of Dutchman Lake there is a grove of trees that has a spring coming out of the bluff. This has been named Livesay Spring for Darrel Livesay, the person who opened the trail in this description.

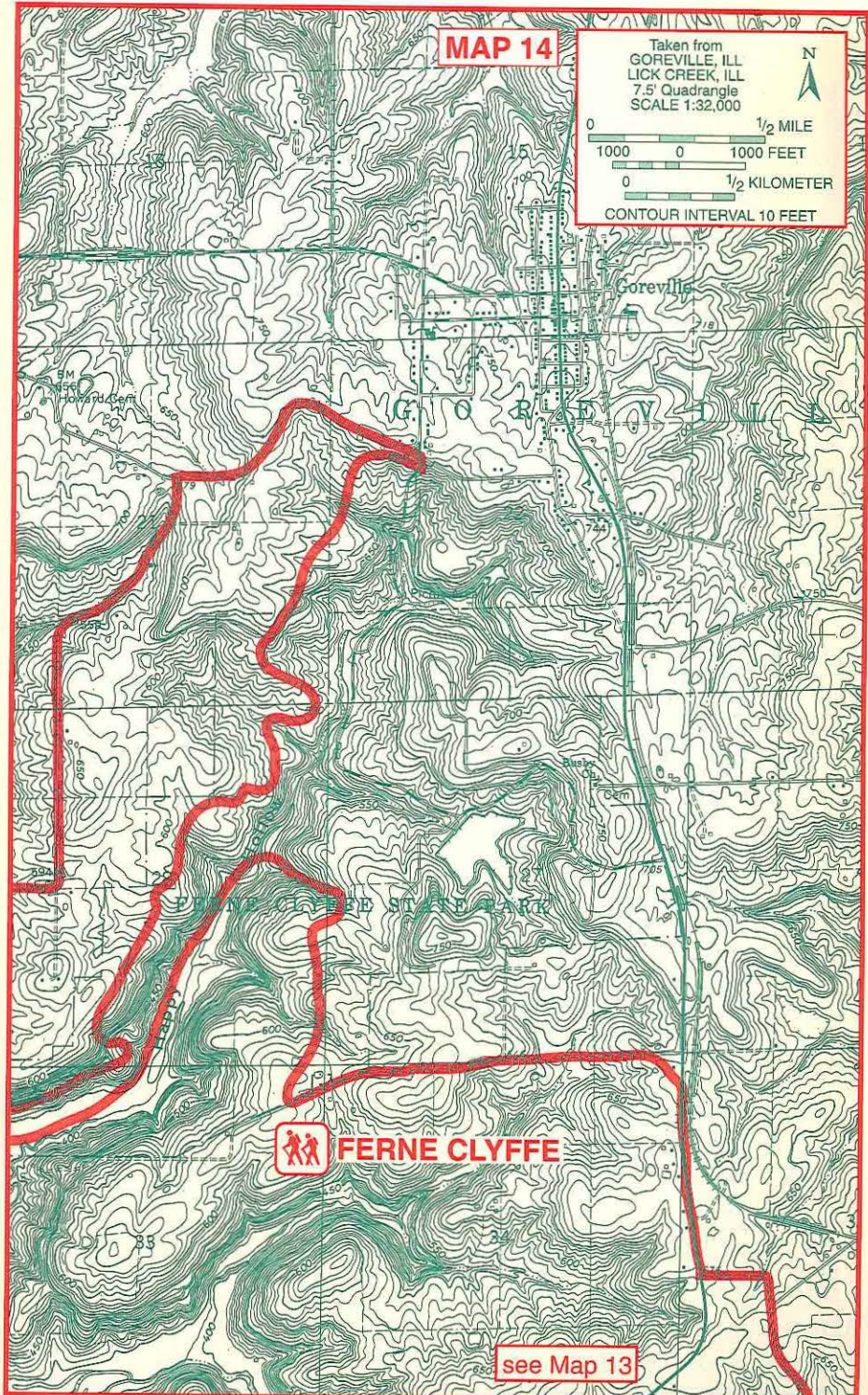
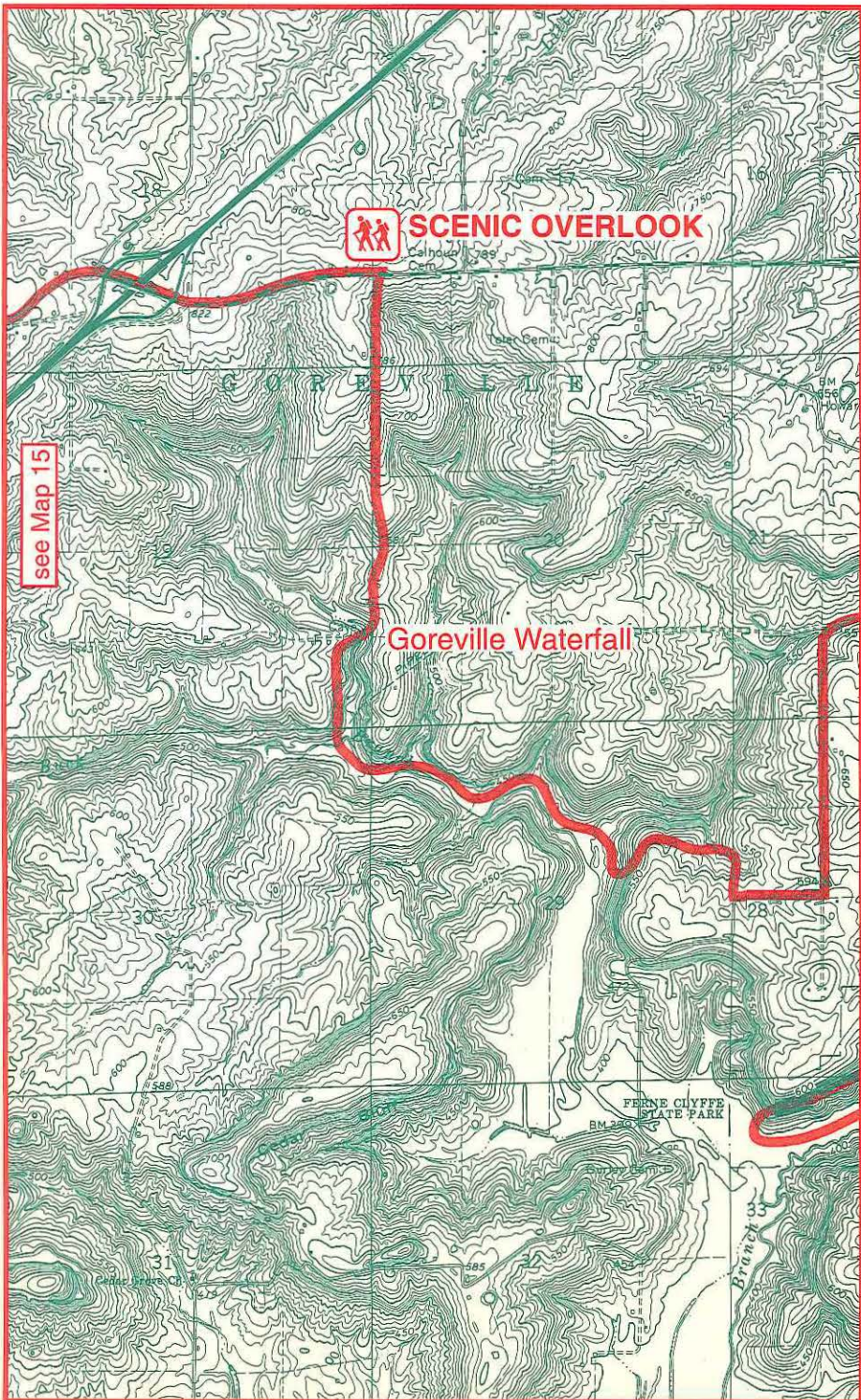
Ferne Clyffe State Park is closed to horses between October and April but remains open to hikers. Mountain bikes are also excluded.

From Route 45 to Ferne Clyffe is about seven miles.









Ferne Clyffe through Panther Den to Giant City

Map 14, 15, 16, and 17

Don Monty

The trail enters Ferne Clyffe State Park at a parking lot on the north side of Rebman Road, which is the first road south of the main entrance a little over a mile west of Illinois Route 37. The trail proceeds north past the horse campground in the park and turns back to the west descending into Happy Hollow. The trail then follows Happy Hollow to the south and west before turning back to the north on a bluff above Happy Hollow. As the trail passes along the bluff there is a natural bridge. Towards the north end of the park, the trail passes within a quarter mile west of a huge rock shelter called Hawkes Cave which is a definite must see. The River-to-River Trail through Ferne Clyffe State Park is about six miles long and exits the park at the southwest corner of the village of Goreville. (There may be a short cut called Sullivan's Crossing available at the end of Happy Hollow that takes you directly to the east to west blacktop before turning right. The trail turns to the west along Ferne Clyffe Street, a blacktop road which changes name to Sullivan Road. After about a mile the trail turns south on Happy Hollow Road which proceeds generally to the south and west. At a sharp turn where

Happy Hollow Road turns back to the south, the trail turns north into the Cedar Bluff/Draper Bluff Hunting Area through a small gravel parking lot. The trail passes generally to the north and west for about two miles through the hunting area before exiting through a small gravel parking lot onto a gravel road. (For a worthwhile side trip take the gravel road west and then south to Cedar Church near where there are trails that will take you to the top of Chimney Rock and Drapers Bluff.) To continue on the trail turn right and cross through a stream bed as the road turns north. This stream bed passes over a cliff as a waterfall with a large rock shelter below the road. The waterfall is only a few feet from the edge of the road, so be careful! The road continues to the north where it "T"s with the Goreville Blacktop. Once the River-to-River Trail reaches the Goreville Blacktop, it turns west or left past the scenic overlook (just off Interstate 57) and continues east across the interstate to the next "T" intersection where it turns to the north or right. Just prior to this turn there is a great view to the southeast. After going north for about a half mile on the road you turn west or left onto Mt. Hebron Road. After about a half mile you

pass Mt. Hebron Church and the road turns into gravel. After about another one and one-quarter miles you see some radio antennas and a road to the right, Wayside Lane. This is Wayside.

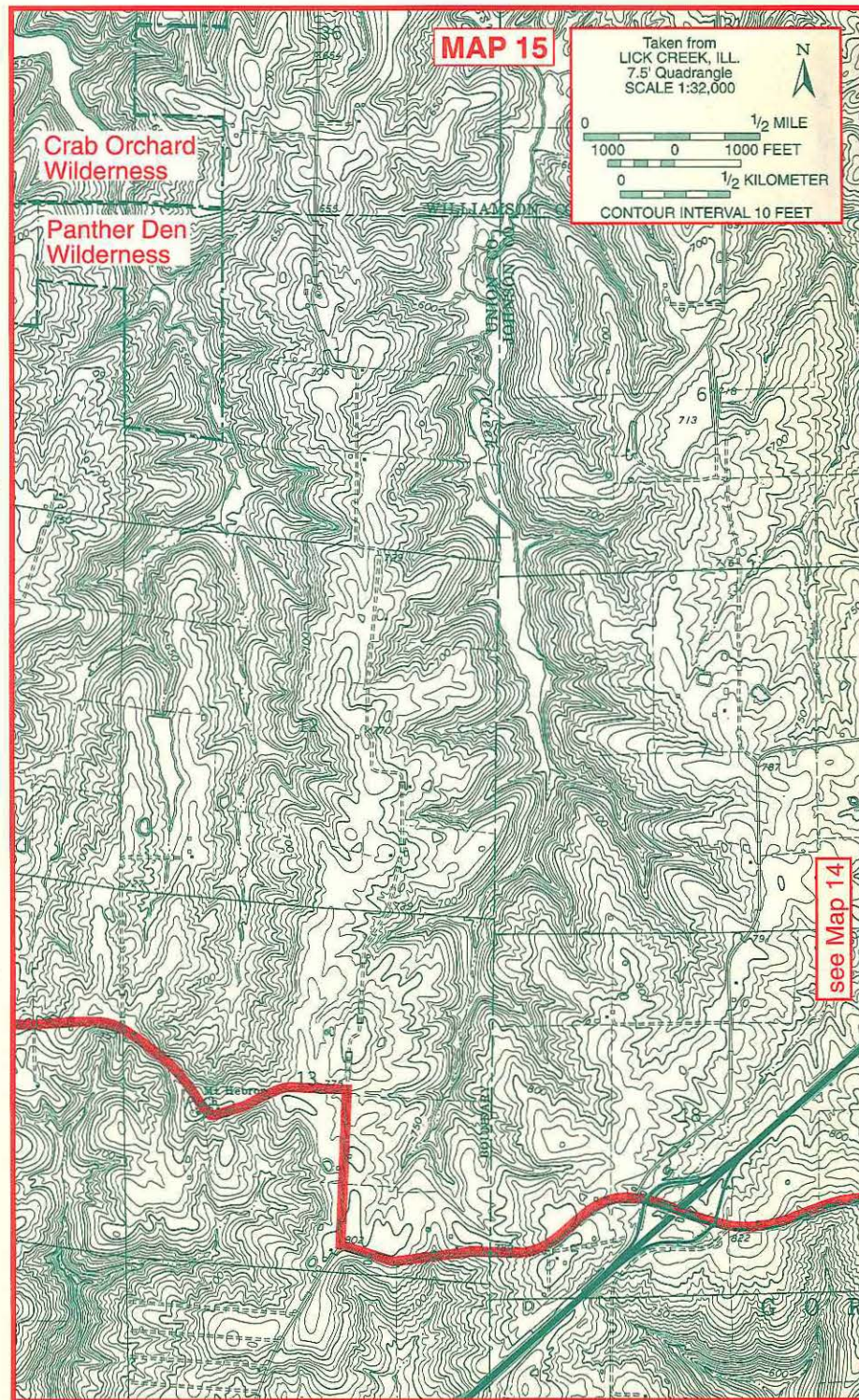
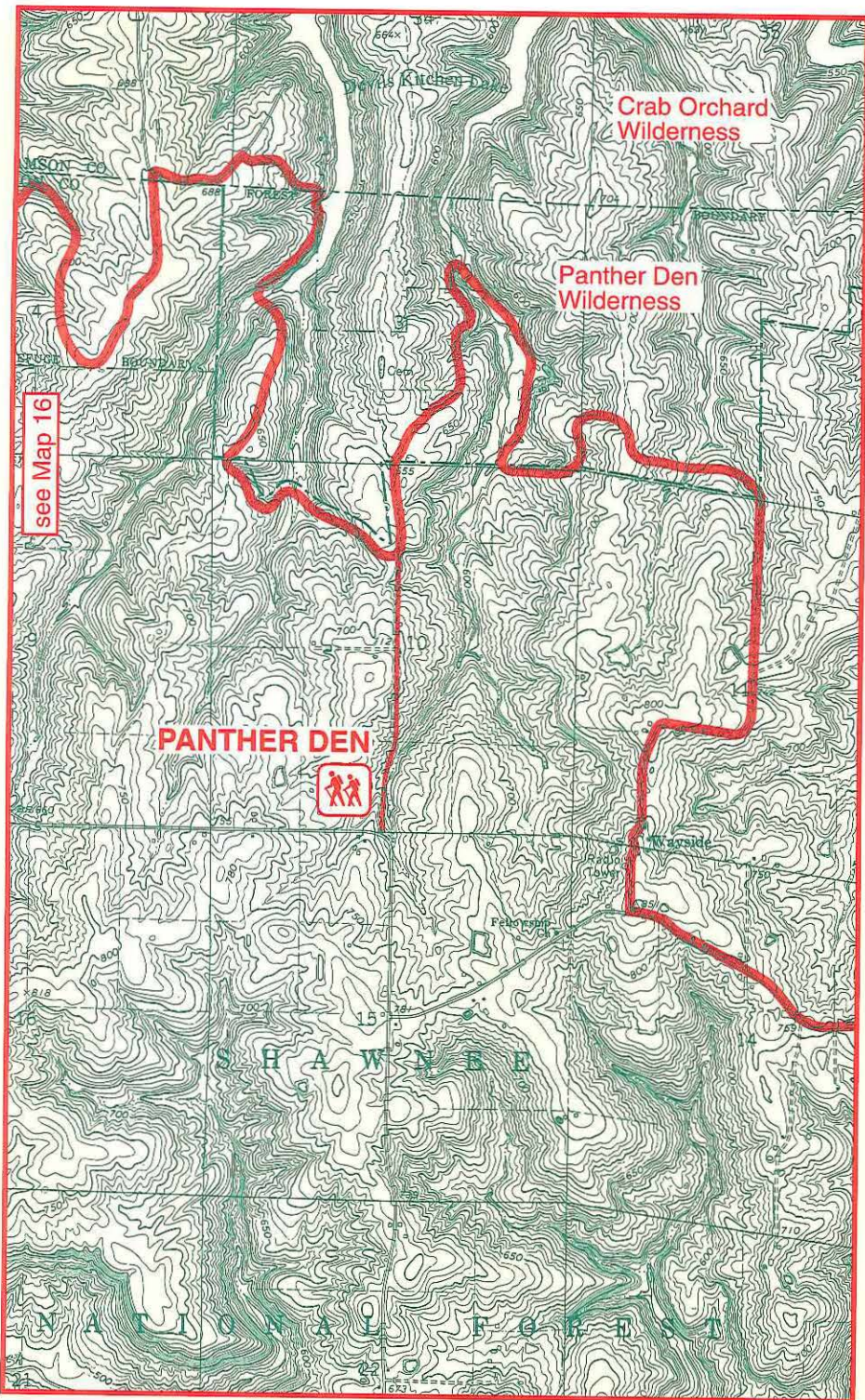
The trail turns right and follows Wayside Lane to the north past the antennas and a couple farm houses for about a mile to a place where the gravel road goes to the northeast (right). At this point the trail as marked continues straight north on an over grown roadbed. After about a half mile the trail enters the Panther Den Wilderness and turns to the left (west) and wanders through some average growth. The trail descends into a stream valley and turns to the right (north). Soon you are at a spot that is incredible! Panther Den actually is a niche under one of the huge blocks of rocks. At Panther Den and to the north along the creek there are some camping spots. Near the south tip of an arm of Devils Kitchen Lake the trail climbs a hill and turns back to the south. After about three quarters of a mile there is an intersection. If you keep going south in about three-quarters of a mile you come to a parking lot and a gravel road. This segment is marked as a spur trail. If you do not proceed to the south to this parking lot, the trail proceeds west towards Rocky Comfort Road. This is a major north-south oil and chip road.

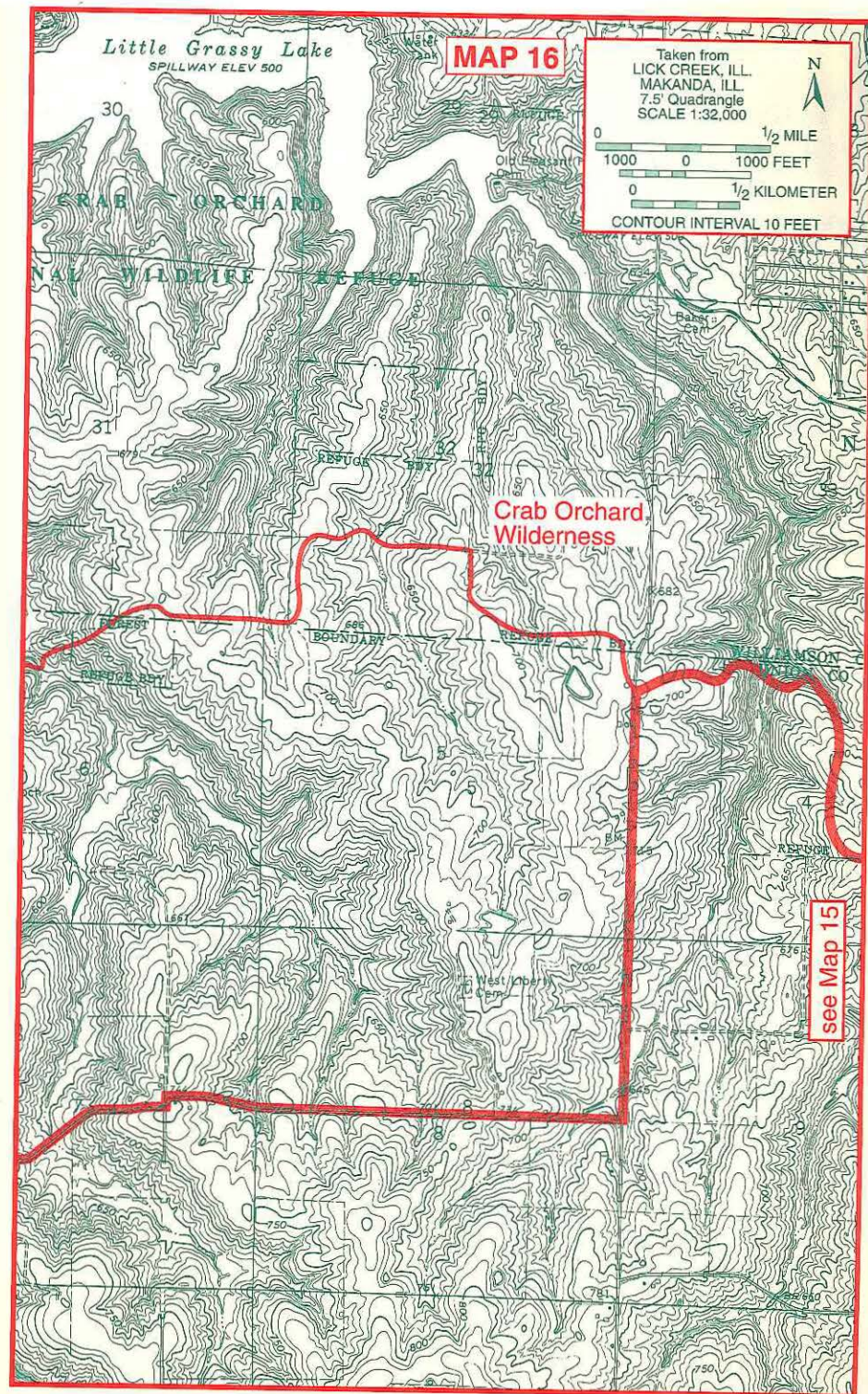
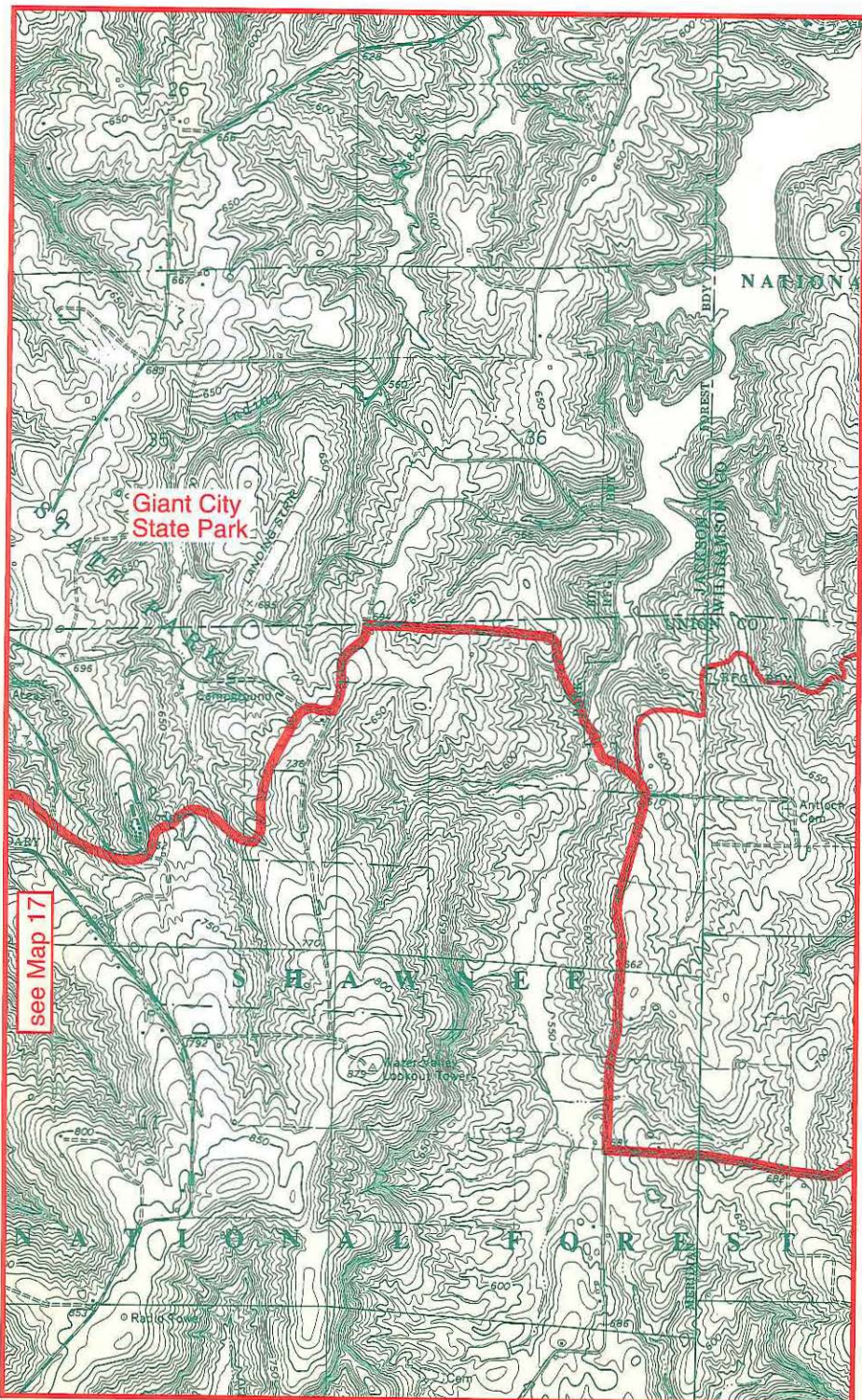
The official trail turns south to the intersection of a road one and

one-half miles south of the Williamson/Union County line and turns west along this oil and chip surfaced road for about two and one-quarter miles to a "T" intersection. At this intersection, the trail turns north on a gravel road towards Antioch Cemetery. After a mile, the trail leaves the road at a sharp bend and proceeds northwest into Giant City State Park. (However, it is expected this segment from Rocky Comfort to Giant City will change so watch carefully for the trail marking signs. You may wish to consider user made equestrian trails that appear shortly after turning on Rocky Comfort Road as a short cut to Antioch Cemetery and Giant City and an opportunity to stay off road.

The trail goes through Giant City on the lower equestrian trail.

Access Panther Den by car by exiting I-57 at Exit 40 and go west to the first "T", turn right, then left going past Mt. Hebron Church and past the turn to Wayside Lane, and then in about three quarters of a mile turn north for another mile where the road turns west at the Panther Den Wilderness Area parking area which is marked by a sign. Panther Den is about two miles to the north. Access from Carbondale is via Giant City Road south to Grassy Lake Road, east to Rocky Comfort Road, south on Rocky Comfort Road, and then east on Panther Den Road to the Panther Den parking area.





Giant City to Cedar Lake to Bald Knob Cross Blacktop Map 17 and 18

The trail leaves Giant City on the west side exiting onto a blacktop road about a half mile from Makanda. At Makanda it crosses the railroad tracks and goes straight ahead through an alley and up the hill. This leg will take you the back way and the safer way to Highway 51. After crossing the blacktop road you will continue down the lane until the trail turns into a field. This is about a quarter mile to Route 51. After crossing at the Presley Tours building, continue on the blacktop for about a mile and turn left at the first road, go a quarter mile and turn south on the road leading to Lirley Cemetery. After passing the cemetery on the left, the trail entrance to Forest Service land will be on the right (west). The trail travels on the south side of Cedar Lake to its point of departure almost three miles after turning onto Forest Service land. This road will go directly south to Alto Pass.

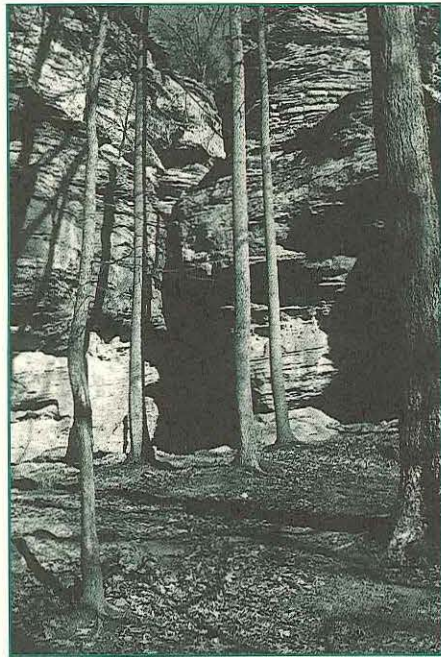
The Road will become named Possum Trot Road and passes the water treatment plant on the right hand and then proceeds into downtown Alto Pass. After crossing Main Street the trail goes up the street and becomes Bald

Knob Blacktop Road and passes over route 127.

Cedar Lake is a very pretty lake and has some very nice facilities and some extra hiking. It is reported the natives sometimes go naked in this vicinity.

Makanda is a nice little town waiting for its day in the sun, desiring to be known for more than home to Senator Paul Simon.

Distance through Giant City is about five miles. The Distance from Giant City to the point of departure from Cedar Lake is about six miles.



Giant City State Park.

Alto Pass / Bald Knob Blacktop to Pine Hills / Clear Springs Map 18 and 19

Alto Pass is a beautiful little mountain town with antique shops and great views. It can be accessed by Illinois Route 127. The River-to-River Trail runs to the southernmost end of Cedar Lake and leaves on a southbound road (Possum Trot Road) that turns into Cedar as it enters Alto Pass then crosses Main Street and connects to Chestnut street which turns into Bald Knob Blacktop at the edge of town. Take this road west for about 3/4 miles on which the trail leaves the blacktop at Collins Cemetery and goes off road for about a mile and then rejoins the blacktop for another mile until at a curve going to the top, the Godwin Trail goes off to the right or west. Take the Godwin Trail for two miles, cross Hutchins Creek and do a dogleg left for about 200 yards and turn west up-up-up. When you get to the ridge top, this will turn out to be a single trail with sinkholes on either side for about 2 1/2 miles. You are actually going from Bald Knob Wilderness to Pine Hills National Natural Landmark and the trail comes out on a blacktop road at the entrance to Clear Springs Wilderness. Three special natural areas on this section alone.

Turn north on the blacktop and go downhill until the intersection of the next blacktop and turn left (south) until you reach Winters Pond. The rock outcroppings above you are much photographed and yes this is the road at the base of the bluff that is closed in season for the migrating reptiles.

The blacktop road comes up from the levee road from Route 3 and has many nice vistas overlooking the Mississippi Valley and the bayou...truly wonderful.



Giant City to Cedar Lake to Bald Knob Cross Blacktop Map 17 and 18

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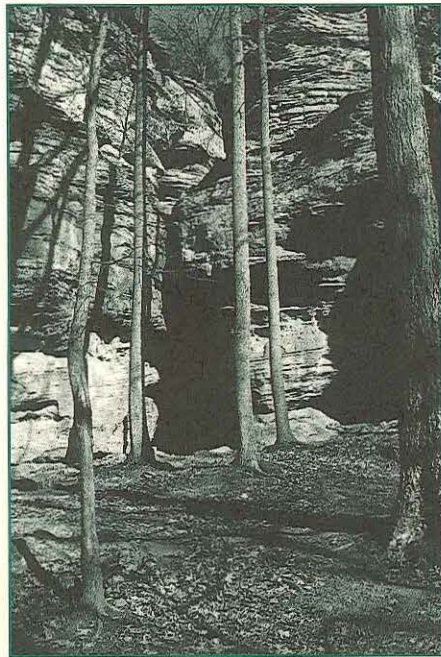
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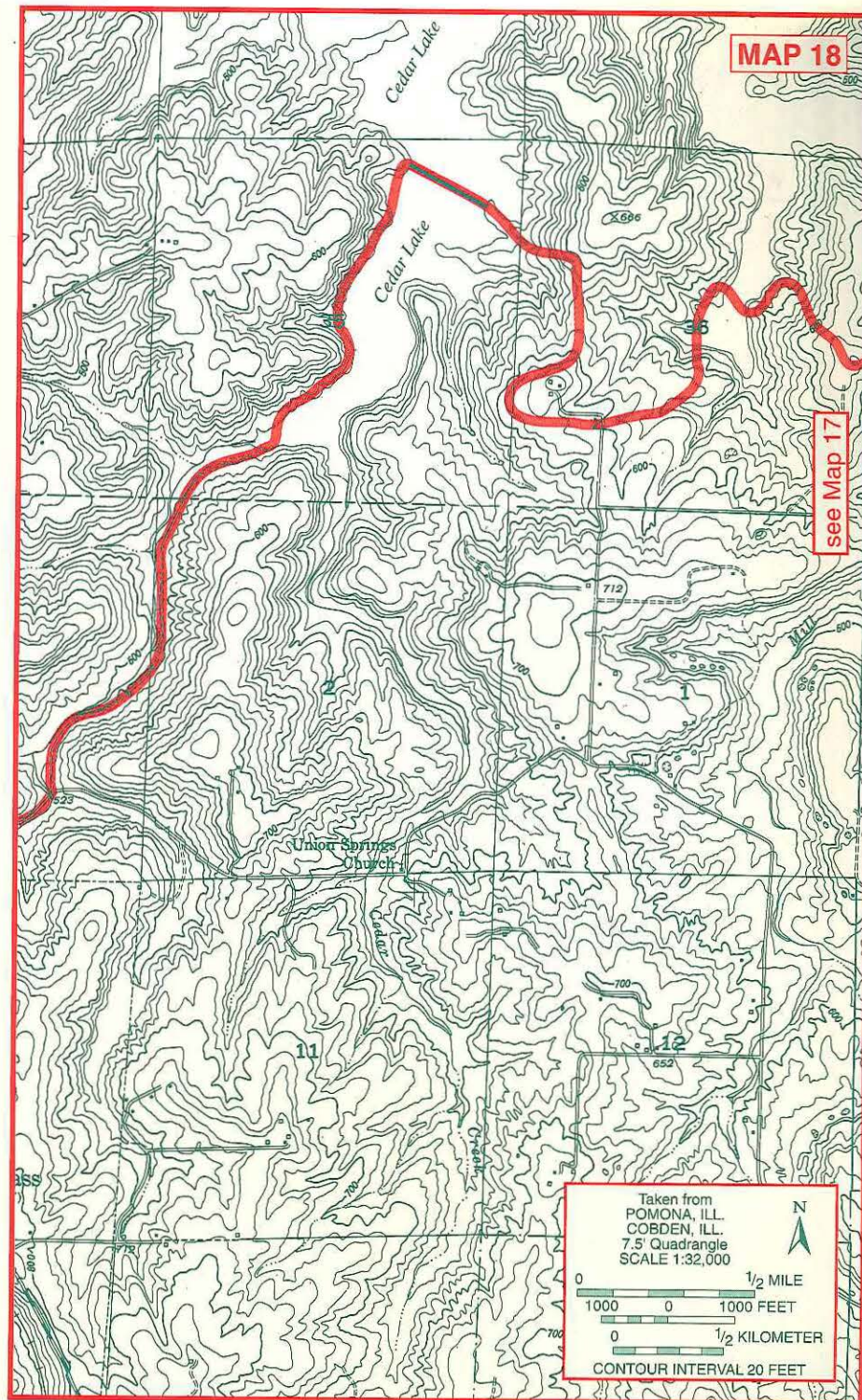
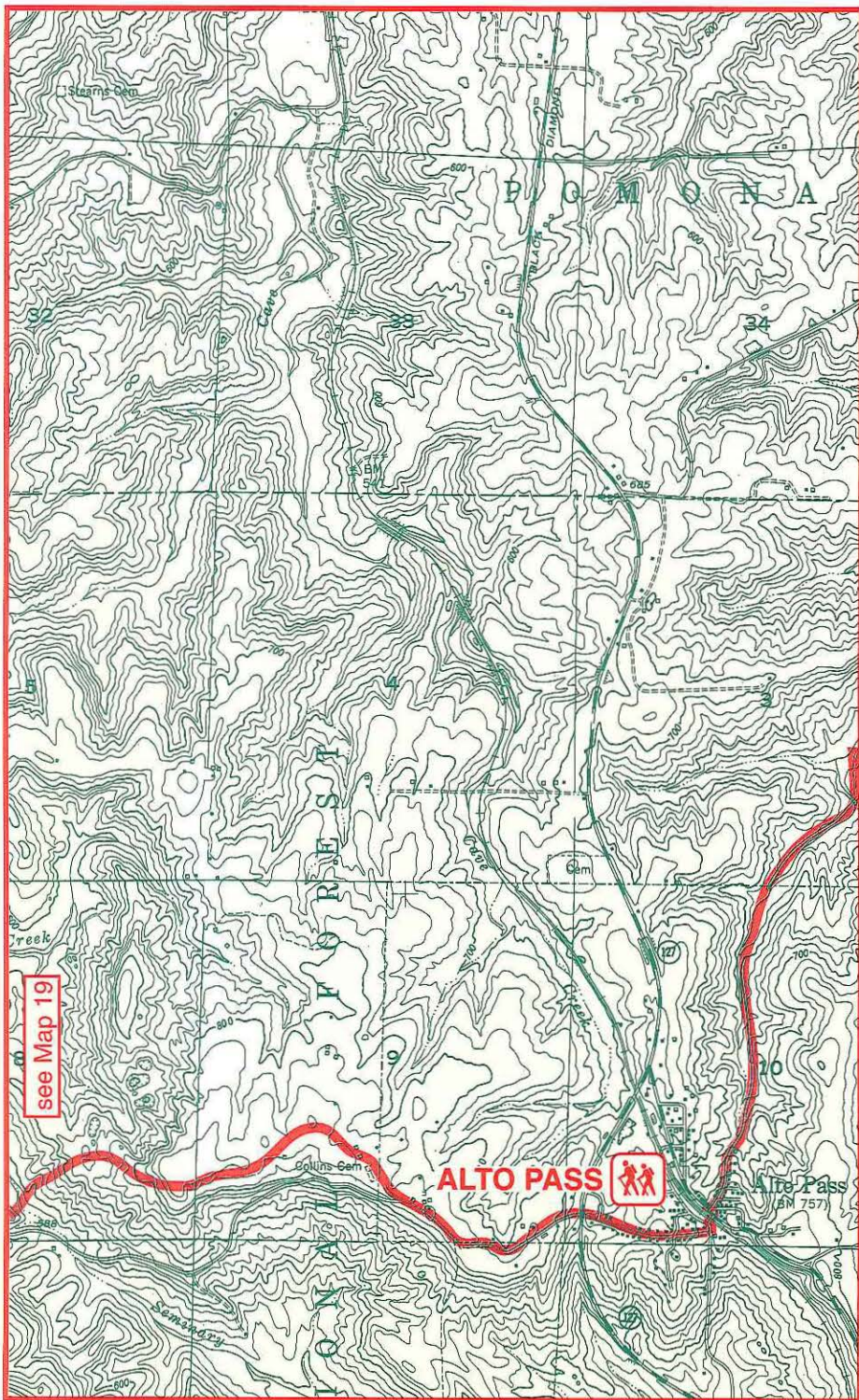
Alto Pass / Bald Knob Blacktop to Pine Hills / Clear Springs Map 18 and 19

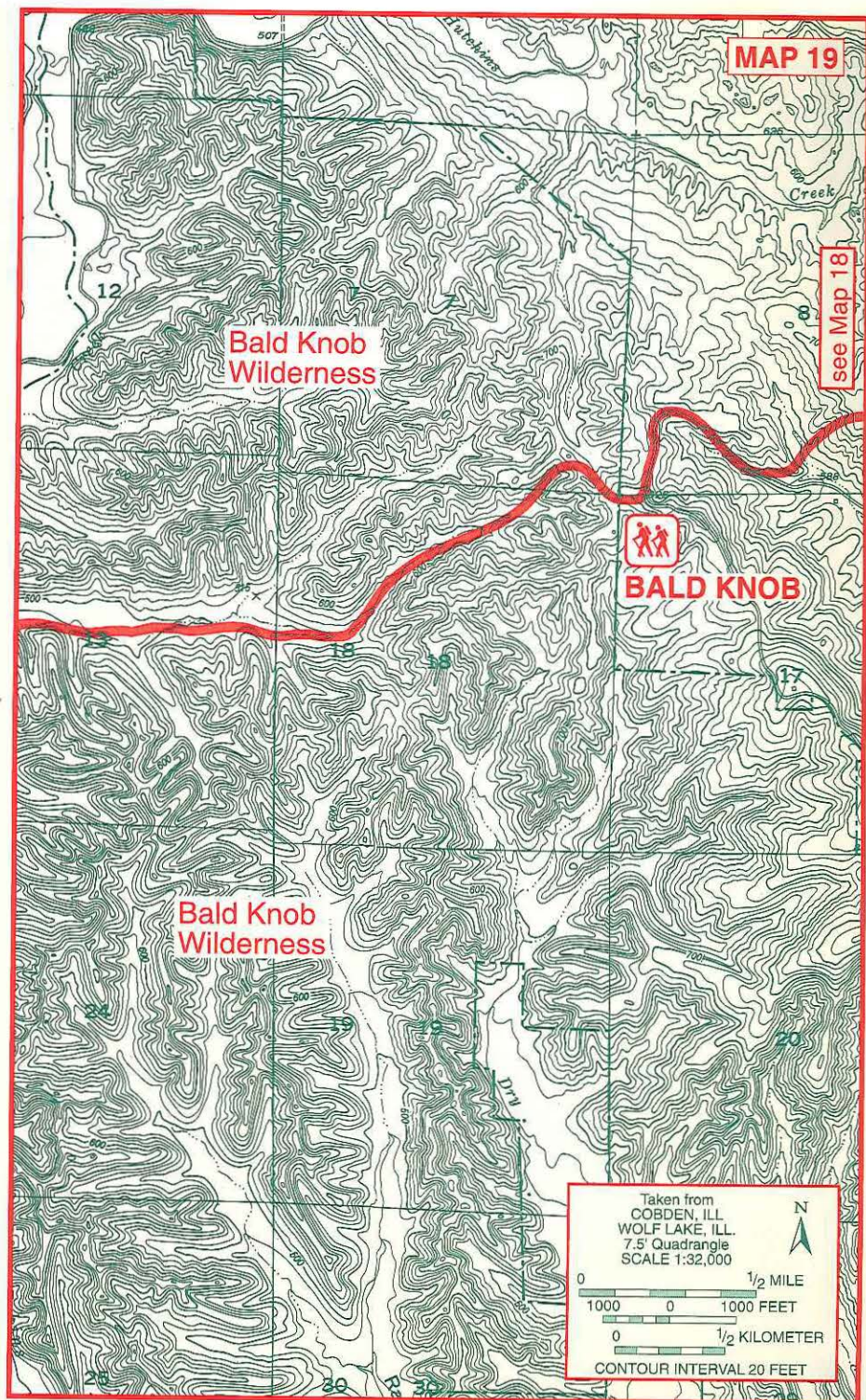
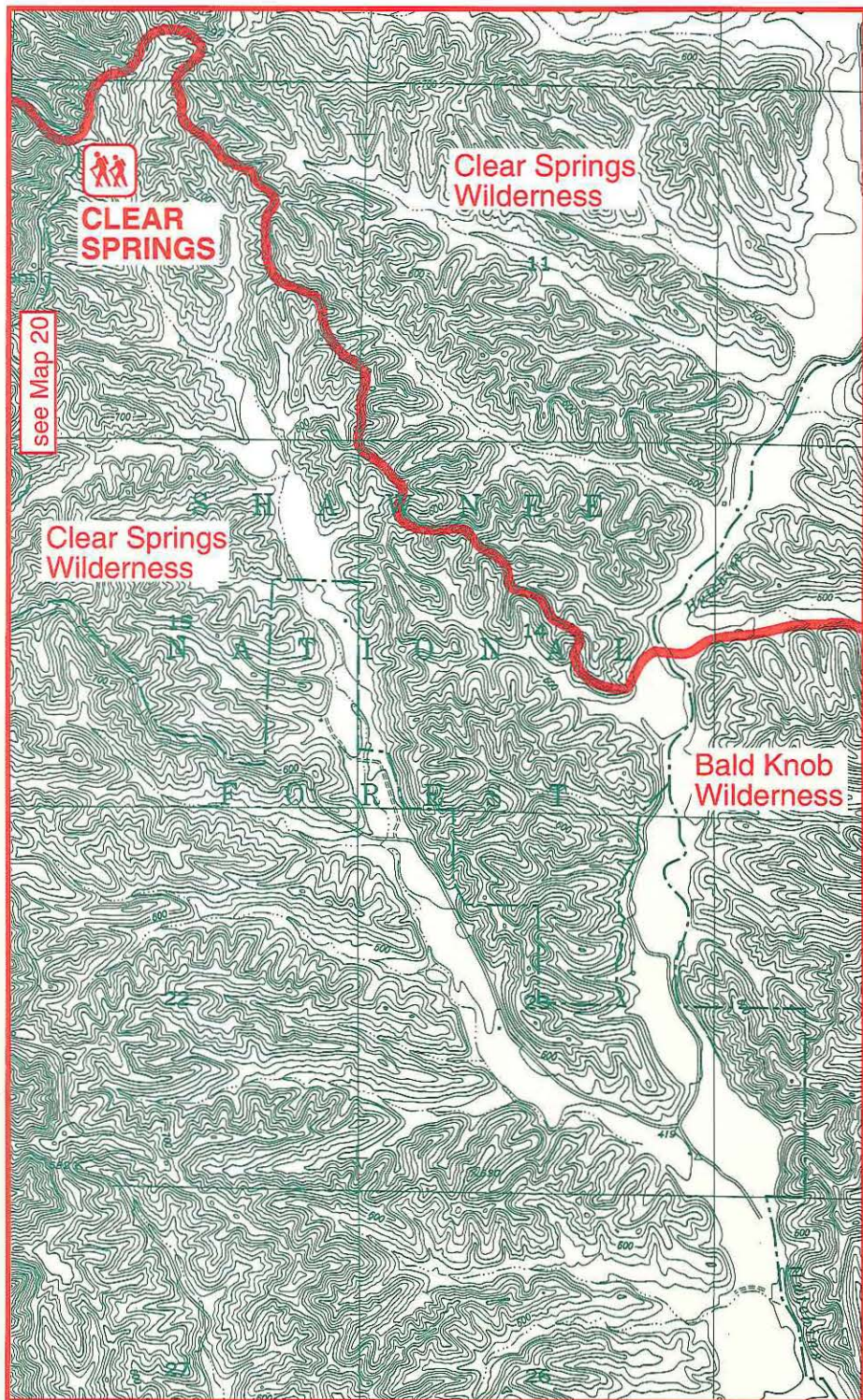
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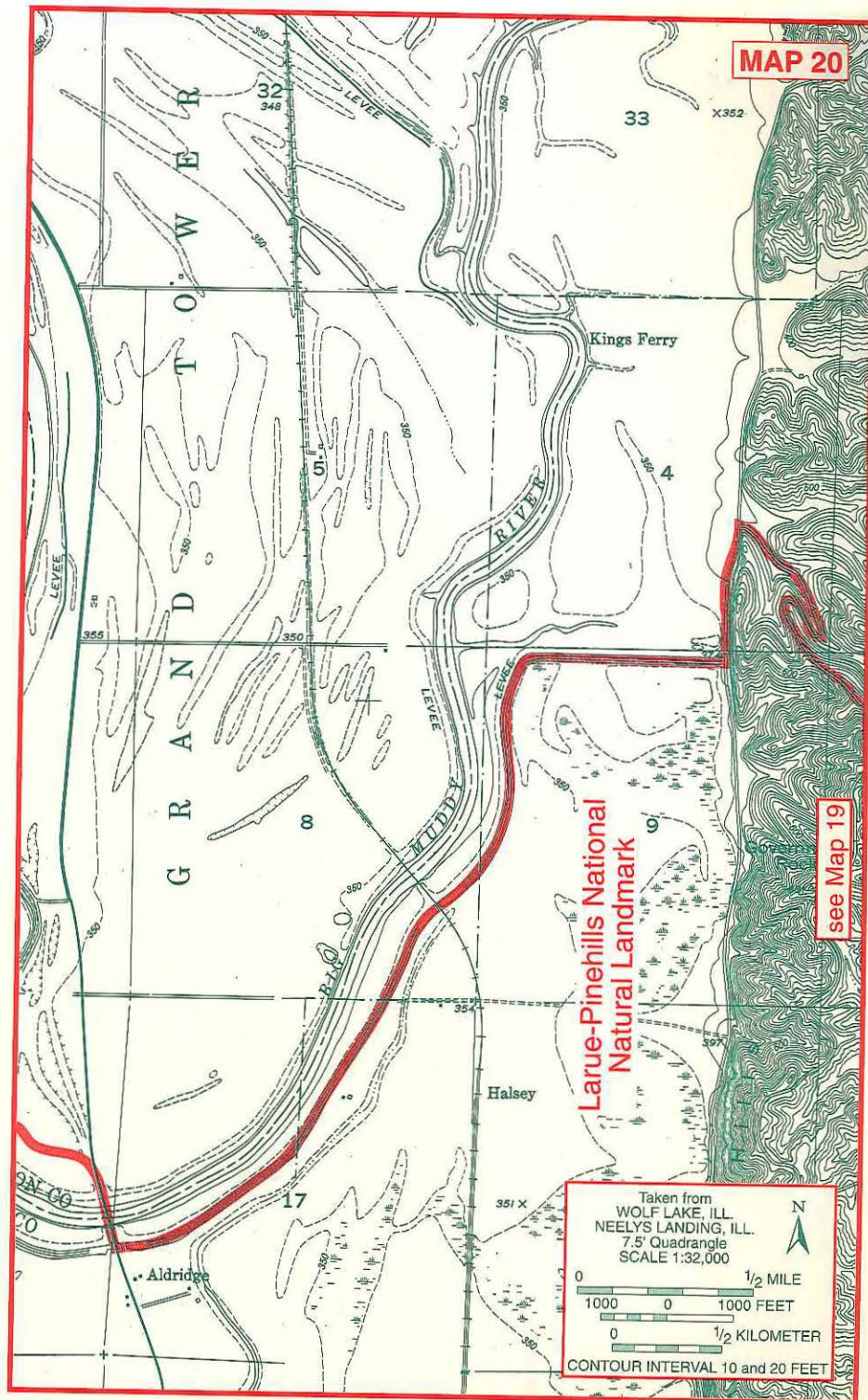
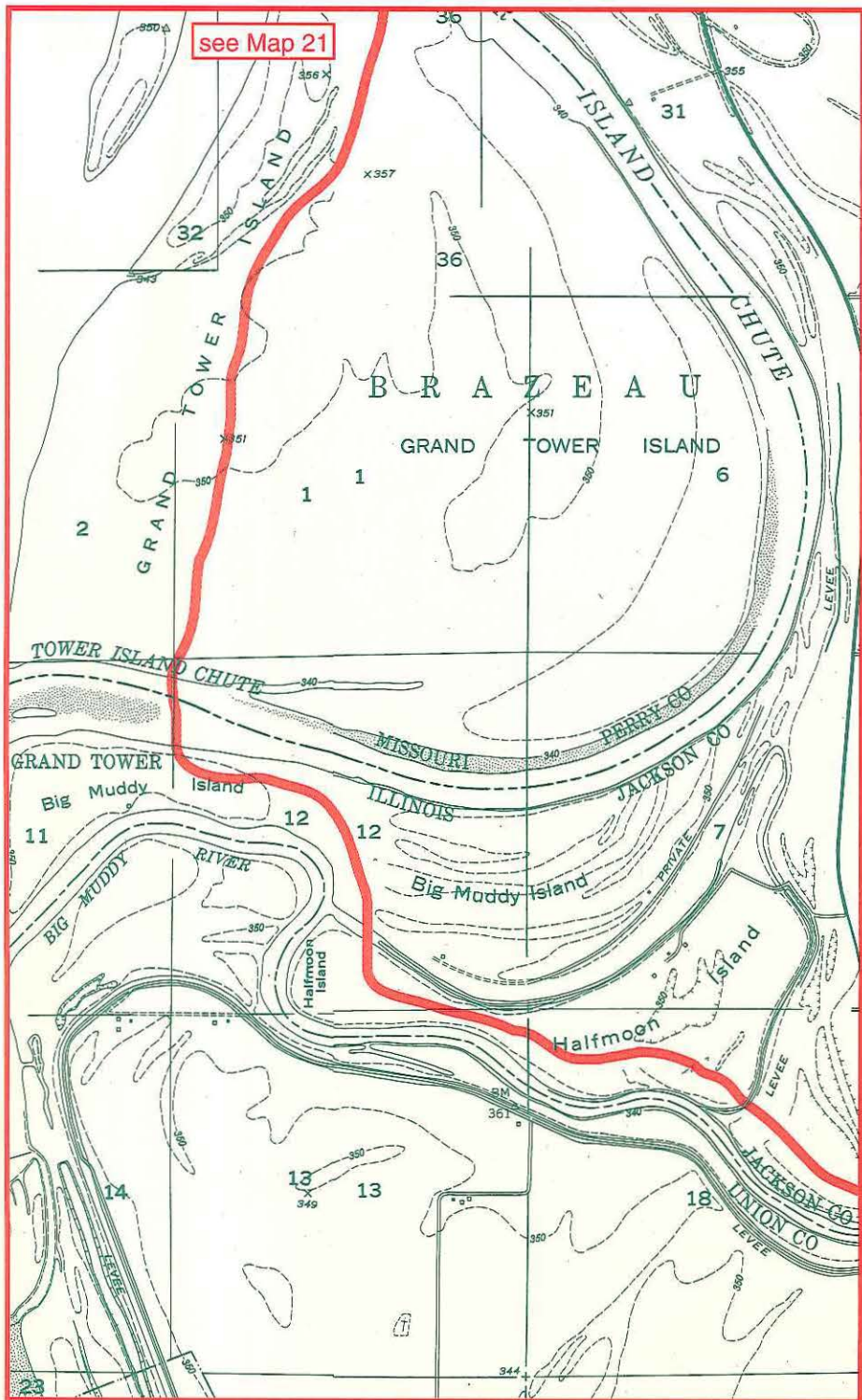
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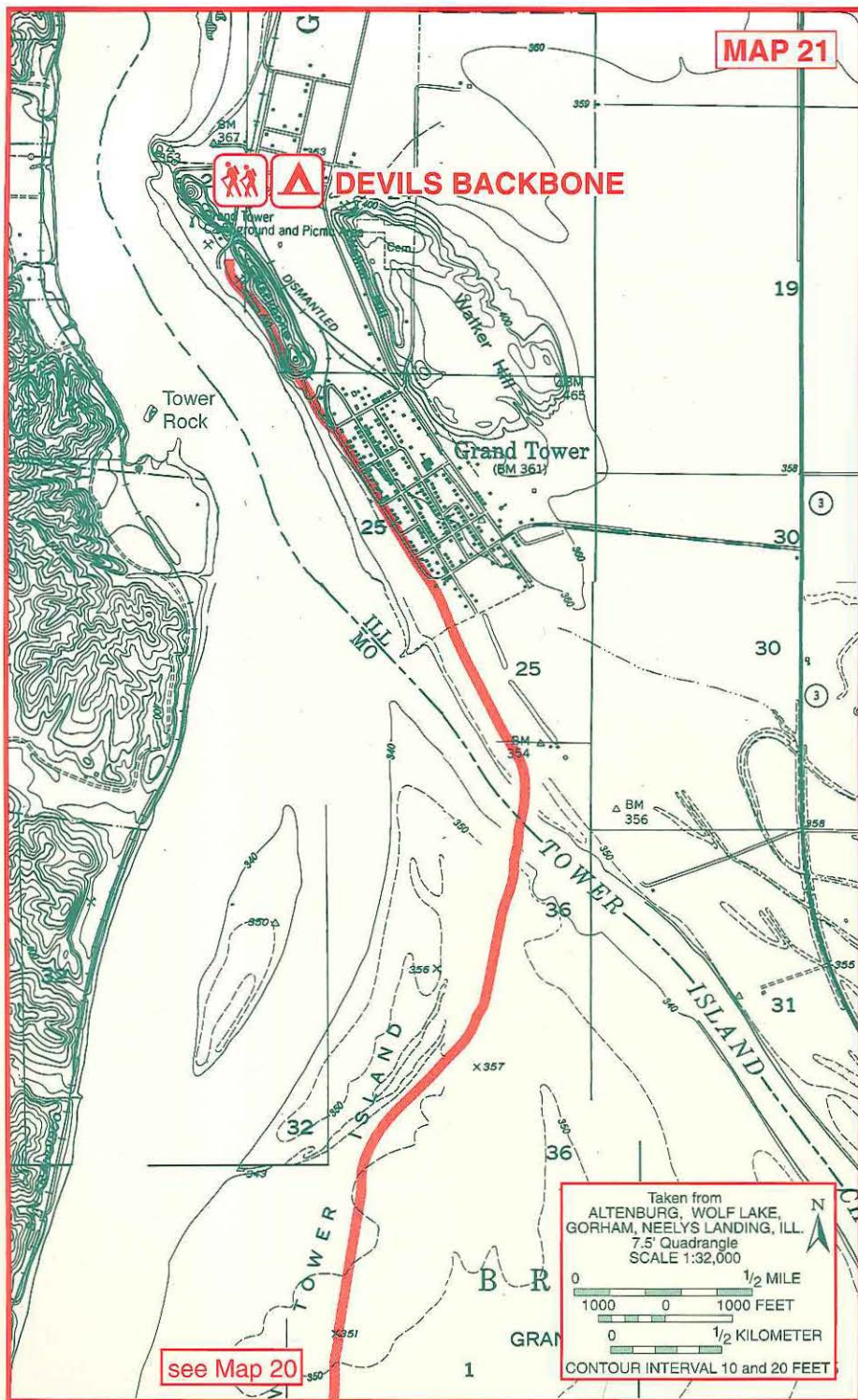
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Pine Hills to Devils Backbone

Map 19, 20, and 21

At the bottom of the bluffs there is a picnic area and parking area at Winters Pond and a nice waiting space if not daring enough for inspiration point at Pine Hills. Take the levee to the west which makes a wide loop to Route 3. Turn right at the bridge and after crossing the Big Muddy River turn left on the opposite side continue on the north side of the levee which leads into Grand Tower. This last stretch of levee borders Grand Tower Island which has been cut off by the Mississippi. Yes, you are in Missouri at this point. Devils Backbone Park has an odd formation of rocks in it and a nice beach on the Mississippi and is adjacent to Grand Tower. The park is a real kid park. This last part is a long flat stretch of about ten miles, but different enough and worth the miles if purchased with the full length of the trail.

Backbone. The only survivor was a small boy who had hidden himself in the rocks of the formation and who grew up to avenge the killing of his parents and kin.

The American Discovery Trail leaves the River-to-River Trail at the park and travels up-river to St. Louis on the levees.

If you have traveled any or all of this trail, I'm certain that you have seen some things that have added to your life's memories and perhaps will compel you to return again. Whatever your direction, whether we ever meet or not I hope that we have shared the magic of some good days and this beautiful wilderness.

Something for the eyes, something for the smell, something for the touch, something for the heart.

From Devils Backbone Park one can also see Tower Island which is a National Park that was set aside by U.S. Grant during his administration. It has been noted since the early French explorers. There is a story that renegade Indians killed a group of settlers on the beach as they landed from their migration at the south end of Devil's

Accommodations

**** Indicates accommodations close to the River-to-River Trail**

ANNA:

Anna Plaza Motel 618-833-5215

CAIRO:

Belvedere Motel 618-734-4020
 Best way Inn 618-734-0215
 City Motel 618-734-0285
 Days Inn 618-734-0215
 Garden Inn Motel 618-734-2711
 Plaza Motel 618-734-2101
 Worthington Court 618-776-5333
 Windham (B&B) 618-734-3247

CACHE:

Melton's Fishing Camp 618-776-5504
 Carmack Hunting Lodge 618-776-5733

CARBONDALE:

Sassafras Ridge (B&B)** 618-529-5261
 Bel-Aire Motel 618-549-2151
 Best Inns of America 800-237-8466
 Comfort Inn 800-221-2222
 Days Inn 618-457-3347
 Heritage Motel 618-457-4142
 Holiday Inn 800-HOLIDAY
 Knights Inn 800-843-5644
 Relax Inn 618-549-0889
 Sunset Motel 618-457-5115
 Super 8 Motel 800-800-8000
 Touch of Nature 618-453-1121
 Uptown Motel 618-457-4156

CAVE IN ROCK:**

Cave In Rock Motel 618-289-3296
 Cave In Rock Lodge 618-289-4545

CHESTER:

Best Western Inn 618-826-3034
 Hi 3 Motel 618-826-4415
 Royal Motor Lodge 618-826-2341
 Betsy's Sugarwood (B&B) 618-826-2555

COBDEN:**

Black Diamond Ranch 618-833-7629

DIXON SPRINGS:**

The Timbers (B&B) 618-683-4400

ELDORADO:

Neal Motel, Inc. 618-273-8146

ELIZABETHTOWN:

Elizabethtown (B&B) 618-287-8811

GARDEN OF THE GODS AREA:**

Country Cabin Inn 618-264-2276

GOLCONDA:

Barren Creek Cottages 618-683-4004
 The Getaway 618-683-8751
 Smithland Pool Lodge (B&B) 618-683-2333
 Lusk Creek Lodge (B&B) 618-898-3892
 The Mansion (B&B) 618-683-2751

HARRISBURG:

Plaza Motel 618-253-7651
 Uptown Motel 618-253-7022
 Super 8 Motel 618-253-8081
 Mart's White Lace (B&B) 618-252-7599
 House of Nahum (B&B)** 618-252-1414

JONESBORO:

Brown's Hunting Club 618-833-2096
 Lincoln Motel 618-833-2181
 Trail of Tears Lodge 618-833-8697

JUNCTION:

Thomas House (B&B) 800-866-6716
 or 618-272-7046

MAKANDA:**

Giant City Lodge 618-457-4921

MARION:

Best Inns of America 800-237-8466
 Best Western Airport 800-528-1234
 Comfort Inn 800-228-5158
 Holiday Inn Holiday 800-648-4667
 Marion Courts 618-993-8131
 Gray Plaza Motel 618-933-2174
 Motel 6 800-437-7486
 Motel Marion 618-993-2101
 Red Lion 618-997-1451
 Shoney's Inn 800-222-2222
 Super 8 Motel 800-800-8000
 Olde Squat Inn (B&B) 618-982-2916

METROPOLIS:

Americian Inn 618-524-7431
 Best Inns of America 618-524-8200
 Metropolis Inn 618-524-3723
 Players Riverboat Hotel 618-524-5678
 Annies (B&B) 618-524-7980
 Days Inn 618-524-9341
 Comfort Inn 800-221-2222
 Beaver's Den (B&B) 618-524-4423
 Isle of View (B&B) 618-524-2978
 Park Street House (B&B) 618-524-5966

MUDDY:**

Days Inn 800-329-7466
 or 618-252-6354

MURPHYSBORO:

Motel Murphysboro 800-626-4356
 Super 8 Motel 800-800-8000

OZARK:**

Coyote and Fox Guest House and Retreat 618-695-2746
 St. Noel's Retreat Center. 618-695-3590

PRAIRIE DU ROCHER: (On the ADT)

LaMaison du Rocher (B&B) 618-284-3463

ULLIN:

Best Western Cheekwood Inn 800-528-1234

VIENNA:

Dixon Motel 618-658-3831

Triple T. Ranch** 618-695-2600
 The Budget Inn 618-658-2802
 Bridges (B&B)** 618-658-8409
 (Chairman of Society)

Campgrounds

** Indicates campgrounds close to the River-to-River Trail

CAVE IN ROCK:

Cave In Rock State Park
618-289-4325

DIXON SPRINGS:

Lake Glendale Rec. Area
800-MY-WOODS

Lake Glendale Stables 618-949-3737

Dixon Springs State Park
618-949-3394

EDDYVILLE:**

Bear Branch Campground
618-672-4249

Circle B. Ranch 618-288-5373

Hayes Canyon Campground
618-672-4751

EQUALITY:**

High Knob Ranch 618-264-7197

GOCONDA:

Bay Creek Campground 618-683-5555

Deer Run Campground 618-683-8410

GRAND TOWER:**

Devils Backbone 618-689-8380

HEROD:**

Route 34 Ranch and Camp
618-264-2141

JONESBORO:

Black Diamond Ranch 618-833-7629

Trail of Tears Spts. Rst. 618-833-8697

JUNCTION:

Double M Ranch 618-275-4440

KARBERS RIDGE:**

Garden of the Gods
800-MY-WOODS

MAKANDA:**

Giant City St. Park 618-457-4836

MCCORMICK:

Bell Smith Springs 800-MY-WOODS

Teal Pond 800-MY-WOODS

METROPOLIS:

Fort Massac State Park 618-524-4712

MURPHYSBORO:

Johnson Creek 800-MY-WOODS

Turkey Bayou 800-MY-WOODS

OZARK:**

Camp Ondessonk/St. Noel Ctr.
618-695-2489

ROCK CREEK:**

Corner T Tack and Camp
618-289-4896

SIMPSON:**

Bay Creek Camp 618-295-2670

VIENNA:**

Triple T. Lake Ranch 618-695-2600

WOLF LAKE:**

Pine Hills 800-MY-WOODS

Swimming Holes

Dixon Springs, Lake Glendale, and Pounds Hollow.

Horse Stables

Giant City Stables—618-457-4836 and Lake Glendale Stables—618-949-3737.

Board of Directors River-to-River Trail Society



The Board of Director has the responsibility of maintaining a section of the River to River or the American Discovery Trail, or has a special project that the Trail Society has initiated. Each director has the responsibility of marking and walking their respective section at least twice each year.

- ADT Eastern leg
New Haven to River-to-River Trail Ed Douglas
- Battery Rock to Route 1 Jim and John Price
- Route 1 to Camp Cadiz Fred and Gail Birch
- Camp Cadiz to High Knob Chip Steele
- High Knob to Garden of the Gods David Flanders
- Garden of the Gods to Herod Jason Wilson
- Herod to Concord Cemetery David Fletcher
- Concord Cemetery to
Lusk Creek Trailhead Lee and Cindy Smith
- Lusk Creek Trail Head to Eddyville P.O. Hartzel Black
- Eddyville P.O. to Cedar Grove Road Dwayne Short
- Cedar Grove Road Trigg Tower Owen Callahan
- Trigg Tower to Simpson Blacktop Greg Walker
- Simpson Blacktop to Route 45 Darrel and Nancy Perisho
- Route 45 to Ferne Clyffe Darrel Livesay
- Ferne Clyffe to Wayside Lawrence Trill and
Kathie Brush
- Wayside to Rocky Comfort Don Monty and
Ann Gaylord
- Rocky Comfort to Makanda Angie Middleton and
Jeanette Dove
- Makanda to Cedar Lake Zach Shelton
- Cedar Lake to Alto Pass Sue Nawojski
- Alto Pass Bald Knob Richard and
Mona Diefenbach
- Bald Knob to Pine Hills Al Easton
- Pine Hills to Devils Backbone Doug McDonald
- Crest Trail John Musgrave
- Williams Hill Tower Beecher Williams
- Williams Hill Trail Mark O'Dell

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