

# RIVER TO RIVER

## TRAIL GUIDE

ACROSS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

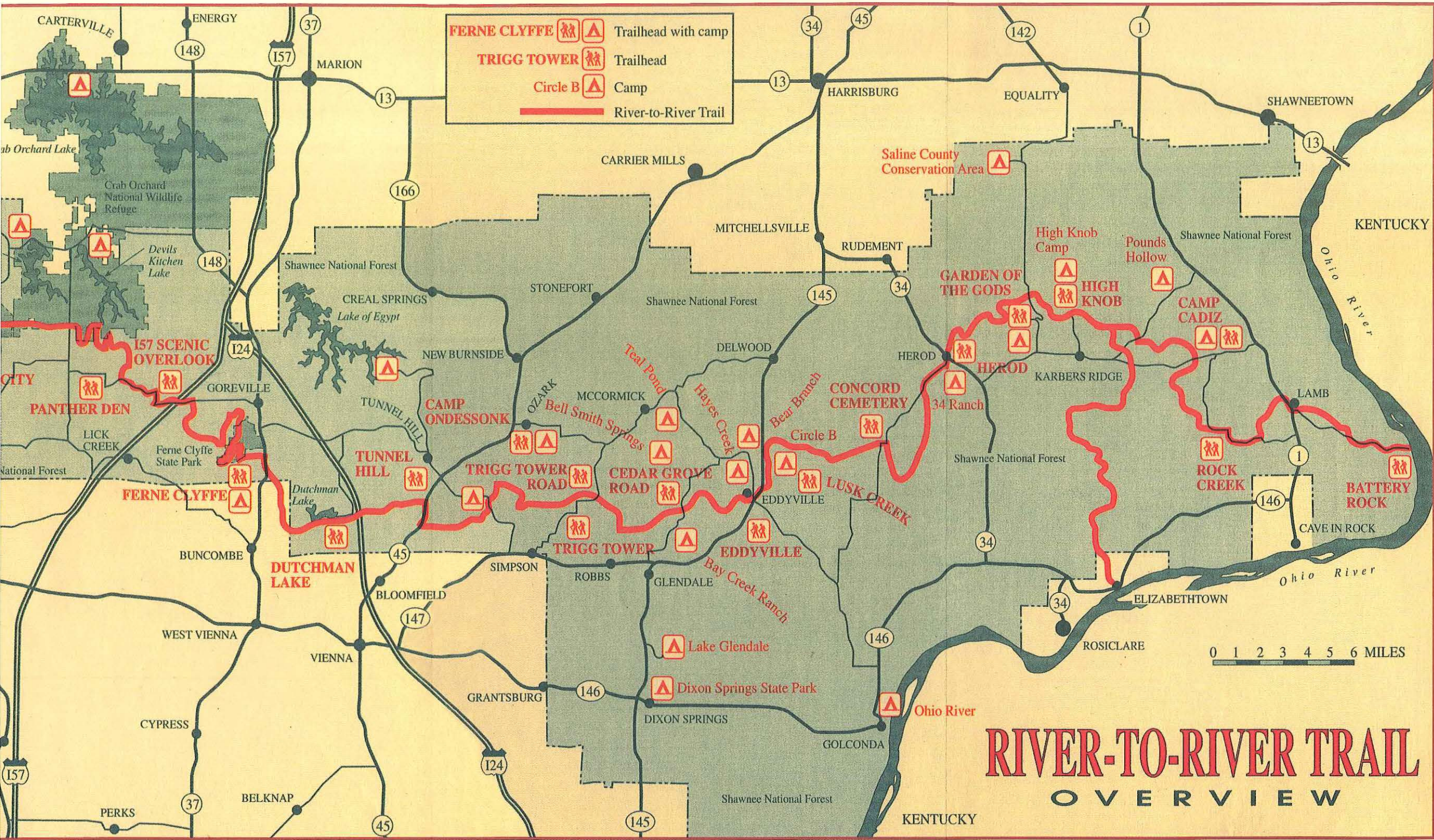
**Battery Rock**  
or **Elizabethtown**  
on the Ohio River to  
**Grand Tower**  
on the Mississippi River



FOR HIKERS,  
BACKPACKERS  
& EQUESTRIANS

THIRD EDITION





**FERNE CLYFFE** Trailhead with camp

**TRIGG TOWER** Trailhead

**Circle B** Camp

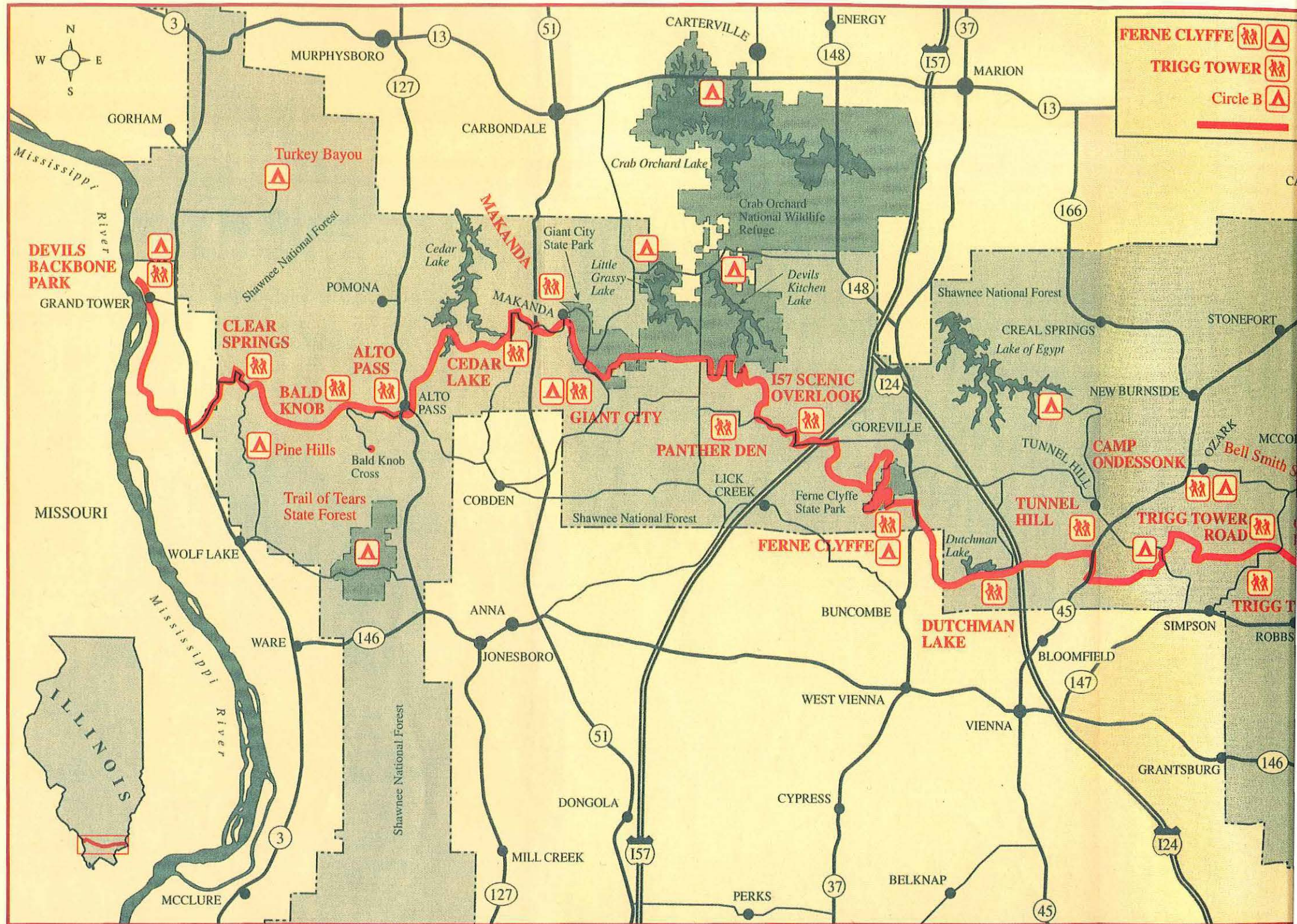
River-to-River Trail



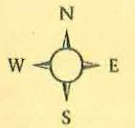
# RIVER-TO-RIVER TRAIL

## OVERVIEW



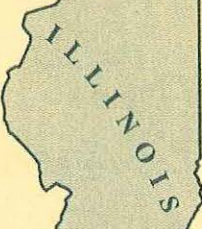


**FERNE CLYFFE**    
**TRIGG TOWER**    
**Circle B**    

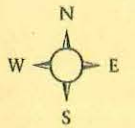
**DEVILS BACKBONE PARK**

MISSOURI



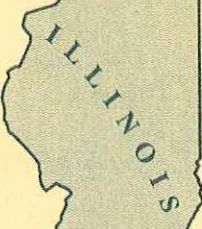
MCCLURE

**FERNE CLYFFE**    
**TRIGG TOWER**    
**Circle B**    

**DEVILS BACKBONE PARK**

MISSOURI



MCCLURE



# **River to River** Trail Guide

Across Southern Illinois  
With  
The American Discovery Trail in Southern Illinois



Battery Rock or Elizabethtown on the Ohio River

To

Grand Tower on the Mississippi River  
For Day Hikers, Backpackers, and Equestrians

**Third Edition**



## Disclaimer

The River to River Trail Described herein is our recommendation on hiking from the Ohio River to the Mississippi River. For example, the E'Town Trail is our recommendation because the Forest Service has not officially given their complete blessing and paperwork on it as yet. The Forest Service has allowed us to use their GPS plotting of the trail and forms the basis of this book, which will be most of the trail.

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, or 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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The River-to-River Trail Society assumes no responsibility  
Or liability for accidents or injuries by people using this book  
to explore the 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 guide-book 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 third edition providentially 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 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). 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 the first 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 the 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 the 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 Reese Lukei, National Coordinator of the American Discovery Trail and my mentor and guide. A special thanks to the past 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 work load 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.

Now on this third edition, I thank Paul Noa and Drew Accord for sticking with the map portion of

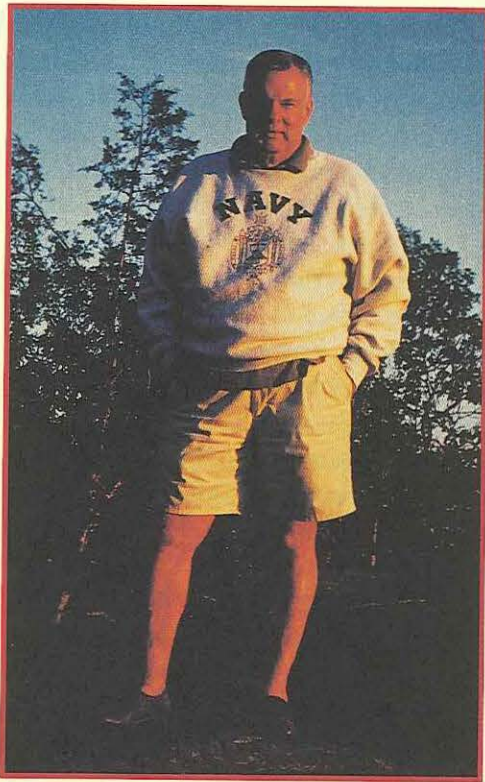
this trail guide and coming up with a better product using the new technologies which has been mystical to me. These young men were wonderful. Once again I thank Dick Westfall of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for helping us with a grant from the National Recreational Trails Fund, and then maneuvering a renewal for it to continue, while we tried to figure out how we were going to do the maps. Thanks so much Dick. To National Geographic and Bill Stoehr of their Staff for letting us use the maps. Much Thanks to Bill Recktenwald for "Proofing" this copy.

Once again, I thank the Creator for such a marvelous land, and for this good project. Although frustrating and demanding 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. My love and respect for this Forest has only grown since I first wrote this...and I can see it in others as well.

- John O'Dell



## Forward



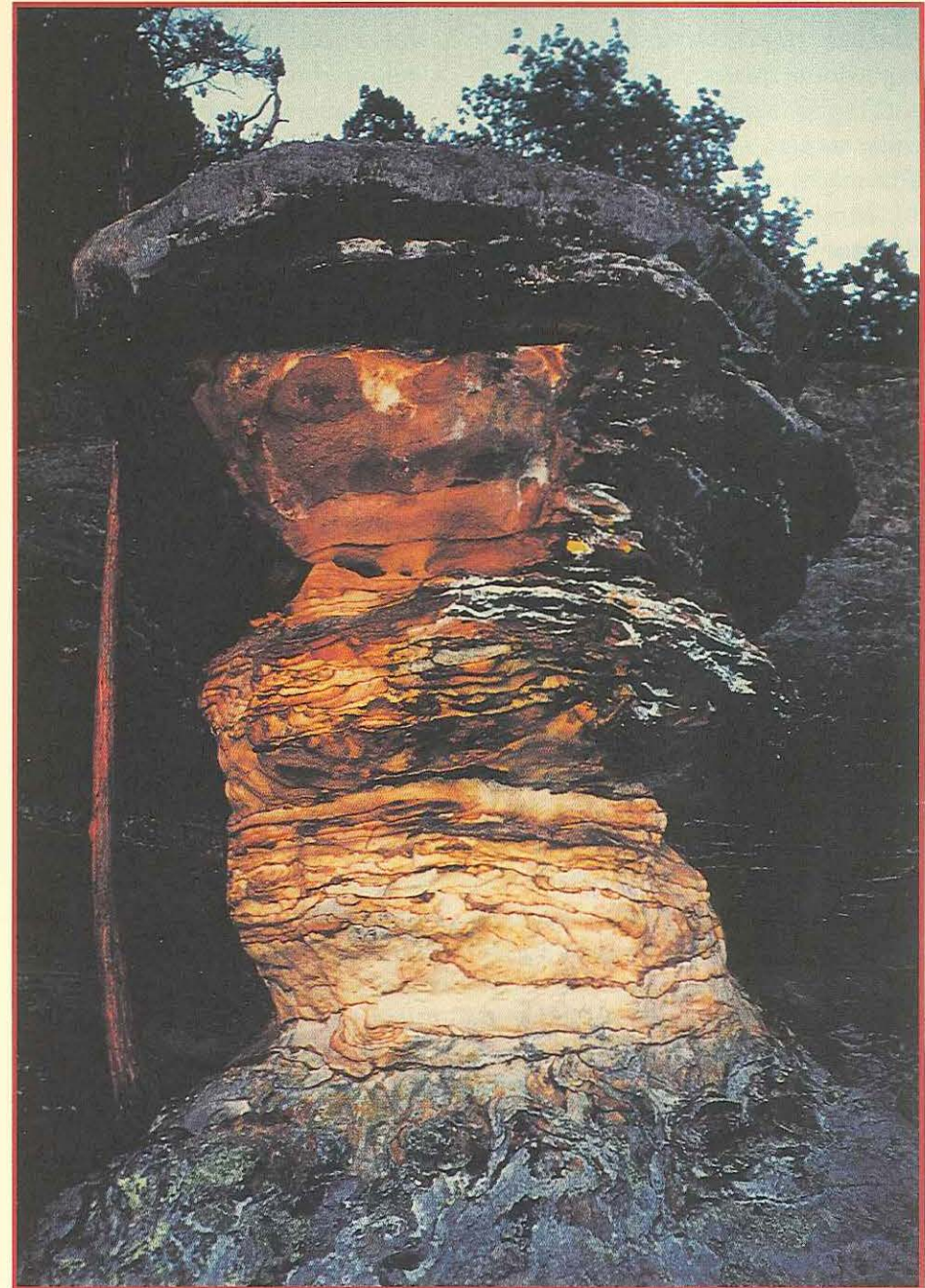
*River-to-River Trail Society founder,  
John O'Dell*

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 in Southern Illinois And Some Interesting Things To See





Although the River to River Trail is the Premier Trail in Southern Illinois, there are other trails, albeit shorter, that are worth while. There are also some very interesting places to drive to in the event you want to explore the easy way. Although back-packing is wonderful, day hikes are easier to plan and to take a family on. You might consider these:

Most Popular Portions of the River to River Trail: A good week end is from Herod to Lusk Creek Canyon. This way you can get right into the woods and see One Horse Gap followed by Lusk Creek. A little longer is from Garden of the Gods or High Knob to Lusk Creek, then add Camp Cadiz (on one side) then to Trigg Tower (west), Max Creek etc. Cedar Lake, Panthers Den, Giant City, and all the rest are interesting and different.

**The Crest Trail or Tecumseh Trail.** In October 2002 a statue of Tecumseh, the great Shawnee Leader, will be placed on a ridge in the Saline County Conservation Area. Next to this statue is a trail going west, that might very well have been used by him and others and certainly by French Traders carrying salt for their Tannery on the Ohio. Take this trail west and it will go along the crest of Eagle Mountain. There are several spots where you can stop to look over the Saline Valley. After less than three miles you will come to a gravel and turn left going up hill slightly to a bend in the road. Go due west to come to the main westward

trail which will lead you to some power lines and turn right. If you go down to the cliff and turn right you will pass Stone Face and then end up in the parking lot. If you would like to continue, before you go downhill, the trail once again goes into the woods. Follow this trail and you will come out in Herod and you could actually go to the next part below.

#### **The Williams Hill Trail.**

The highest point in Southern Illinois at 1064 feet. From Herod, walk North along the side of Route 34 until you pass the house with chickens and at the sign post turn into the woods. The trail goes uphill at a angle from the road, cross the creek where two meet and follow the smaller branch in its valley almost due west until you come to a ridge and turn south (left). Follow this old road bed until you come to a substantial dirt road and turn left which should take you to the top. The last mile is a real climb, but about half way through it you will realize how high you are. This road turns into another lightly graveled road and ends near the top. Hopefully there will be a tower someday. To get to the sign, turn right and go under the antennas. Then continue straight down the road to the south and bushwhack down Gyp Williams Hollow until you come to a regular trail and

turn east. This will take you to Raum Road at the concrete ford and on the River to River Trail. Up the ford about 200 feet the River to River Trail goes into the woods again. Where Gyp Williams Hollow ends, is also the end of Bear Track Hollow and is a special place. Downstream from the concrete ford perhaps 100 feet is a really great camping area.

#### **Jackson Hollow-Burden Falls- Bell Smith Spring Trigg Tower**

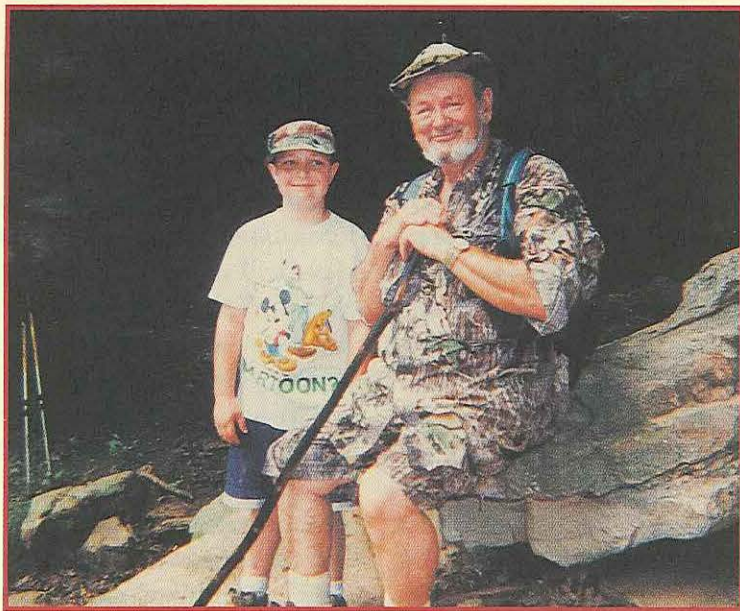
If ever there is an enchanted land, Jackson Hollow qualifies. On one occasion during the spring when there had been plenty of rain, I walked at the base of the cliff and after passing one waterfall, I could start picking up the sound of another. There is a railroad track that intersects the hollow so there are two parts. Incidentally, about a mile up the track is a tunnel which is the longest in Illinois. Both halves of this hollow is spectacular but it will take more than a day to see it. You also cannot wander into the middle without being disoriented and you will get lost. The only way you can see this marvel is by hiking or horseback and by either climbing in or walking in at points that only the familiar will know.

Take route 145 south to Delwood and turn west on the Burden Falls-Bell Smith Springs Road. After four miles you will pass over the top of Burden Falls and proceed to the "T." If you turn left and follow the signs you will go to

Bell Smith Springs which is gorgeous. They have a large natural bridge, some great swimming holes and access to Teal Pond and Rosebud which are excellent campgrounds. Or at the T go right and continue for about five miles and you will come to Glen Saint Falls Road. Take this road for two miles and you will come to a ford and a parking lot. There are lots of climbers here and they usually climb down a tree by the waterfall. For us mortals, walk to the south along the rim, past the next waterfall and you will find a place where you can climb up and down. When you get to the bottom you can go either way but you should follow the cliffs edge north and it will wind past the first waterfall and then on to cross over the railroad tracks after about a mile. (Dog leg left and then turn right on to the other side.) The Trail eventually ends up on Trigg Tower road, but to find it from the other side you look for a cut in the bank and most people will not be able to locate it. I usually make at least two trips a year to this place. Any skeptics about the beauty of Southern Illinois are put to rest here.

**Prologue:** About four miles due south of the turn off is Trigg Tower which has a beautiful vista at any time. By turning left at Trigg Tower the gravel road has beautiful overlooks and eventually comes out on route 147, turn left and go to Millstone Bluff. There is plenty of





*Joe Hicks and Thomas.*

good hiking around Burden Falls. With lots of rain, not one but three and sometimes four falls happen

**Max Creek Vortex:** I don't know what a vortex is for certain, but in the places in the world that reports this phenomena it can be a spiritual, healing, haunted, illusionary place. Yes people have different feelings when going to where the River to River Trail crosses Max Creek and to the south up the trail, but no healings have been reported. One house close to the creek was reported to be super haunted. But this writer must not be very sensitive because such feelings have not affected me and I have been there a number of times. Take Route 45 south of Tunnel Hill Road to Taylor Ridge Road and turn east to the end of the road. Park and pick the trail to the east to reach the point where the

River to River Trail crosses the creek. If you have a feeling, it will be on the rocky ledge going down to the crossing.

#### **Scenic Attractions Trail.**

Basically, this trail goes from Sand Cave to Bell Smith Springs, to Jackson Hollow. It can be accessed on the east by taking the River to River Trail west from Cedar Grove Church Road for about a mile. When the trail turns south, look for a trail that goes north which goes to Sand Cave. From Sand Cave, go north along the cliff and when convenient cross over to the north, pass the utility line and turn west until you find the path to go over the hill which then goes into a trail along more cliffs. You will have to cross the creek This will take you into Bell Smith Springs area about

where the swimming hole is with cliffs. Proceed with the cliffs on your left and look for some old rock steps going up. There are only about five, but follow the valley west (Hill Branch) until you come upon a good sized trail that goes south for awhile and then bears west again for about one mile. You will run into Jackson Hollow. To make a loop of it, go all the way through Jackson Hollow and pick up the Mt. Zion Church/Trigg Tower gravel and go south until you find the River to River Trail and turn east until you get back to Cedar Grove Church Road. Stop in and see the Natural Bridge in Bell Smith and explore Jackson Hollow. You should be able to follow this on the maps in the Trailguide. This is a spectacular trip so bring a camera for certain. If you rush, you should be able to do it in two days. My advice, take three or four or more. (See Jackson Hollow above)

**The Tunnel Hill Trail.** The Tunnel Hill Rails Trails State Park extends over 43 miles from Karnack to Harrisburg, Although most conducive to biking, it can also be walked. The highlights are the trestle going over Cache River ( being the highest trestle in the state) and the tunnel at Tunnel Hill. This has turned into an outstanding trail, but the experience of walking through the tunnel is sensational.

For the tunnel, take route 45 to the Tunnel Hill turnoff on the right and park at the trail head. The tunnel will be the big hole in the hill

going to the southeast

**Any State Park:** Any State Park in Southern Illinois will have some great hiking. Giant City, Ferne Clyffe, and Cave In Rock.

**The Horse Shoe Upheaval-Shawneetown Fault-Horseshoe-Glen O. Jones Lake** The Horseshoe Upheaval is a large rock that has been brought to the surface from 3,500 feet underground. It occurred when there was movement resulting in an uplift (anticline) in front of what we know as Eagle Mountain. The rock sheared off and the land reversed itself, leaving the rock on the surface. This means that Eagle Mountain was at least 3,500 feet higher, and the usual understanding is that it had several thousand feet of (loess) soil on top of that. Eagle Cliff and the resulting range is older than the Rockies, and the Grand Canyon and resulted when Africa "docked" with North America. The Shawneetown Fault system lies in front of Eagle Mountain which caused the movement. It is most probably connected with the New Madrid system and has "rifts" in which the Ohio River has used as a part of it's valley.

The fault system is also responsible for the salt springs, which has likely attracted animals for thousands of years. Mastodon and other bones have been found in the region so the area is being studied for the other ice age animals who were probably here such as the



Giant Sloth, Saber Tooth, Stag Moose, Pleistocene Horse, American Lion, Jaguars, Giant Bison and all the rest of the "Mega Fauna." With all this food around, it is not surprising to also find the evidence of Early Man in the region in the form of Clovis projectile points. It is possible to imagine a family of mastodons going through Horseshoe Pass to get to Eagle Valley and a Saber Tooth lying in wait.

Horseshoe Upheaval can be found by taking the Forest Road from Equality to the intersection with Stone Face Road. Turn right on Stone Face Road and go past the Trout Pond and the next road is a parking lot for the hunting area. Walk the little road that is on the other end of the parking lot and follow it to the back side of the hill. The hill turns out to be the rock. There is a sign and the rocks have been bent like an "S." Glen O. Jones Lake is in the Saline County Conservation District. It is a beautiful Forest Lake with Camping and Fishing. No big motors.

**Stone Face** Stone Face is one of the most photographed places in Southern Illinois. It is a real oddity that it wasn't discovered until the twentieth century that we know of. I think it looks like Wallace Beery, and I wonder what Native Americans thought. It is amazing how many people go looking for it however, and never find it. The Trick is to follow the trail up to the cliff, climb up the sloping cliff to a trail that goes along the cliffs' edge in the opposite direction and follow it past all the over-

looks until you see it by looking down the side of the cliff. There is no doubt that it is of a man, that it is human, and has been there for a long time. The view and the face make it worth the exertion.

Take route 145 south from Harrisburg, turn left at Mitchellville following route 34. At the DeNeal road turn off after Rudement, follow the blacktop road ( not the gravel ) through Somerset to Stoneface Road and go about two miles. The turnoff will be on the right, south side and go up to the turnaround and park. The trail up goes to the east. The other trail goes the opposite direction at the base of the cliff. You must be decently fit to see this one.

**Cave In Rock**-A picturesque and historic river town with a free ferry to Kentucky. Site of a large cave in the rock bluff opening onto the banks of the Ohio River. An excellent State Park with a campground, cabins, trails and fantastic vista. Rocks, antiques, souvenir shops. An Amish settlement is just across the river. The cave has been a landmark for almost 300 years, and has been a church, tavern, pirates lair, home and now tourist attractions See also Tower Rock a little further down the river. It is a majestic limestone prominence at the very edge of the Ohio River. Cave in Rock is at the end of Route 1.

### **Elizabethtown/Rose Hotel-**

This is a very quaint and beautiful river town with restaurants and the beautiful Rose Hotel. The oldest hotel in Illinois originally opened in 1812 is now a Bed and Breakfast. Emancipation Day was celebrated here by African-Americans until fairly recently. The Largest Ginko Tree in the State of Illinois is on Rt.146 in back of the Bank Building. Take route 1 to just above Cave in Rock and turn south onto route 146 for ten miles.

**Cedar Falls.** A beautiful falls near camp Ondessonk. The single drop is somewhat less than Burden Fall but the setting is majestic and gorgeous. From Route 45 going south from Stonefort turn left at Ozark and proceed on the blacktop road to Pakentuk road and drive to the end. The road is closed here but proceed to the bottom of the hill and turn left. During the summer, Camp Ondessonk has youth camp and is busy until mid August. The best way is to call the camp and get permission. 618 695 2489.

**Rim Rock**-In Gallatin County, nine miles east of Ill. Route 34 on the Karbers Ridge Road, is a rock escarpment that thrusts nearly 100 feet from the surrounding countryside. At one end of this plug of earth are the remains of a stone wall that

clearly served as a fortification for those who lived on top more than 1000 years ago. From the parking lot take the marked "Beaver Trail" to the right and descend next to the North end of Rim Rock, in cold weather water forms huge ice sickles. Turn left at the bottom to Ox Lot Cave, a massive shelter bluff used by early European settlers. Ascend the steps through a fissure in the rock to the top then follow the path to the right and you will be back at your car, It is an easy hike made in less than an hour and stunning during winter. Submitted by Bill Recktenwald, Big rocks, scenic overlooks, archaeology, unusual flora.

### **Pomona Natural Bridge.**

There are several-many natural bridges in Southern Illinois including the big one at Bell Smith Springs, and couple in the Garden of the Gods area and one in Lusk Creek Canyon. The Pomona Natural Bridge, however, is the prettiest by far. It is smaller, but discernible from any angle, and is embellished with ferns and moss...and you can drive right up to it. Almost that is.

Take route 127 from Murphysboro to Pomona. Go past the General Store and take the north road to the bridge, and you can follow the signs.



# The American Discovery Trail In Southern Illinois

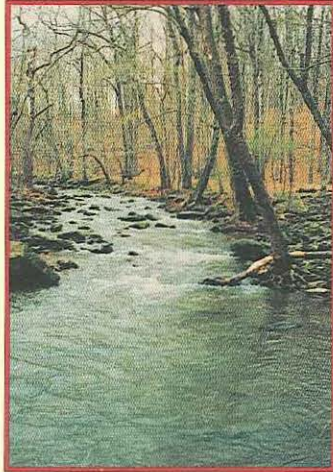
## An Overview

The American Discovery Trail is more than 6,000 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 Dyer, Indiana.

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 Wilderness, 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

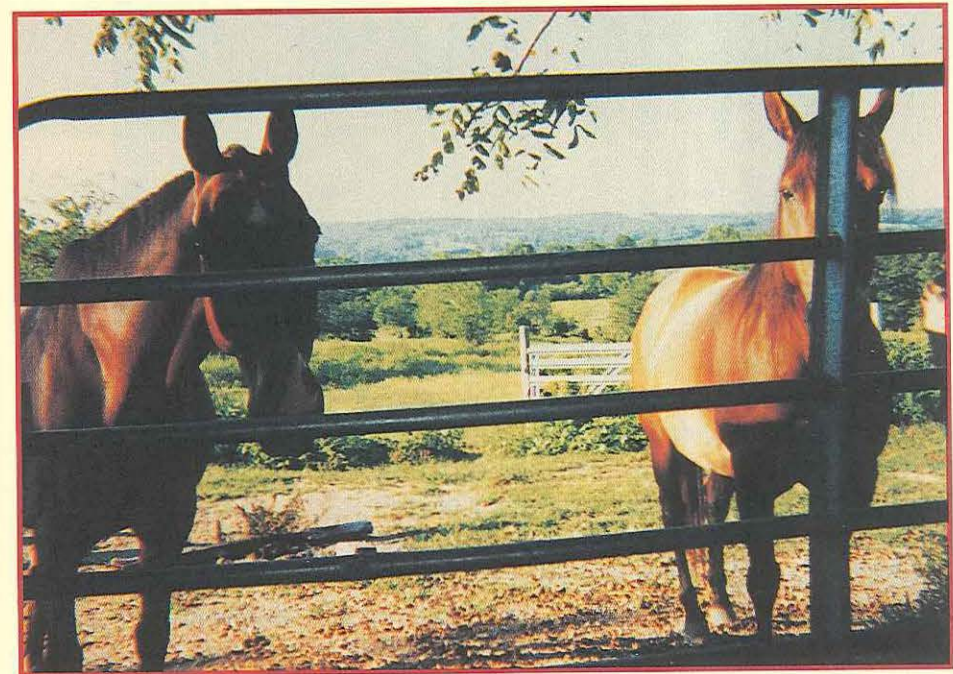
the pier walkway down to ground level. Immediately, the trail passes the riverboat casino and continues on through to the levee. The first town is Sauget (pronounced saw-jay) followed by Cahokia, the oldest town in Illinois established in 1699. Levee walking is often paralleled by blacktop roads that 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 favored by the French, rather than horizontal log building of the English. Further down the levee, there will be Fort des 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.

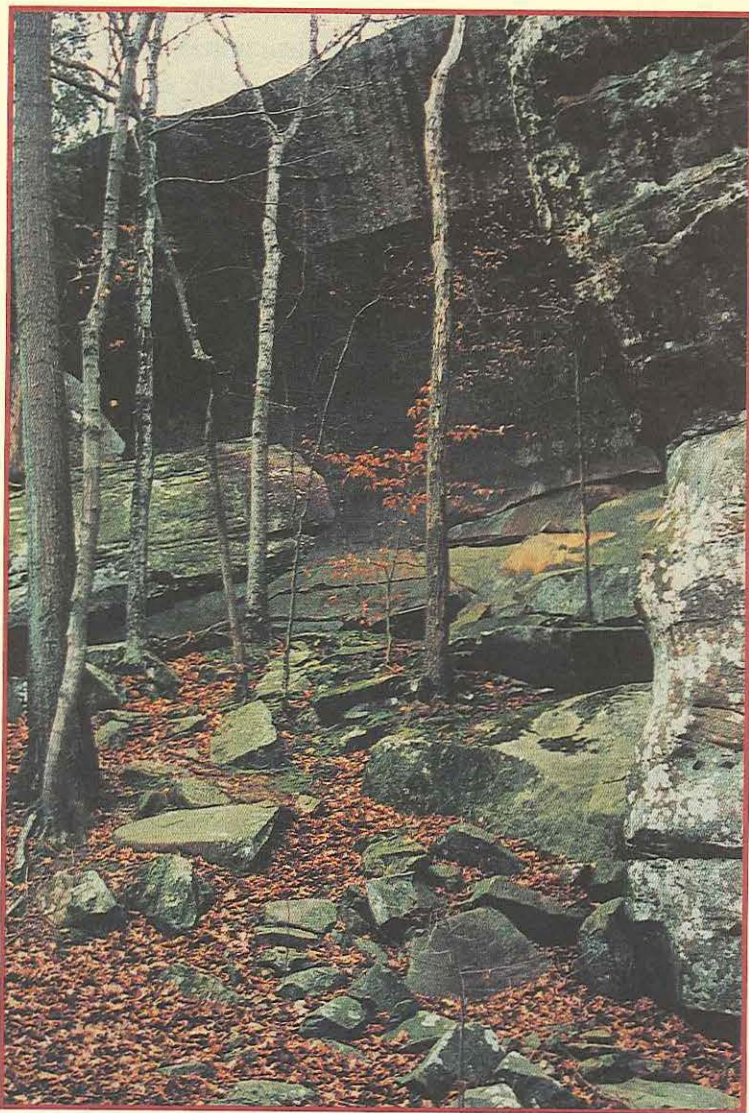
The ADT continues along the levee to Devil's Backbone Park in Grand Tower where it picks up the River-to-River Trail. The trail is well marked with wooden diamonds and blue "i"s eastward to Route 1 through the Shawnee National Forest.

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 enters Indiana. Daniel Boone's older brother ran a mill in New Haven in about 1790.





## ADT Southern Illinois Step by Step



The American Discovery Trail enters Illinois using Indiana 62. After crossing the Wabash River the road becomes Illinois 141. Toll bridge is \$.50. Enter White County/Gallatin County.

Continue west on 141

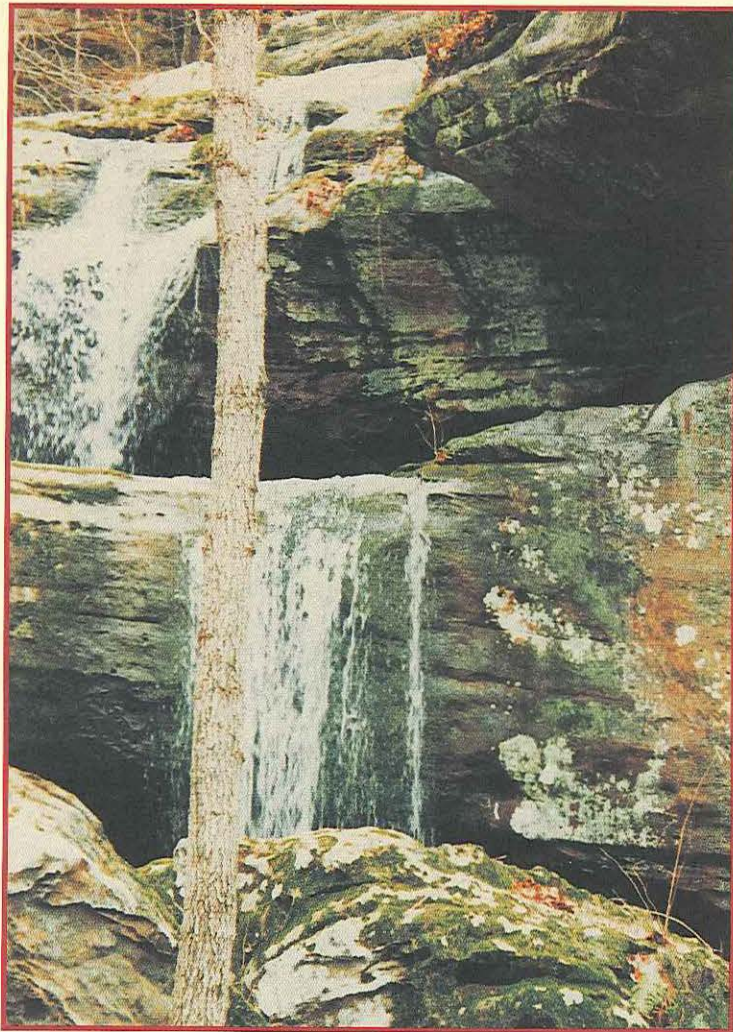
- ..... Cross Little Wabash Pass New Haven Turn off ..... 5.0
- ..... Daniel Boone's Brother ran a Mill and a Blockhouse here ..... 1.3
- ..... IL 141 and Shawneetown-New Haven Road Turn left ... 6.3

- 6.5 ..... Shawneetown Road to Big Hill Road ..... 12.8
- 11.0 Bill Hill Road to Shawneetown and Old Shawneetown (Gallatin) ..... 23.8
- .2 ..... Junction Gallatin and Locust turn right ..... 24.0
- .1 ..... Cross Highway 13 ..... 24.1
- ..... To Market Street ..... 24.1
- 1.0 ..... Market becomes El Sasser Road follow to Ring Gold .. 26.1
- 1.5 ..... Ring Gold becomes Peabody Road ..... 27.6
- 6.5 ..... Peabody Road to Route 1 (turn left) ..... 34.1
- 1.0 ..... Route 1 to Pounds Hollow Road ..... 35.1
- 5.4 Pounds Hollow Road Becomes Karbers Ridge up to River to River T. .... 40.5
- .2 ..... Turn right going north Sparks Hill Road ..... 40.7\*

\* Use River to River Trailguide from here to Devils' Backbone Park at Grand Tower for 126.75 miles from this point.

- ..... Devils Back Bone Park ..... 167.45
  - .2 ..... Brunkhorse St. go north ..... 167.65
  - .25 ..... Brunkhorse and 20th turn right ..... 168.90
  - .3 ..... 20th and third Avenue turn left ..... 169.2
  - 1.0 ..... junction third and Power Plant road ..... 170.2
  - 1.3 ..... Junction Power Plant Road and Route 3 ..... 171.5
  - 4.5 ..... IL 3 and Groham Road Turn left ..... 176.0
  - 1.5 ..... Gorham (62940) ..... 177.5
  - 4.0 ... Gorham Main Street becomes Neunert Road turns left 181.5
  - ..... Neunert Road. After 2 miles turn left onto Levee road ..... 192.6
  - 11.1 ..... Stay on Levee to Cora ..... 192.6
  - 1.2 ..... Junction with IL 3 ..... 193.8
  - 2.0 ..... Rockwood (62280) ..... 195.8
  - 5.8 ... Rockwood to Chester at Water Street (Walk on west side of road) 201.6
  - 3.5 ..... Take Water Street straight through ..... 205.1
  - ..... and pass Menard Prison on right ..... 205.1
  - ..... Mississippi River on left. Popeye Statue at the Bridge exit(Branch St.)
  - 5.8 ..... Chester to Fort Kaskaskia (Camping Historic Area) .. 210.9
  - 4.1 ..... Fort Kaskaskia to Ellis Grove ..... 215.0
  - ..... Turn left at Post Office (Grove Cafe is a real treat) .. 215.0
  - .25 ... Take IL route 3 for .25 miles and turn left on Roots Rd. 215.25
  - 4.0 ..... Roots Road to Lock and Dam Road turn left. ... 219.25
- The shorter distance is to take Roots Road further but traffic here is dangerous. This section of the Mississippi Valley suffered the "Flood





of the Century” in 1993 and feelings run strong against strangers who feel they own the place. Please be very diplomatic, but this area is one of the most interesting places in the United States.

- 3.0 . . . . .Lock and dam road to Modoc Ferry Road turn right 222.25
- 7.5 . . . . .Levee road past Modoc Ferry turnoff to Fish Lake Road 217.9
- 5.5 . . . . .Levee Road to pass Modoc Ferry entrance . . . . .223.4
- 5.5 . . . . .Fish Lake Road to Prarie Du Rocher . . . . .228.9
- Go Into Town and turn left at Creole House leave town on Route 155
- 3.0 . . . . .Prarie Du Rocher to Fort Des Chartres . . . . .231.9
- Fort Des Chartres was an old French Fort built in 1750 to protect their interest in the Midwest, such as food grown there going to supply New Orleans
- 4.0 . . . . .Fort Des Chartres north to Stringtown Road . . . . .235.9

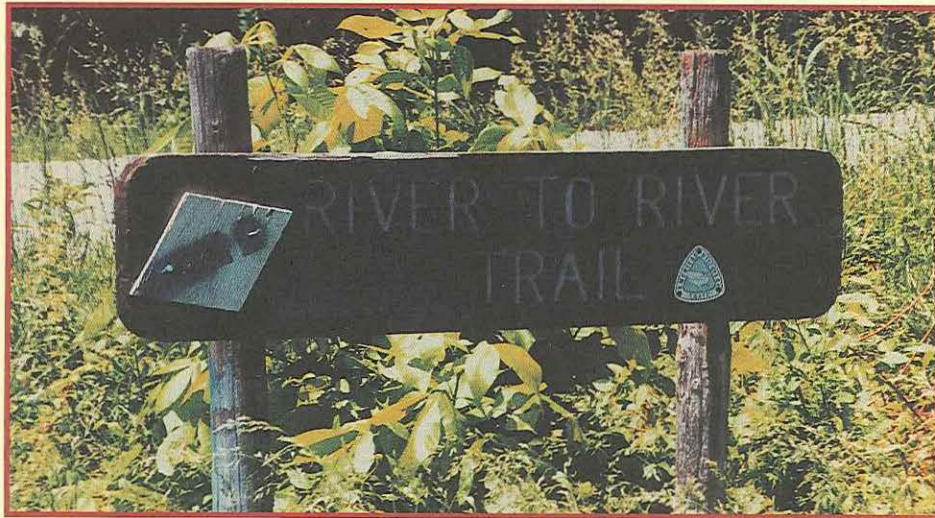
- 5.5 . . . . .Stringtown Road to Ivy, turn left. . . . .241.4
- 1.0 . . . . .Ivy to Levee Road . . . . .242.4
- 6.0 . . . . .Levee to Long Lake Road turn right . . . . .248.4
- 5.0 . . . . .Long Lake to Outlet, turn left . . . . .253.4
- Past Maecystown Historic District. Very, very picturesque-Stone Houses Arched Stone Bridge, Ford a stream to leave town.
- .3 . . . . .Outlet to “B” road, turn left . . . . .253.7
- 12.0 “B” road to Merimac Road turn right(Cross Fountain Creek at 10.0)265.7
- Up on the Bluff line is the tomb of A.J. Miles who helped the the Wilderness Road come into existence. First Governor of Illinois was born just outside Fountain.
- .3 . . . . .Merimac intersects “B” again turn left . . . . .266.0
- 3.7 . . . . .“B” to Levee Road turn left . . . . .269.7
- 4.5 . . . . .Levee to I255 overpass turn left on BB and proceed right 274.2
- 6.5 Levee Road past East Carondolet to North Dupo and use the old Railroad Bridge, turn left to stay on levee road . . . . .280.7
- 4.0 Take Railroad Passage to Eads Bridge. Pass two bridges overhead and the third will be Eads, next to the Casino. Take elevator up to landing and ride across the Mississippi on the Metro. . . . .283.8
- The levees were laid out by Robert E. Lee when he was an engineer with the Corps of Engineers. Eads bridge is oldest bridge to cross the Mississippi built in 1876.





## 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 at 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



### GENERAL MAP KEY

River-to-River Trail

Side Trail



Trailhead



Campground



Water

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. Most through hikers who quit do so because of blisters, back trouble,



injuries such as sprains, or don't ship their food ahead and run out. A pack over 40-45 pounds should be avoided as a cause of these problems. 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 each section of the trail, it is interesting to return and hike the side trails. I am still doing side trails and I learn something every year.

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. Take a pair of sandals or canvas shoes to cross streams.

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 signifi-

cance to us. It is far better to take your time, and your enjoyment will be increased.

This is the third edition of our trail guide and it is better than the second, 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 leave it better than you found it.

## 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 Hardin County mile marker 6.43 and turns west. This goes to Rock Creek.

**Elizabethtown:** Take Route 1 south to Cave In Rock. Turn onto Route 146 just before town and proceed to Elizabethtown which is about ten miles. At the first stop sign, turn left and follow the road to the Ohio River Edge. Trailhead sign close to the fish restaurant.

**Rock Creek:** From Route 1, turn west at Mt. Zion Church (mile marker 6.43), and go about 1 mile 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 Road. 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 25 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 east to Garden of the Gods or west 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 Highway 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 Highway 45 or 20 miles southwest of Harrisburg on Highway 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 intersection and then go east to Max Creek (across the highway) or west to Dutchman Lake and on to Ferne Clyffe.

**Dutchman Lake:** Between Highway 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 "Wayside" at the large antenna. This will go to the Panther Den Wilderness Area.

**Panthers Den:** Off 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.

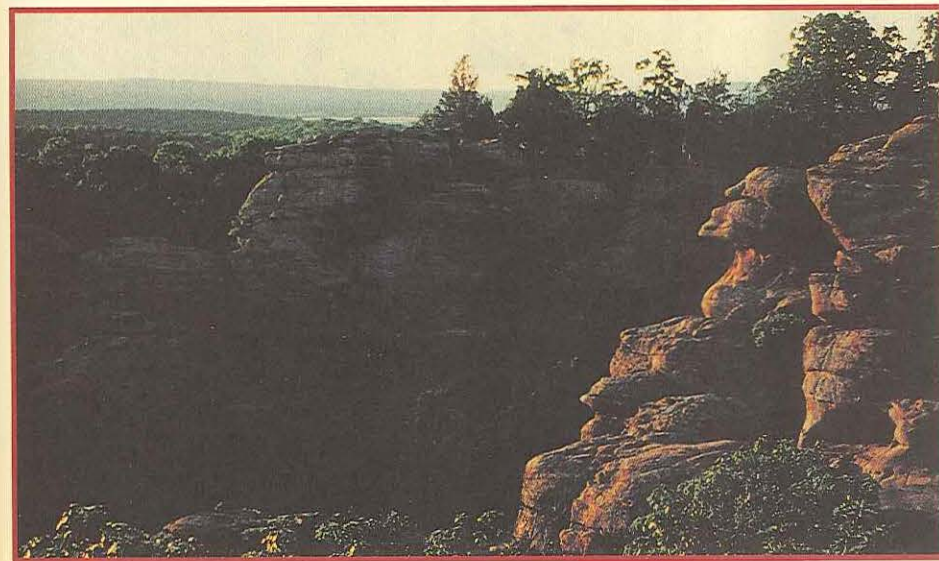
**Alto Pass:** The trail crosses main

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 trailhead for more information on that section, or call the Trail Society at 618-252-6789. Always take a compass and a companion with you.



*Garden of the Gods.*



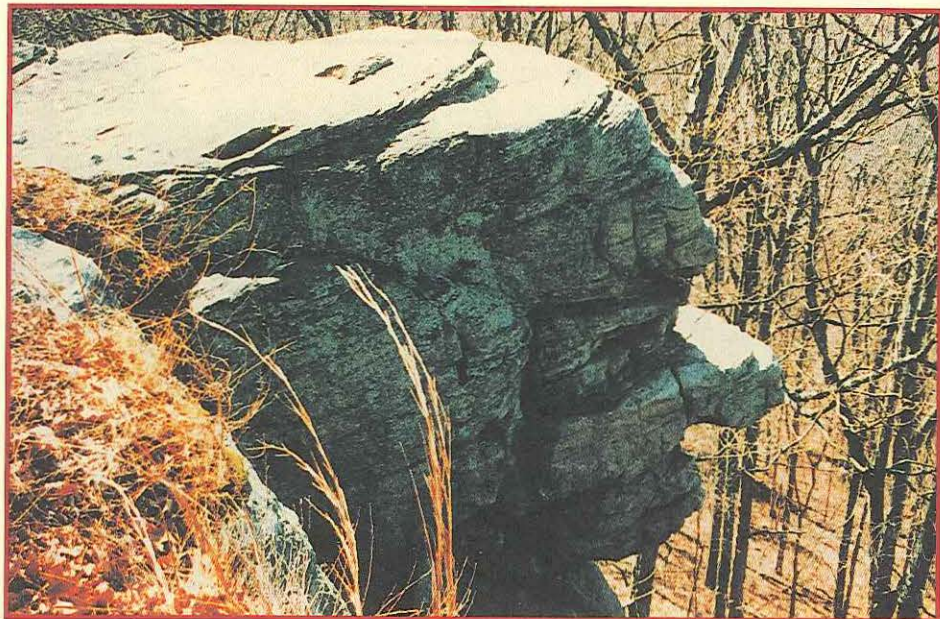
## Battery Rock to Rock Creek

### 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 Route 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 riverside 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.

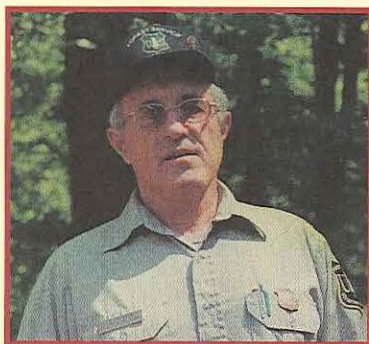
The Rock Creek Hollow is one of three such hollows that narrow and then meet in approximately the same location. You can actually stand in one spot and see the mouth of two

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. Bill 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."

### Our Pal

Ken Peterin is the Trails contact that the Society has with the Forest Service. Ken coordinates many organizations who volunteer work on the trail and is the principle reason why there is trail maintenance being done. We appreciate the difficulty of his job, and feel we could not have a better man do it, or a better partner for us to work with. We would put him in our Hall of Fame, but he is already there.



*Ken Peterin*

## Rock Creek to Camp Cadiz

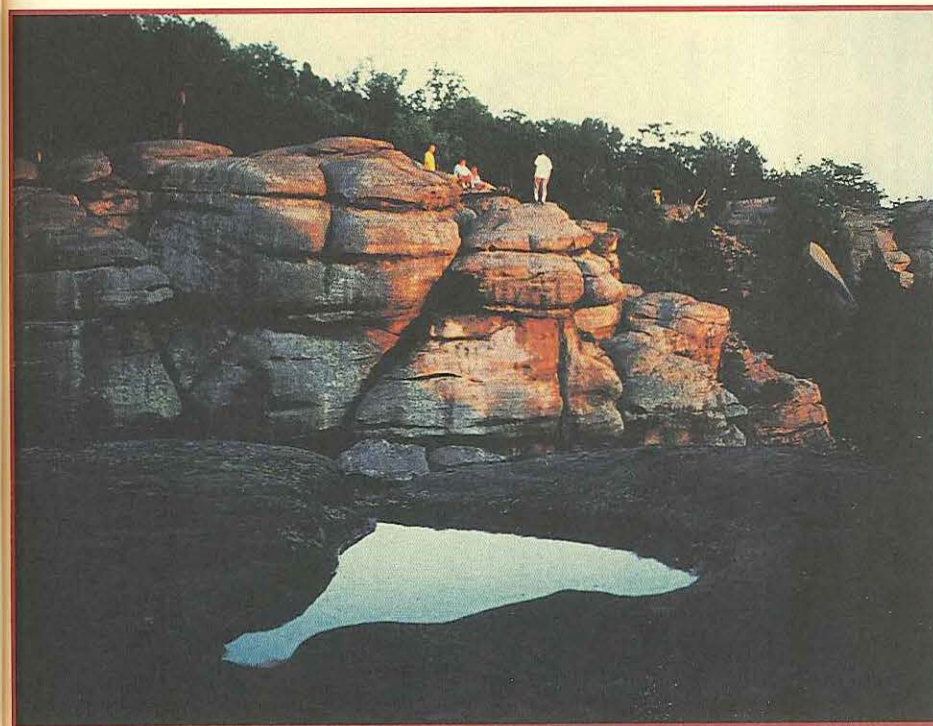
### Map 2 and 3

The River-to-River Trail can be accessed at Rock Creek. There is a trailhead sign along the gravel road about 1/4 mile west of the old 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 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

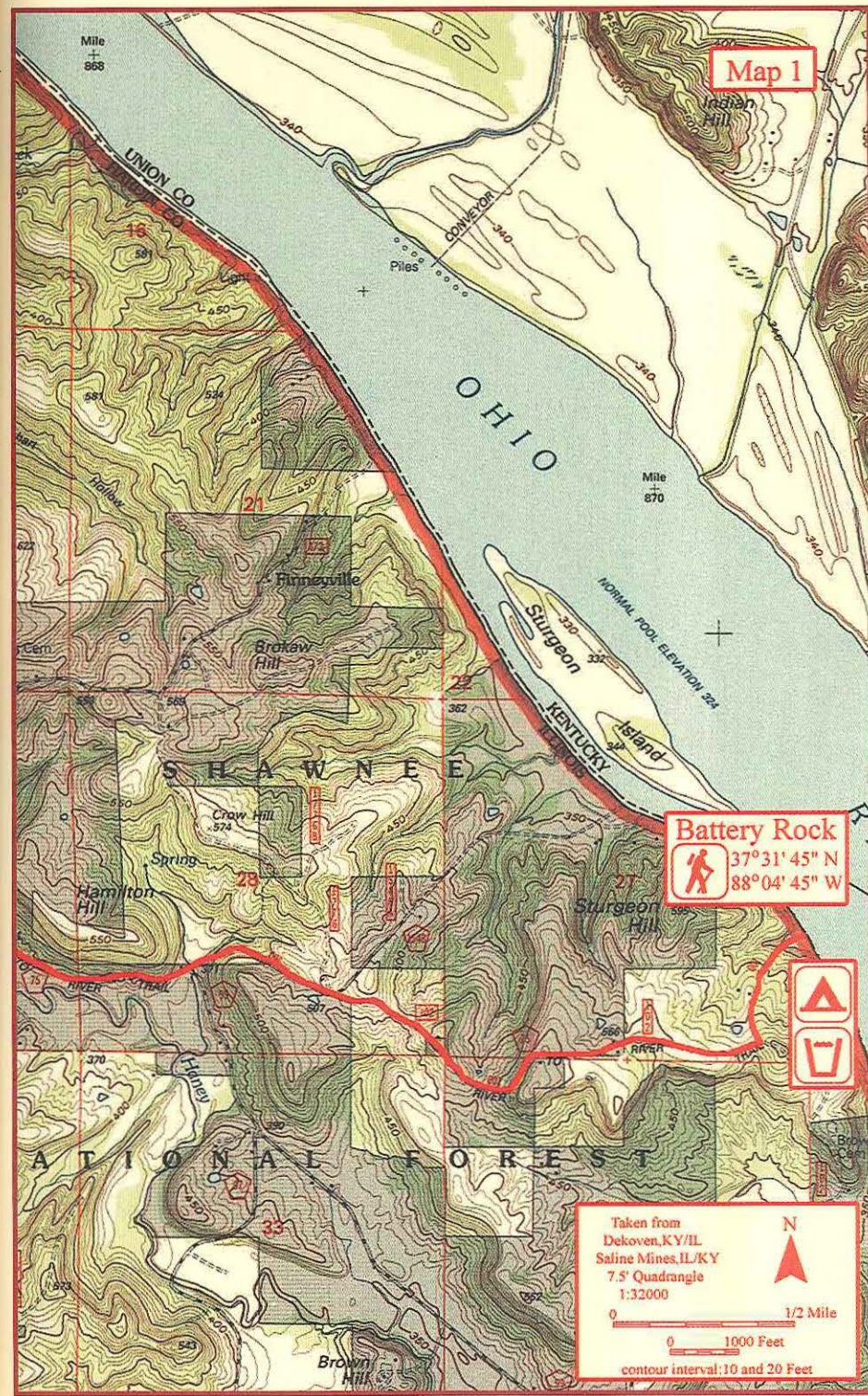
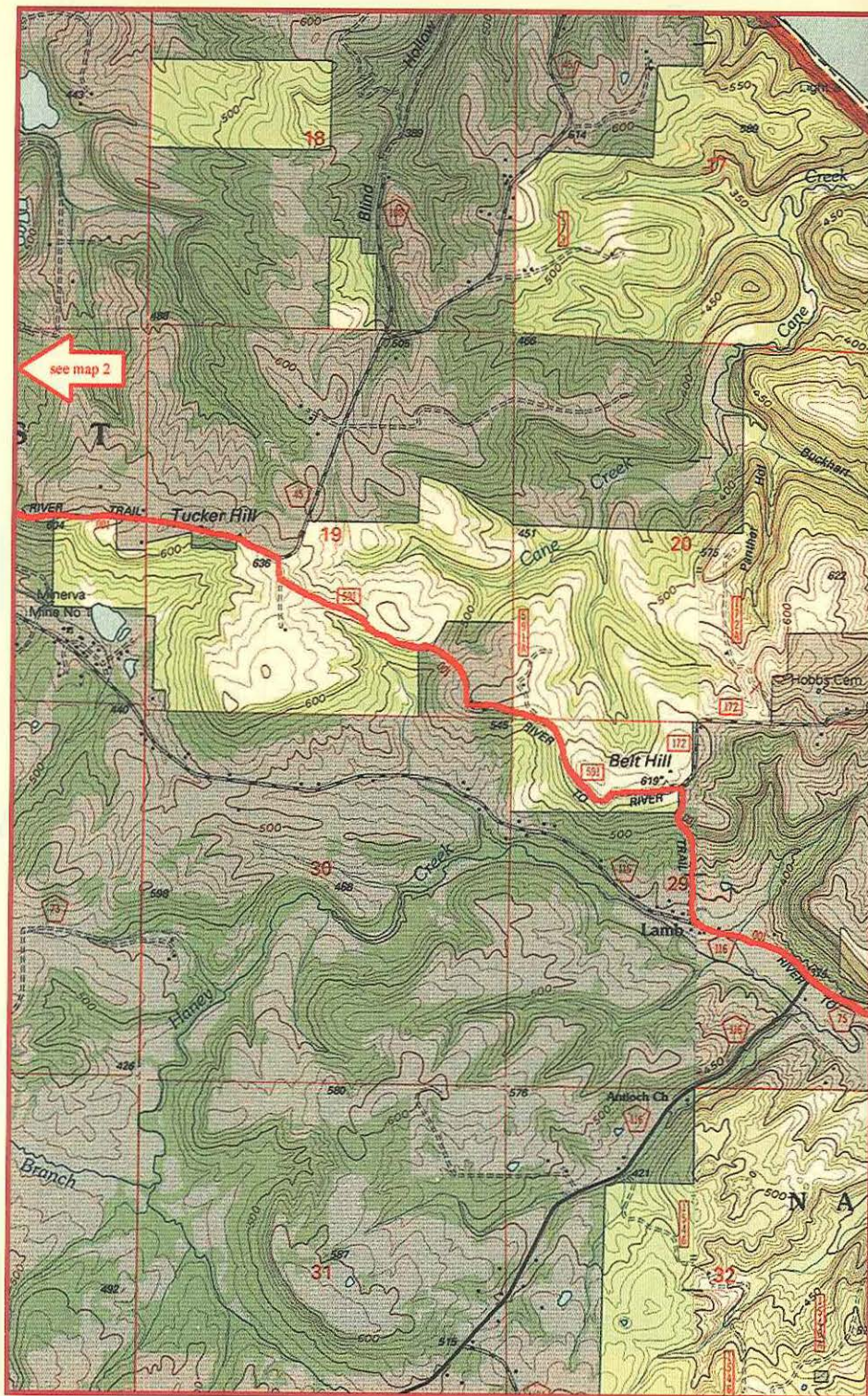
strongly rumored that he had been involved with a gold robbery in California and walked back to protect the money.

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.

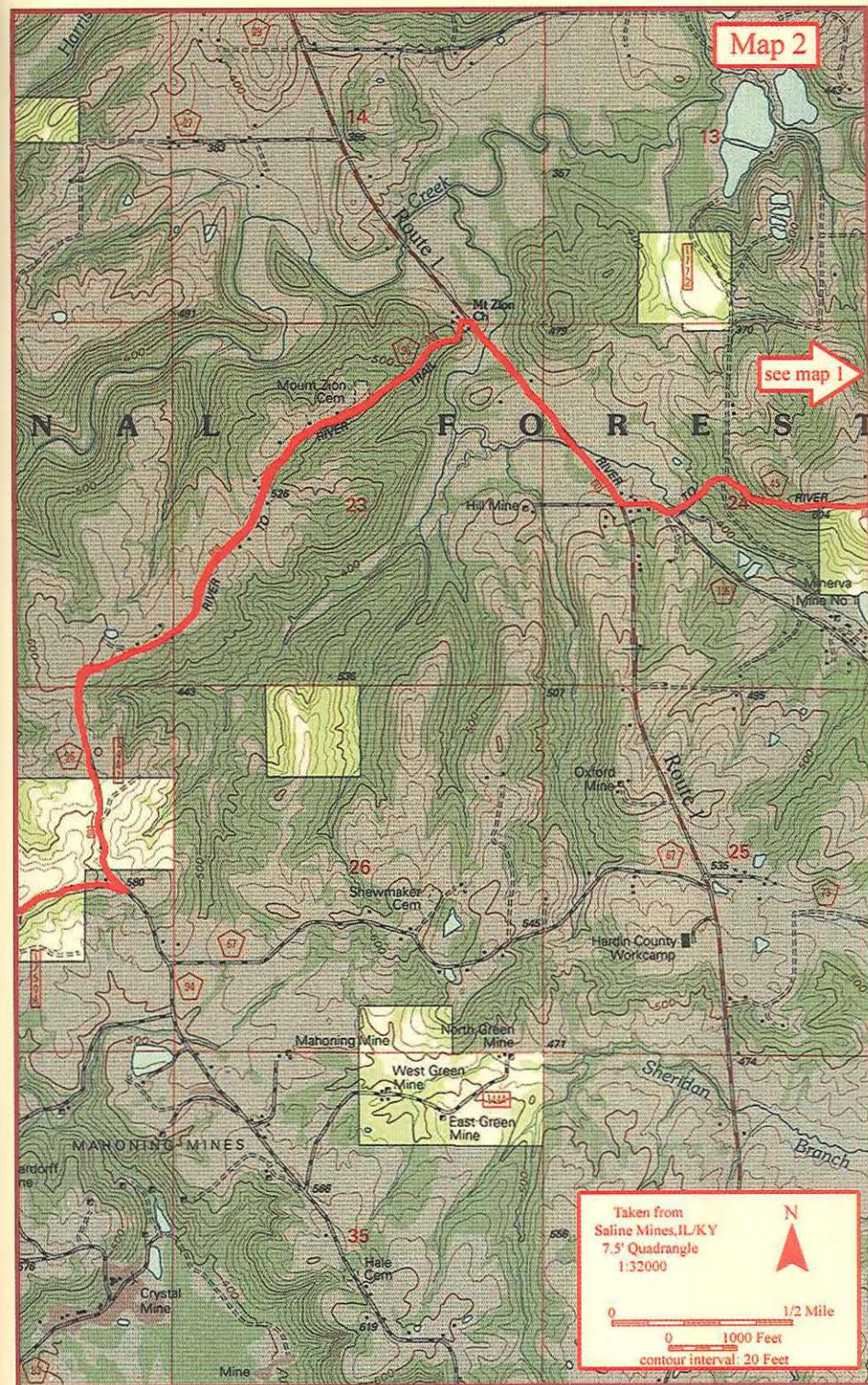
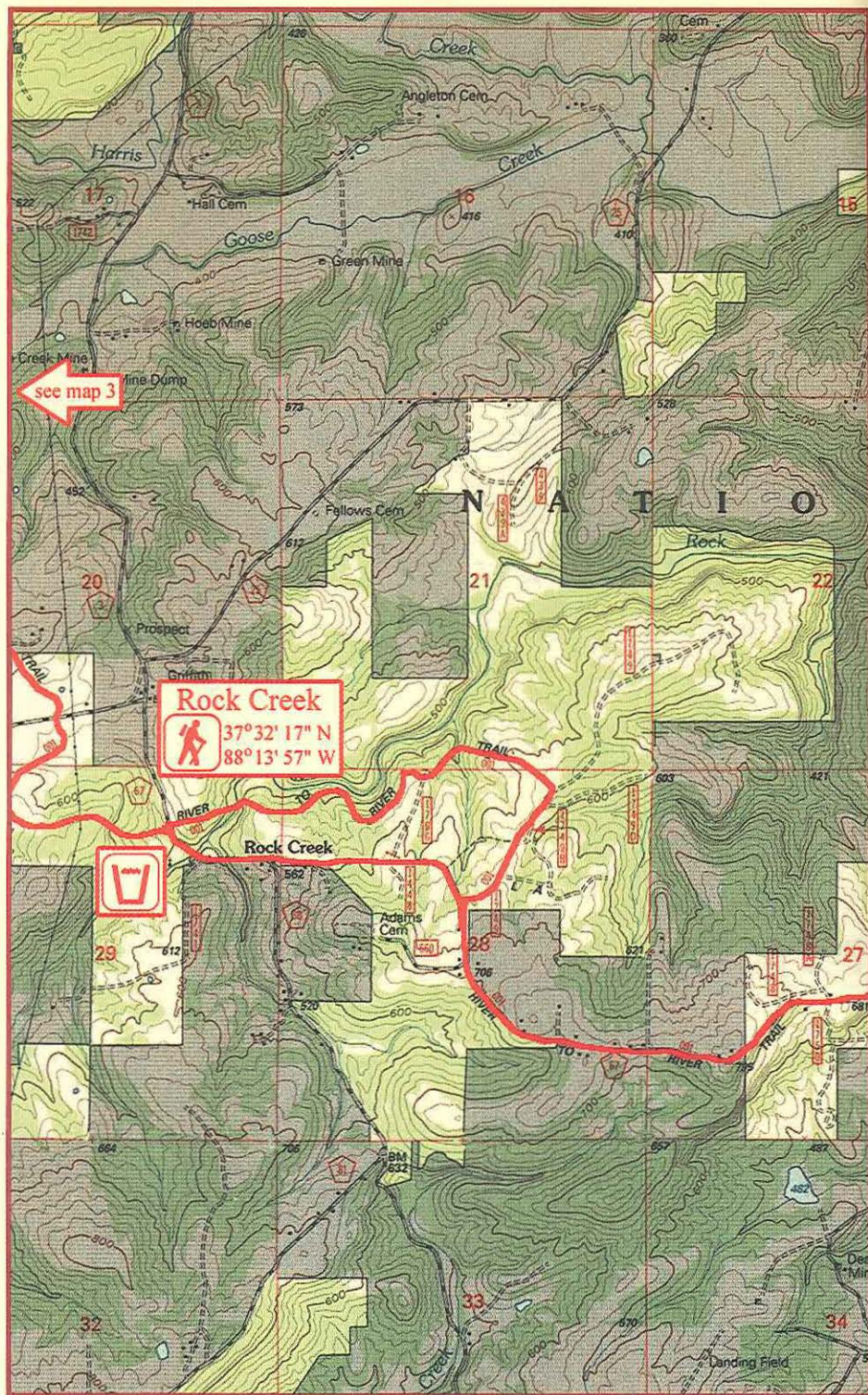


*Garden of the Gods*

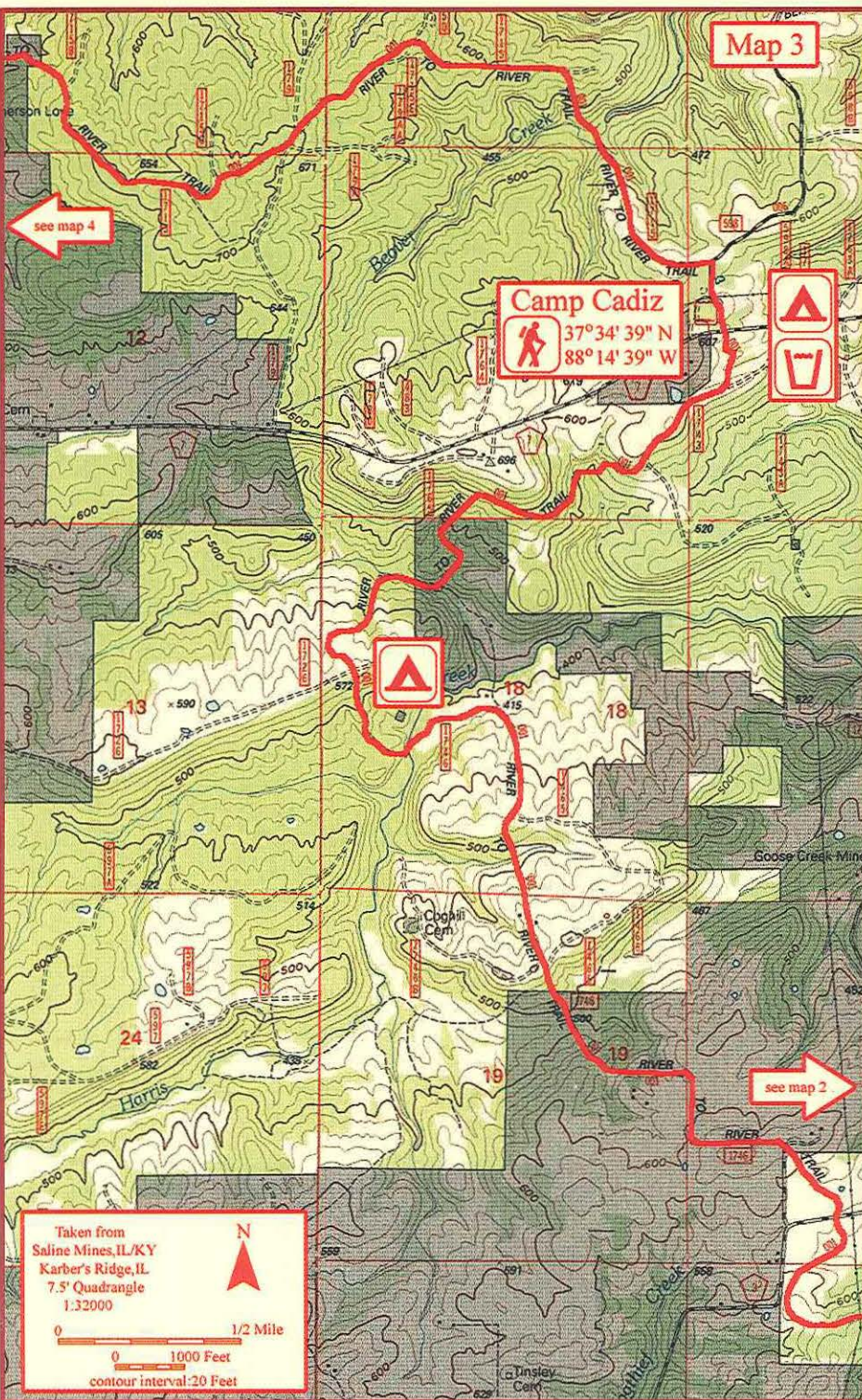












## The E'Town Trail

### A New Beginning

For many years the Battery Rock beginning of the River to River Trail had problems with it particularly because it was hard to find, there were no facilities, and the first sixteen miles were mostly on roads. Another option came to us when David Flanders reminded us of the trail ride his father had each year. The Illinois Trail riders and their president Sue Perina, (with her side-kick Joe Perina) then volunteered to care for the Trail. Both groups did a lot of work cleaning and working on the configuration that you see following. We will never forget our original beginning at Battery Rock, but E'Town gives us an easier place to find, some community support, and gets the Trail into the woods much sooner. Look for the Trailhead sign near the fish restaurant right on the river, setting just

south of the old Rose Hotel. This leg is sixteen miles long connecting Elizabethtown with the Karbers Ridge section before you reach High Knob. The Forest Service may not officially sanction this leg, but this is our recommendation for starting. It is an official loop of the River to River Trail Society.

Start on the Ohio River Bank past the Rose Hotel and down stream from the Fish Restaurant. Proceed up Locust Street, cross directly ahead past the newspaper office and follow the road past the Church and the Park. About a half mile past the park at the first road going north turn to the north. This sets the trail. Another mile up the road, you are nearing Lake Tecumseh. At about three miles up, you will pass County Road 12. The configuration of the trail is self explanatory but the connection

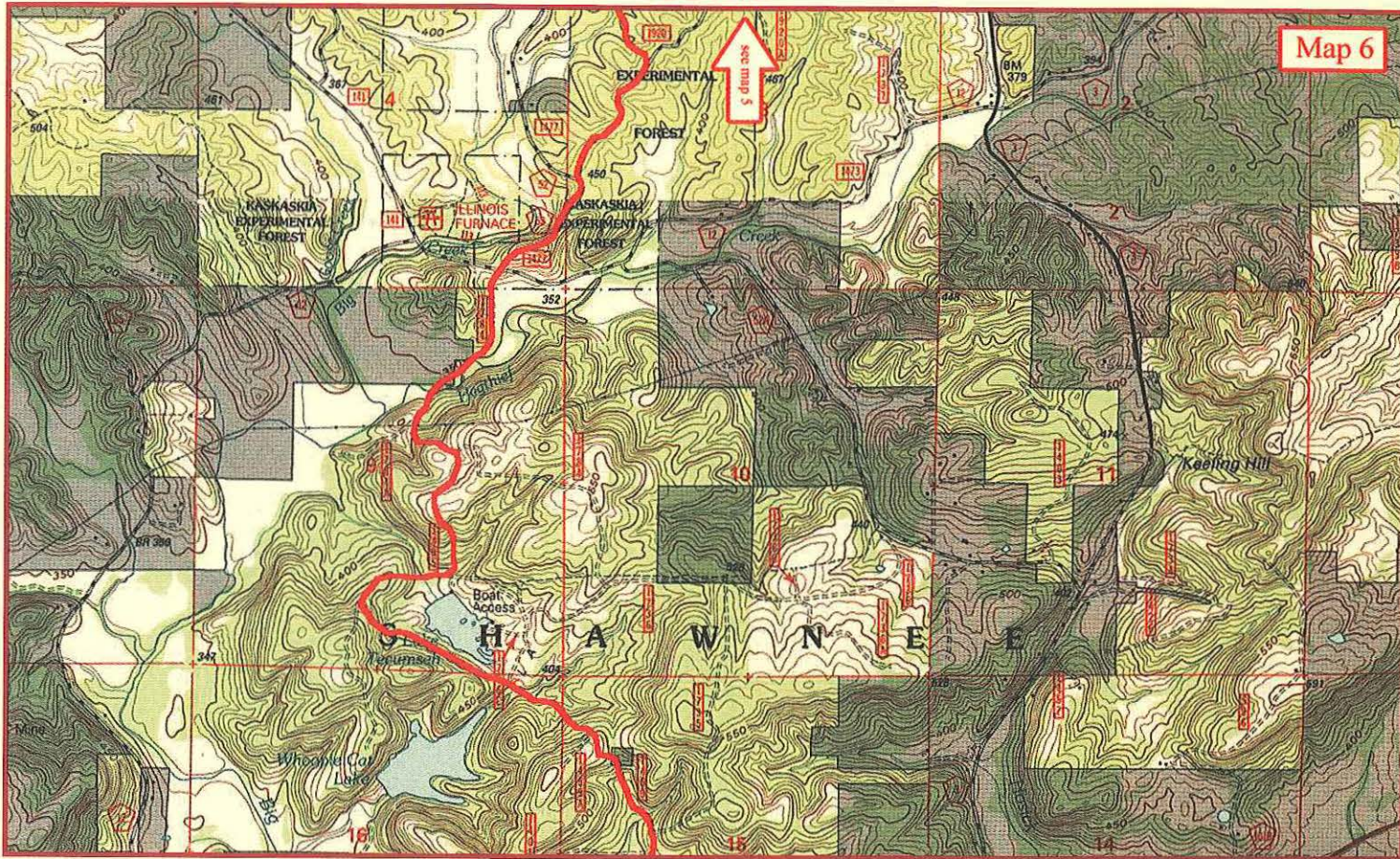
with Camp Cadiz Road is N37°34.593 W88°19.024. The junction of the E'town Trail and the River to River is listed on our map.





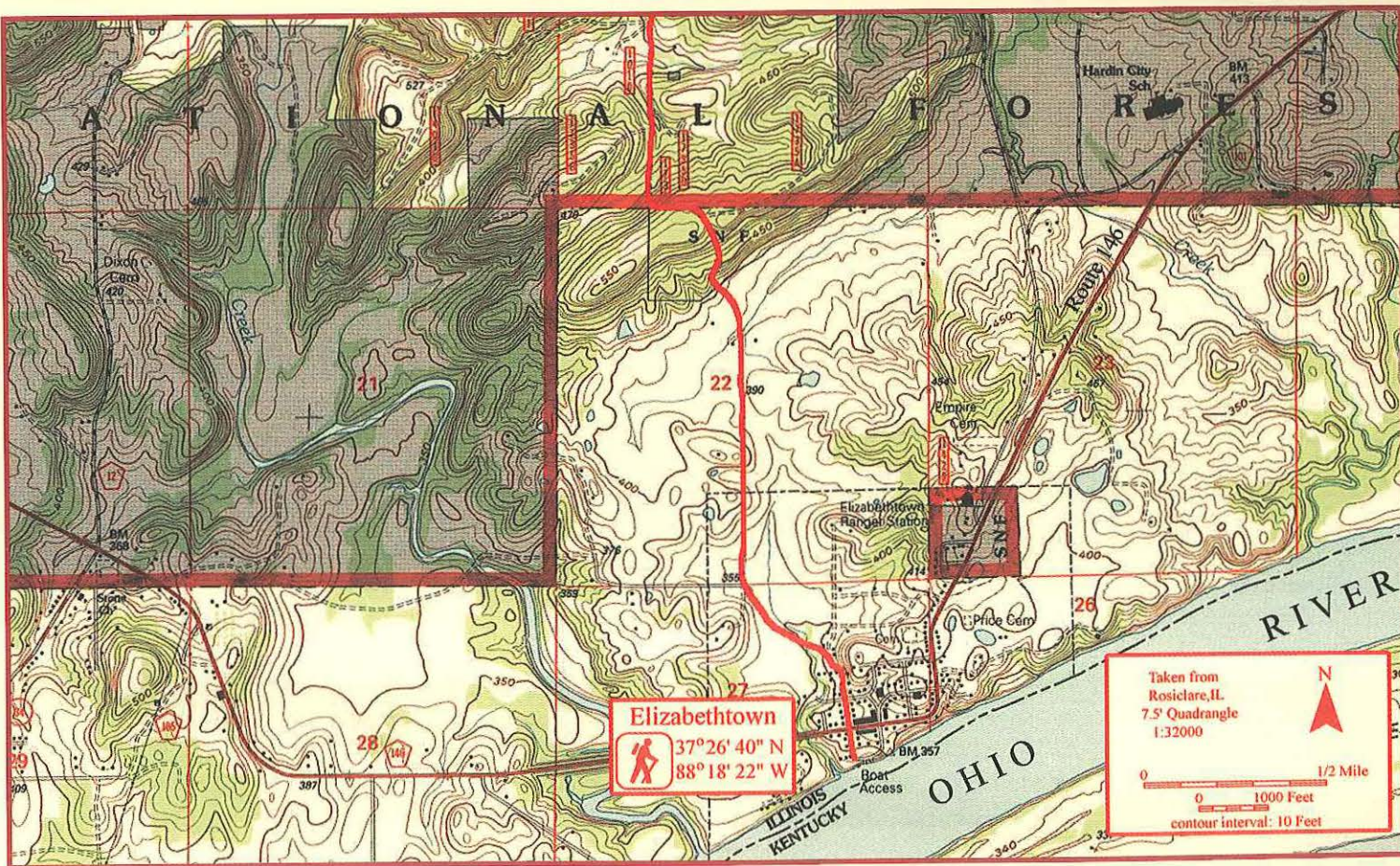
# E'Town

Map 6



36

# E'Town



37

**Elizabethtown**  
37°26'40" N  
88°18'22" W

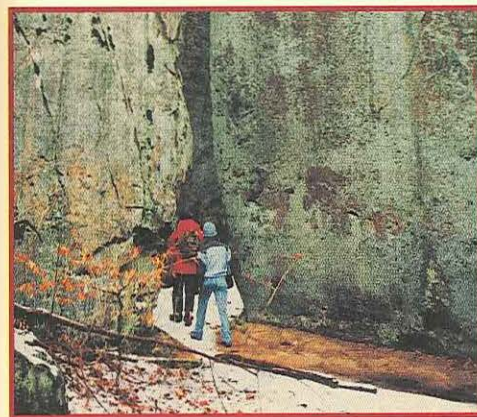
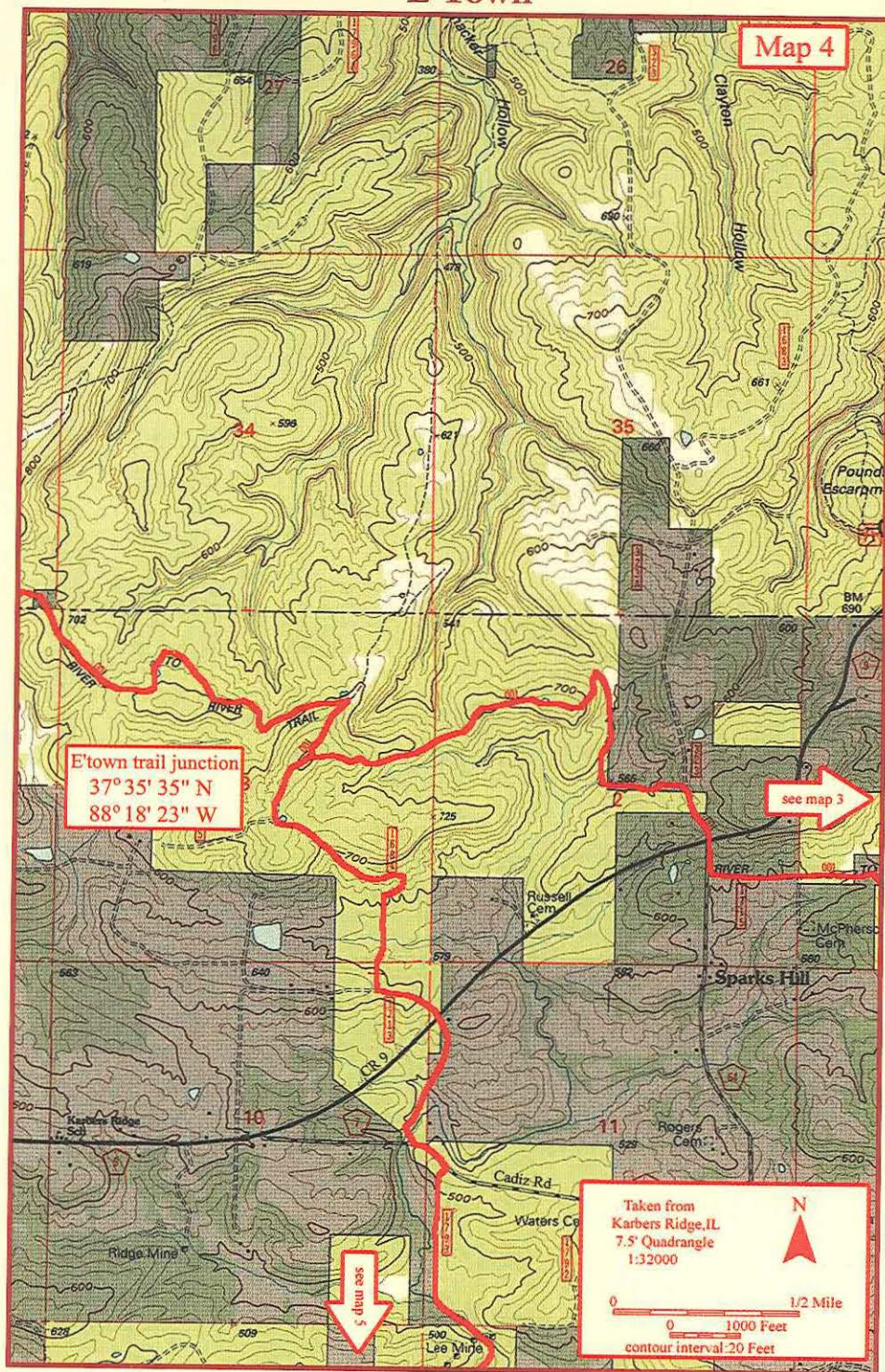
Taken from  
Rosiclare, IL  
7.5' Quadrangle  
1:32000

0 1/2 Mile  
0 1000 Feet  
contour interval: 10 Feet









Camp Cadiz was a Civilian Conservation Corps camp of the Depression Era. The buildings are now gone and what remains is a multi-use campsite. The River-to-River Trail enters the camp from the south and Rock Creek 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. We have had a problem with the Autumn Olive overgrowing this trail and you may wish to drag your pack as you duck under them. Continue directly across the blacktop and proceed about 300 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 surface of 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 geologic feature of the area and is the source of fluor spar, the state mineral.



## High Knob to Garden of the Gods

Map 4 and 5

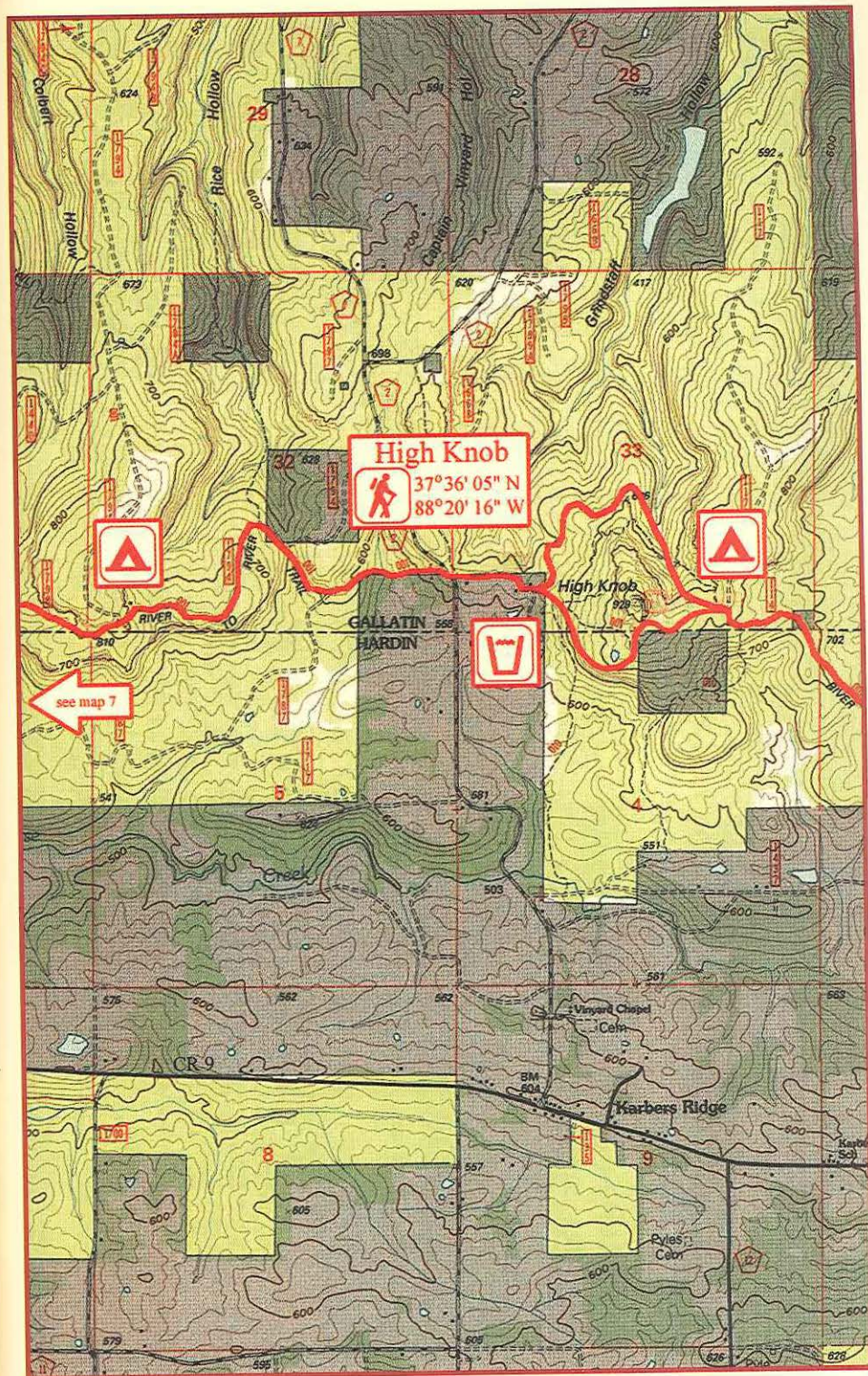
One of the best known attractions of Southern Illinois is Garden of the Gods. The geologic formations have exotic representations of various objects such as Camel Rock. In addition the area is largely surrounded by the Garden of the Gods Wilderness so the view inside and outside make worth a special 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 Karbers Rider and Herod.

To reach Garden of the Gods from High Knob, follow the trail from High Knob or High Knob Campground which is privately owned, to the west and cross the road. The trail will turn off the road and enter the woods going west. Watch for the painted blue  $\bar{i}$  on the trees although the brush in the summer may make it a little difficult. The distance to Garden of the Gods is about five miles by following the regular trail. Up trail from the first overlook that some call Buzzards Roost there is a trail going 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 Gods 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 Gods 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.

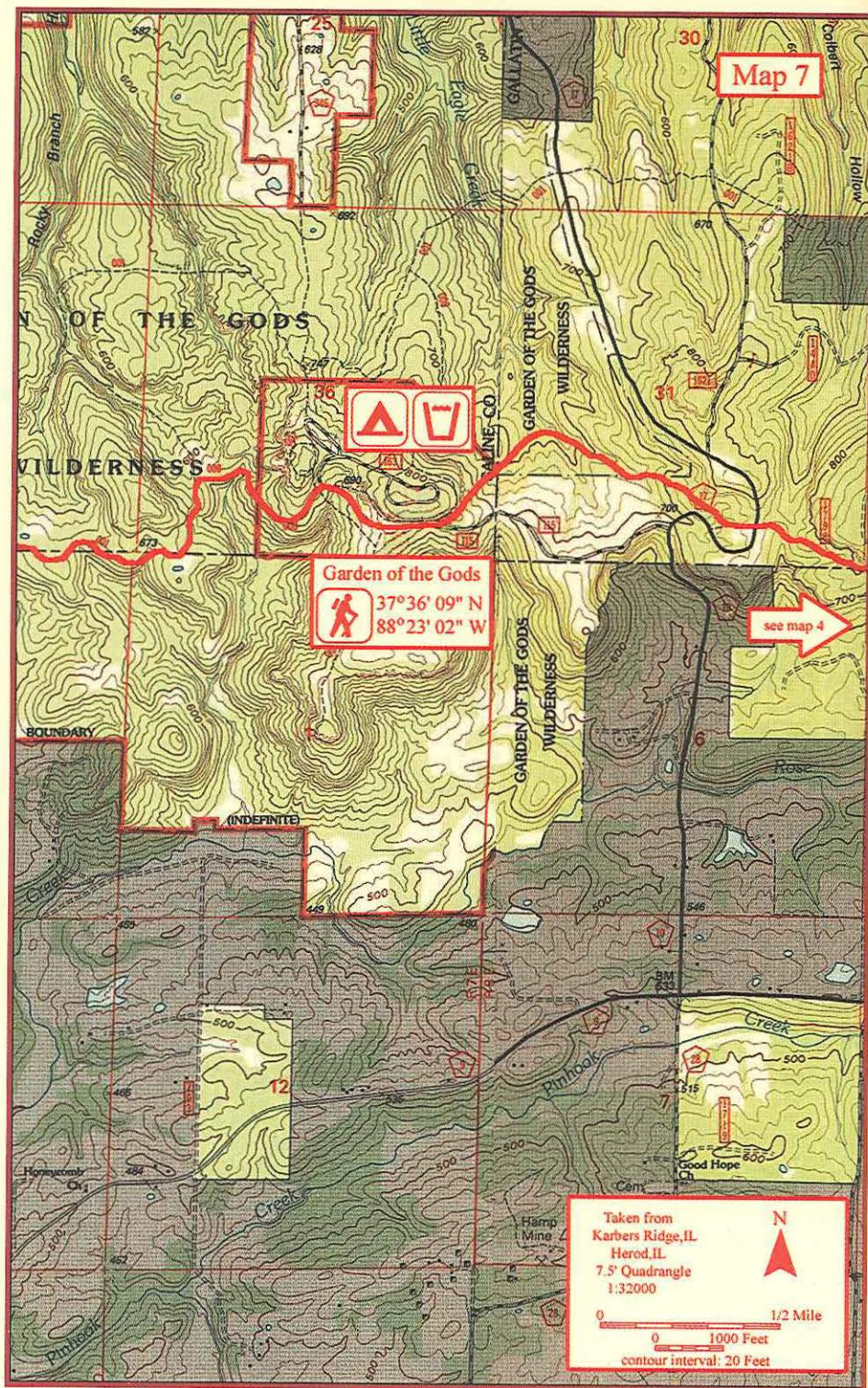
The campground located at Garden of the Gods is just east of the parking lot. They have lots of exploring around them as well as being in such a nice setting.





## Garden of the Gods to Herod

### Map 5 and 6



Major changes have occurred in the Garden of the Gods to Herod section of the Trail. Now the Trail comes from the east at High Knob to a trail below the campground, crosses the blacktop that goes to the observation area, and then proceeds due west toward Herod. The old trail is now a loop and the new trail intersects it at a place that has a marker saying "Lower Trail." Go south at this point and you will soon be meandering generally west until you get to the Blacktop just above Herod. The trail enters this road about a half mile above Herod and turns left or south to continue. When entering this road, please be very careful, because there likely will be coal trucks coming down this road behind you. At Herod, the trail turns right to cross the bridge, and then immediately turns left or south on Raum Road. There are a couple great vistas along the way, but the last mile is a little drab.

The old trail that is now a loop begins at the parking lot, or the Pharaoh Campground. The trail goes northwest from the parking lot, and intersects the regular old River-to-River Trail in about 3/8ths mile then takes a long loop

to the north before turning south.

The trail around Garden of the Gods is all in wilderness areas and has some spectacular old growth forest and vistas. If you are doing the loop trail, 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 Karbers Ridge Blacktop and can be identified upon passing the remnants of a house built into the side of the cliff.

Garden of the God's road can be reached from the Karbers Ridge Blacktop which is the next major road past Herod. (Turn left off Route 34, then left again off Karbers 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.



## Herod to One Horse Gap and Concord Cemetery

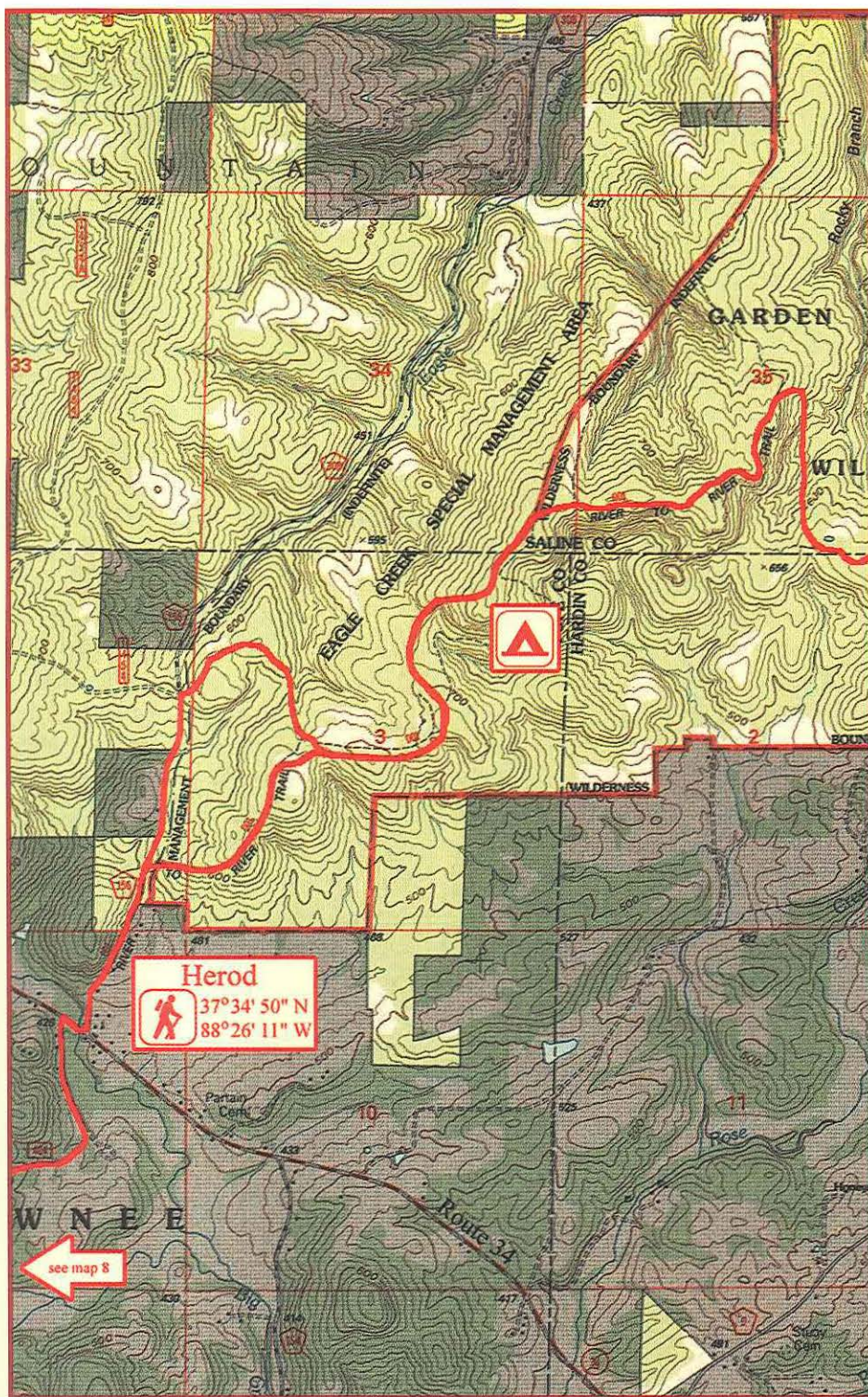
Map 6 and 7

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 an oil and chip road. 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. There is a great place to camp just down stream from the concrete ford. If you look across the road, on the west side, there is a small opening which leads to Beartrack Hollow which is a gorgeous natural setting.

William's Hill, the highest point in Southern Illinois at 1064 feet, is about two miles away. This mountain trail is about two miles out of the way but there are some very unique things along the way. A tower being planned 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. The Gibbon Creek Barrens lies across Route 34 from William's Hill. Look

under other trails for the Trail up and then down Williams Hill.

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



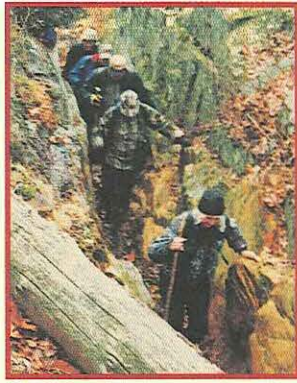


half mile away and it's location could not possibly be described except by visualizing it on a map. If you know it however, you can drive down this road until you find a plain diamond, park, and then take a short cut to the gap.

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. A great camping spot just around the corner from the gap. Another approach is to go to the top of One Horse Gap and Walk southwest to the corner where a

small stream goes over the cliff then find a way down. The other way is easier. This is a great place!

An old preacher named Blanchard is buried here. His life was an unbelievable frontier story going from an impoverished pilgrim put out on a road by heartless relatives, couldn't read or write but learned to and became a doctor and a minister. He would rest his horses on Saturday and Sunday then walk to his Church which would be twenty or so miles away. When he built his first cabin, he had to bring the stock next to the building to keep the wolves and panthers away.

## 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 thing 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 about 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.

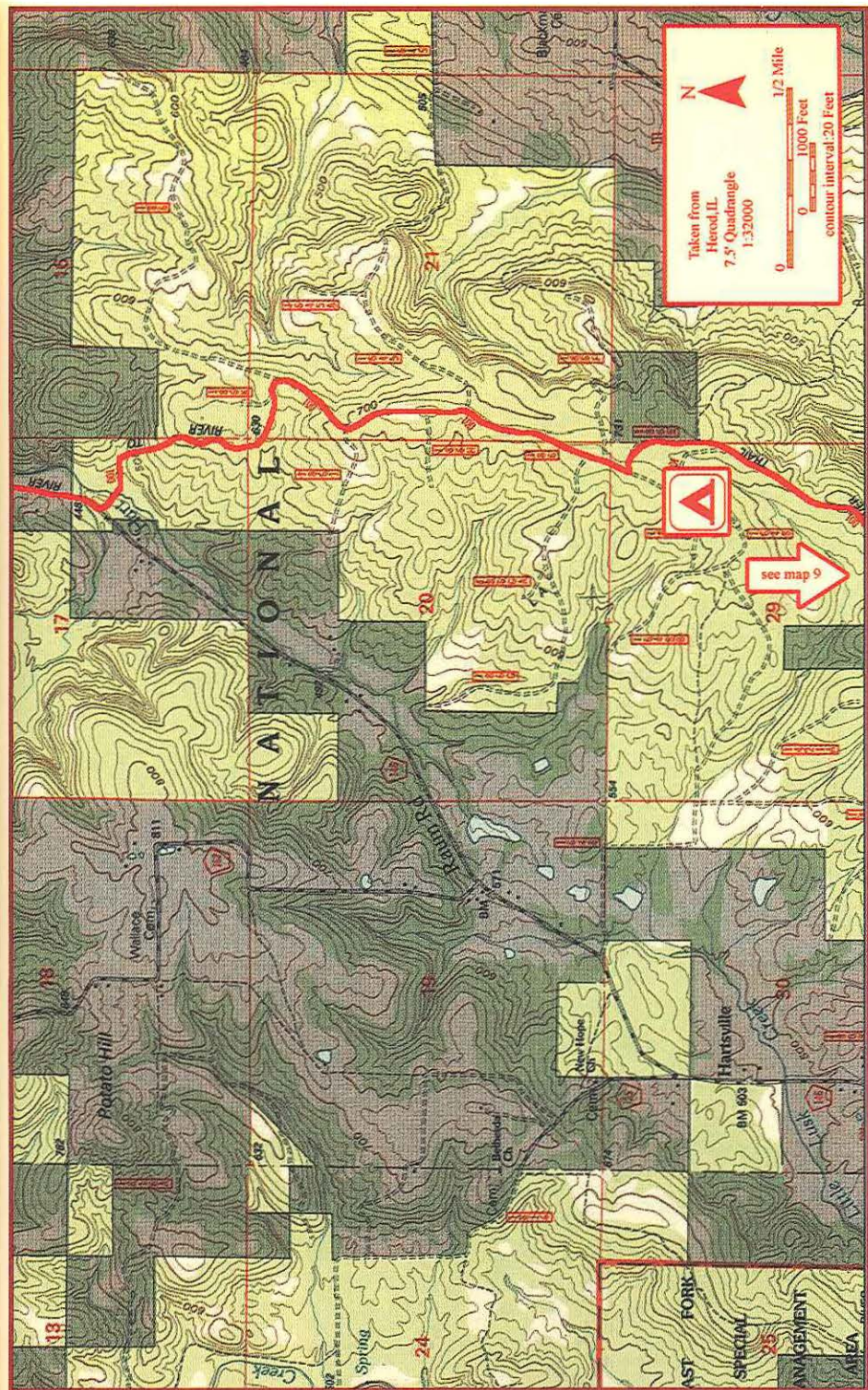
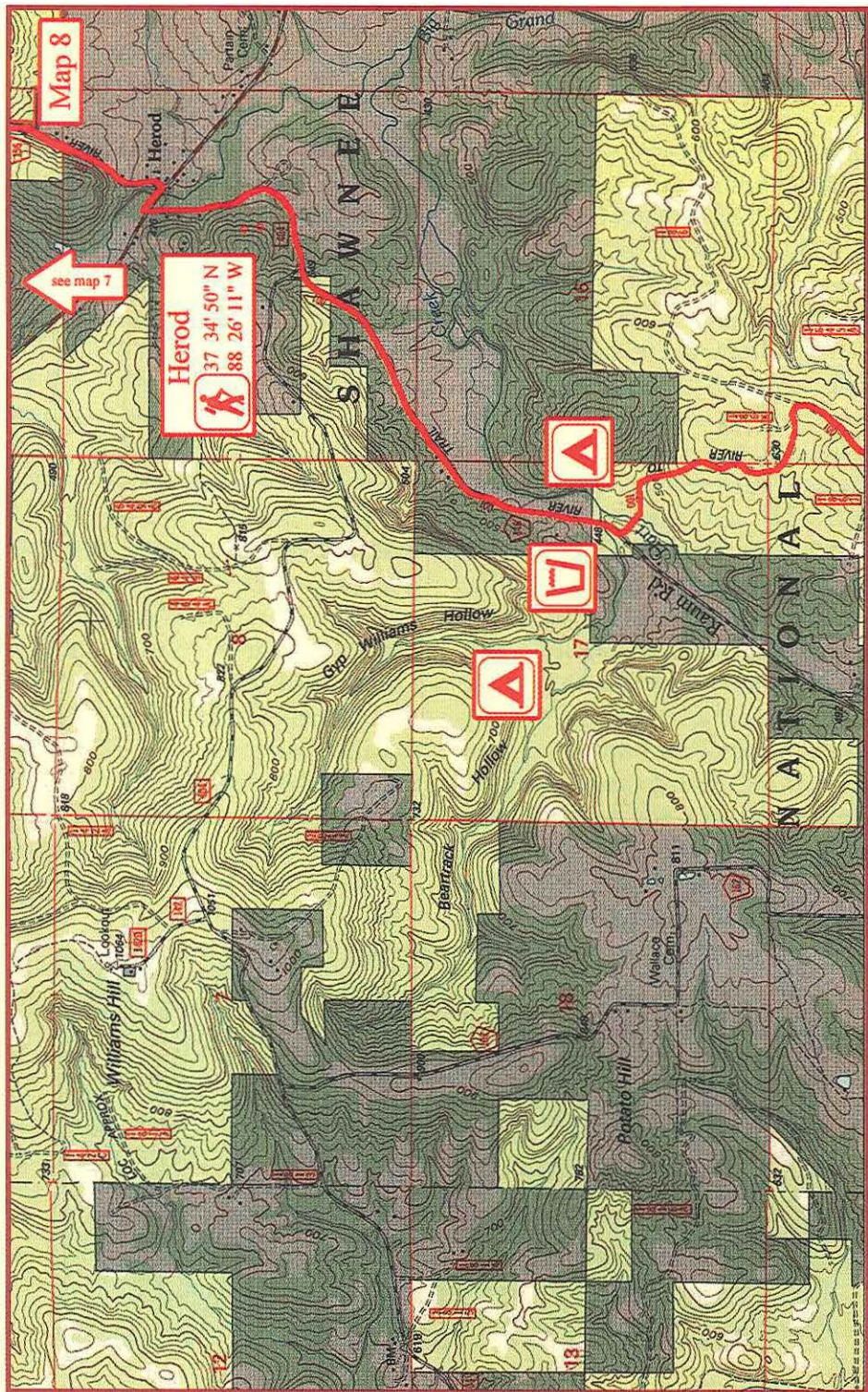
There will be some supplies in Eddyville as well as a post office. If you follow the plain white diamonds from the parking lot you will find first Bear Branch Campground and later Hayes Creek Campground before rejoining the River-to-River Trail on the other side of Eddyville.

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



*Monkey Face near Camel Rock at Garden of the Gods Recreation Area.*

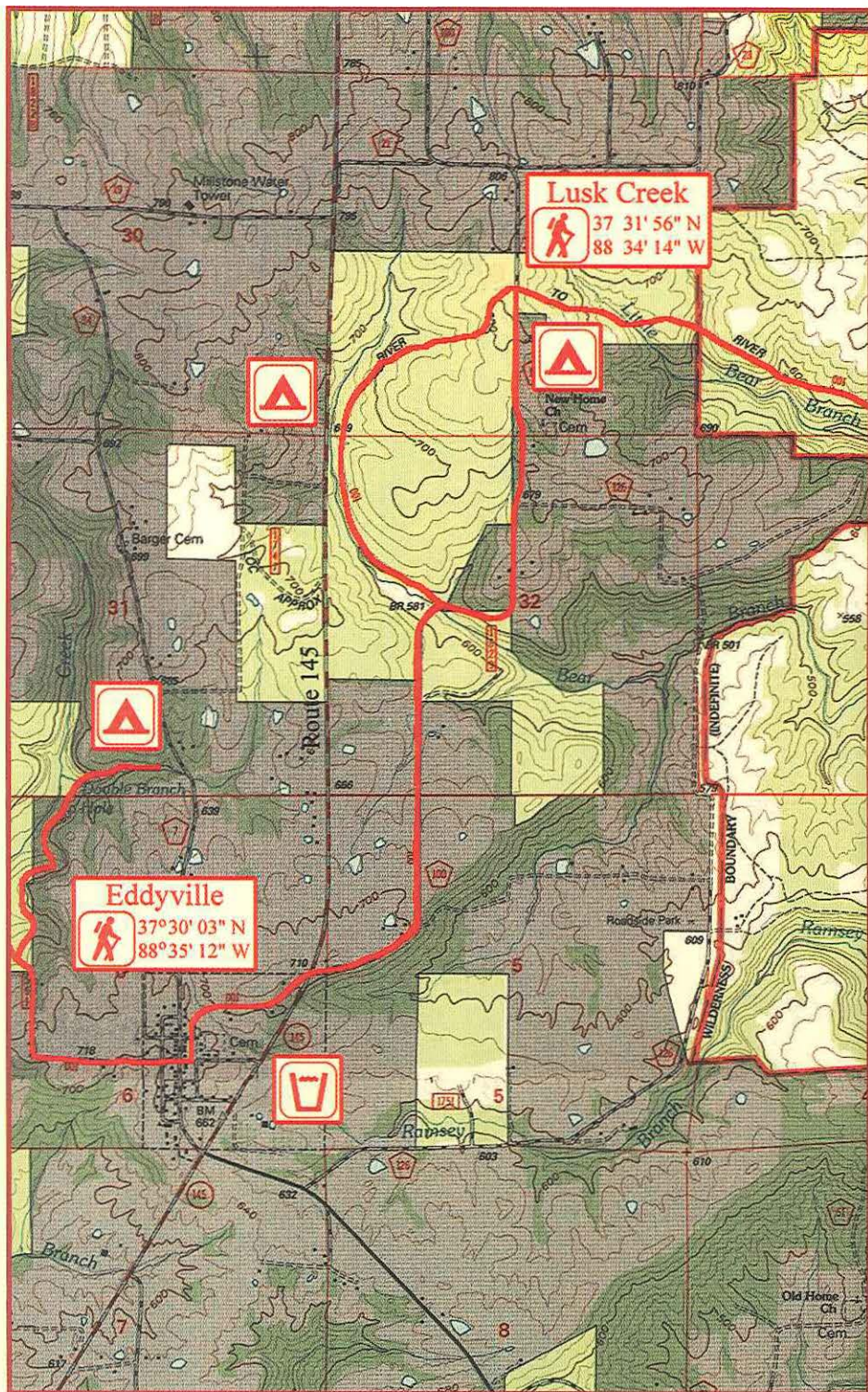












## Eddyville to Cedar Grove Church Road

### Map 9

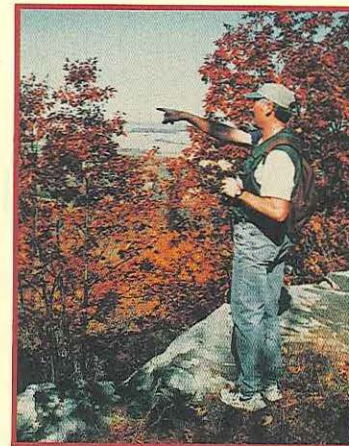
The trail leaves Eddyville going west just past the post office. Follow the trail through Eddyville to the only road going west and then turn north. The trailhead is about a quarter of a mile. The first trail going north off this trail is almost at the bottom of the hill goes to Hayes Creek Campground or Hayes Creek which has a natural waterslide called Double Branch Hole. Follow the creek to access Hayes Creek Camp, Jackson Hole and Peter Cave although the latter is on private property. By staying on the trail, you will come to a central area called Petticoat Junction. Trail going north out of here lead to Jackson Hole and Peters Cave. This trail is pretty straight forward and passes through the Crow Knob (hopefully soon to be re-named Millers Rocky Top) 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 comes 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.

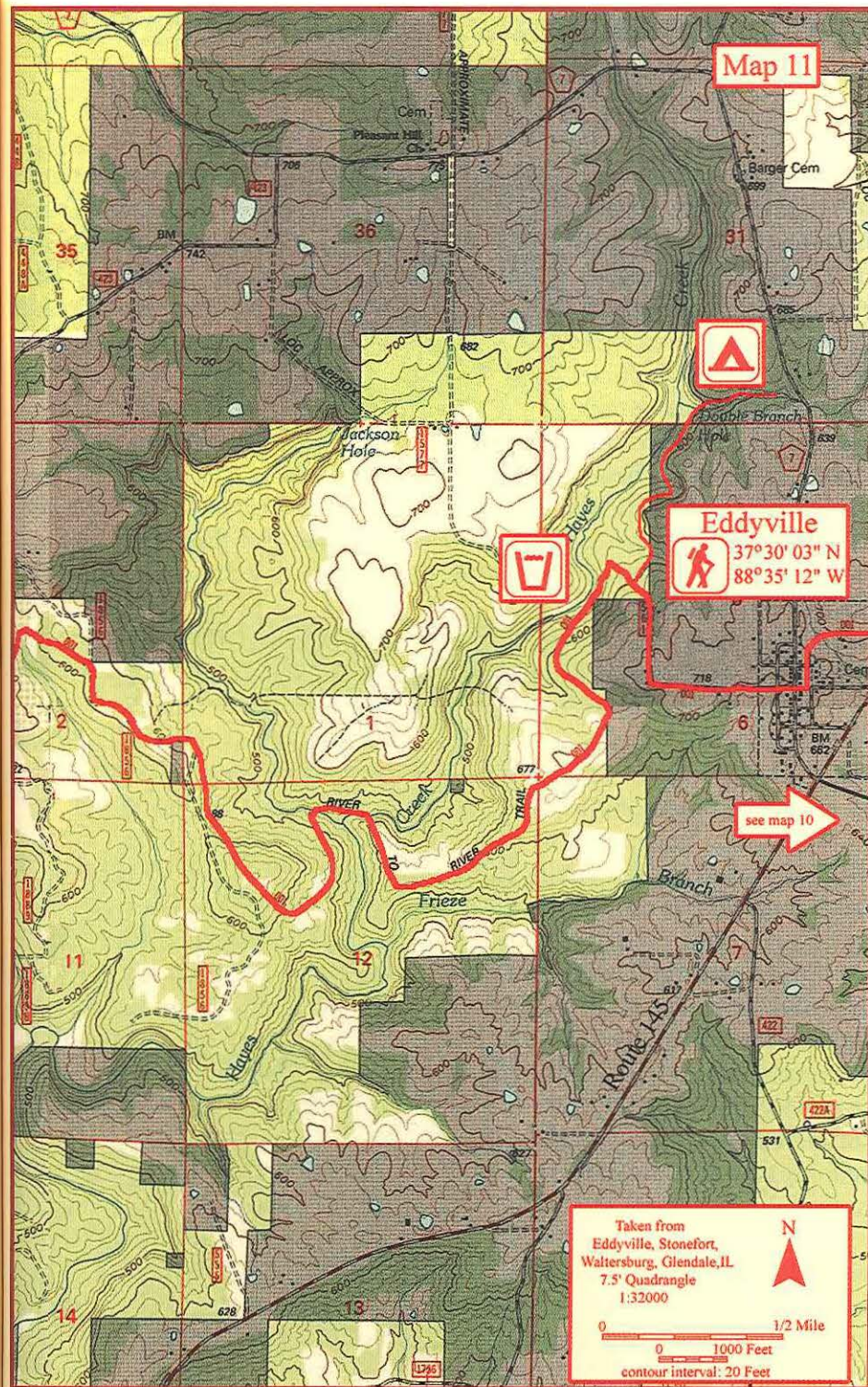
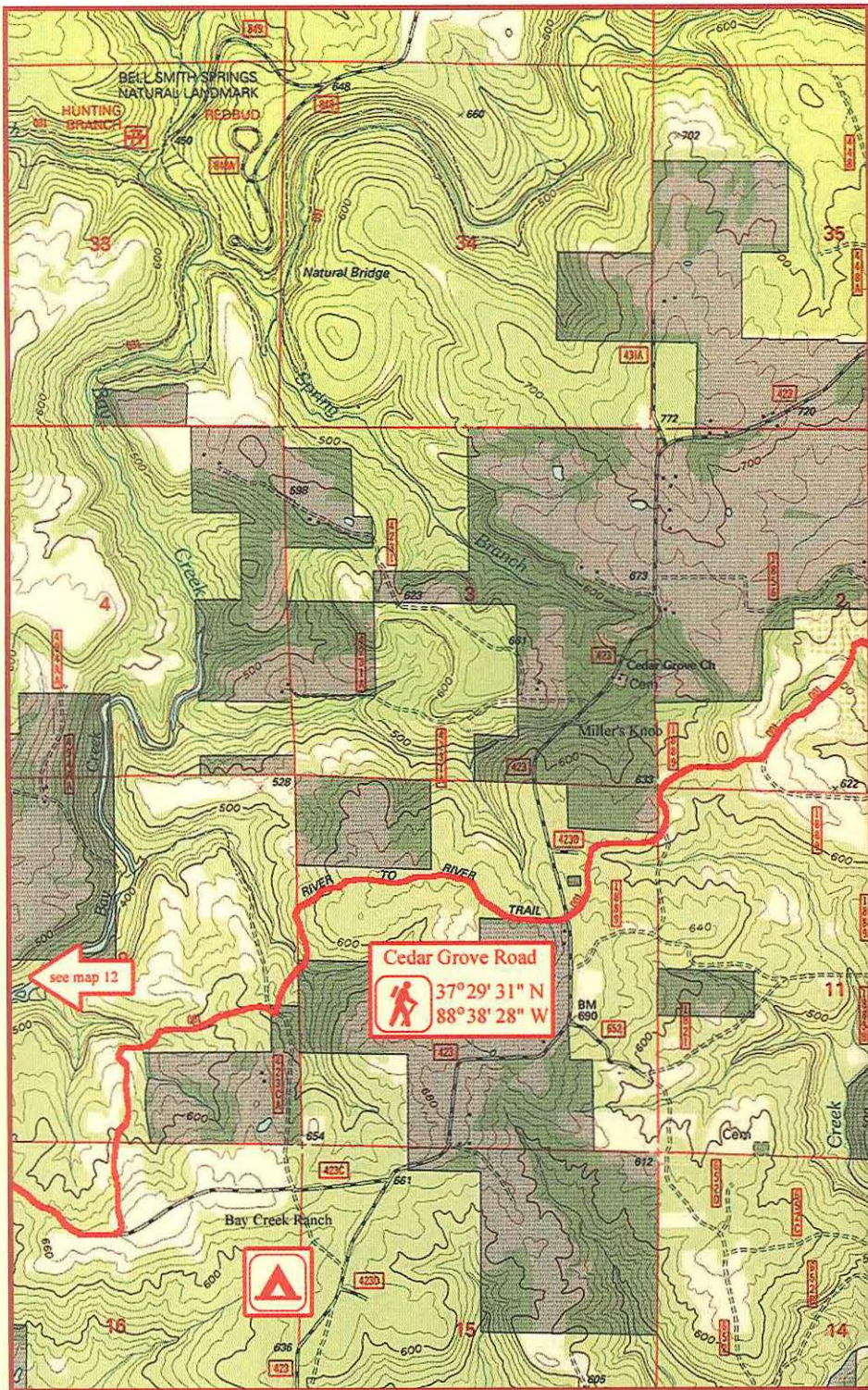
Eddyville to Cedar Grove Road is a short three mile section and can be made in one day. It would be doubtful that a group could make Trigg Tower in one day however.

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. (See the Scenic Attractions Trail in this book) 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.









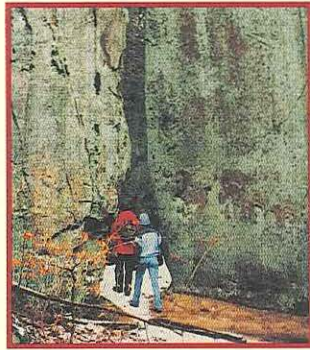
## Cedar Grove Church Road to Bay Lake

Map 9 and 10

Starting from the intersection of Cedar Grove Church 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. (Not far from Cedar Grove Road, there will be a trail heading north and the River to River Trail will go south-

ward. The Trail going north goes to Sand Cave and then Bell Smith and over to Jackson Hollow. This would be a spectacular loop to do.) At this point, however, 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. If you cross the spillway straight up the hill and then bear



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

left you will see rocks on your right hand side. This will lead you into Jackson Hollow and just keep the rocks on the right hand. If you walk past the waterfalls and come to the railroad tracks, do a dog leg left and then right to the other side of the tracks. You can walk to the other end of the hollow, but the prettiest parts will be along the cliffs on you left. When you get to the gravel, walk south about a mile until you find the trail. This will take you to Trigg Tower.

To reach county road 463 and intersect the trail around Bay Lake, the road lies to the east of Millstone Bluff and west of Cedar Grove Church 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 an enormous oval culvert that passes beneath the railroad tracks.

## Bay Lake to Trigg Tower Road And Trigg Tower

Map 10

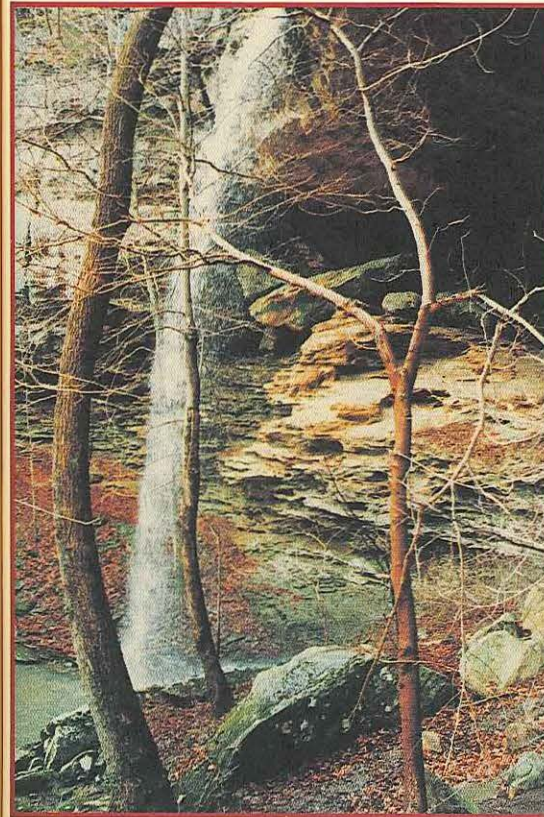
Starting from County Road 463 the trail and road turns right or north and parallels the railroad track for awhile. After about a mile the trail crosses under the railroad tracks through an oval culvert and then starts up hill. Shortly before getting to Trigg Tower Road you begin seeing some hardwoods then pines. When you cross Trigg Tower Road there will be another excellent trailhead with trailer parking. This would be another start-

ing point to go either direction but would be a long day on horseback and for only iron men 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 semicircle 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

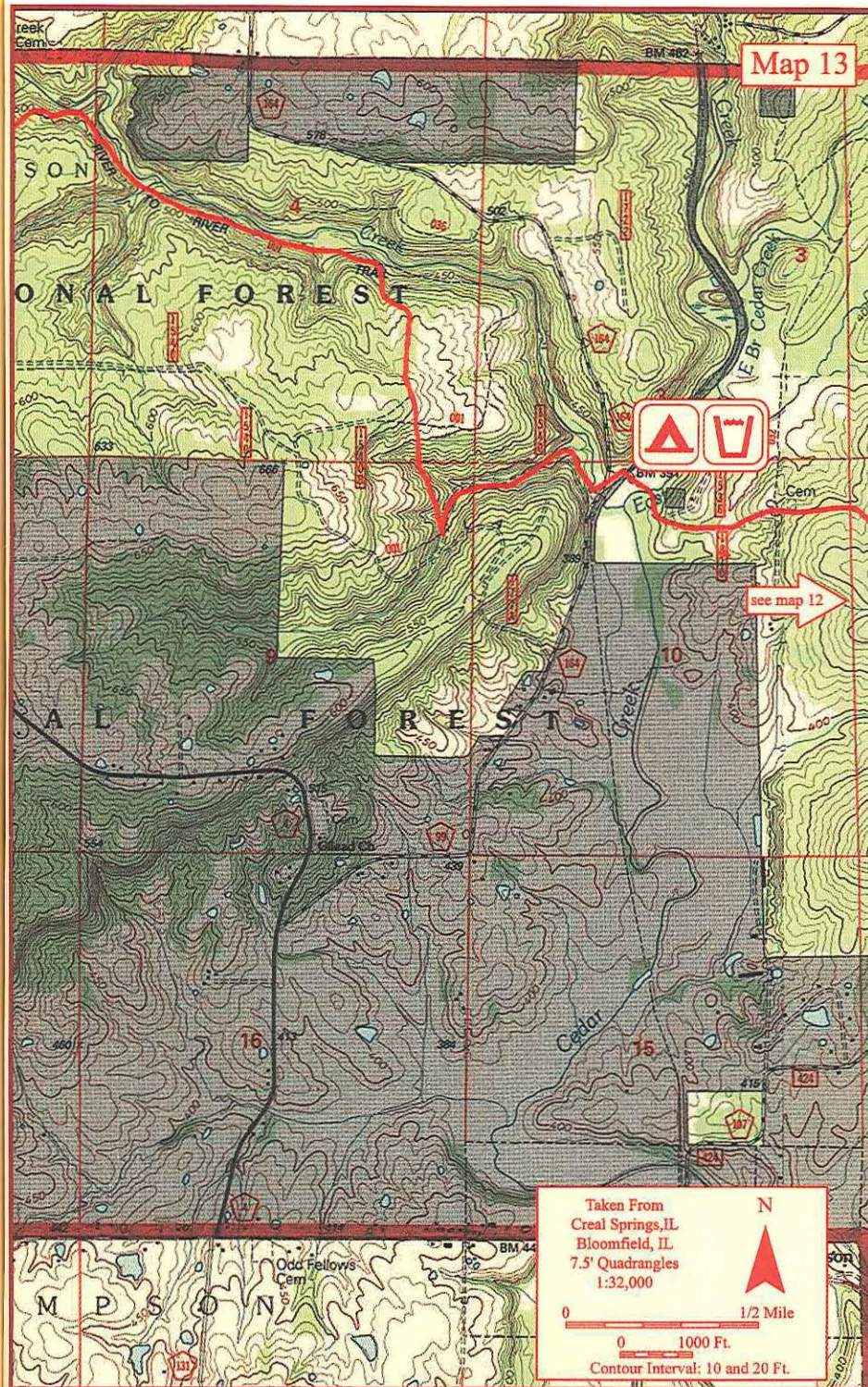
straight down a smaller road (country road 15 8) and arcs to the west until it reenters the forest. The first fork to the right goes back to Cedar Lake Campground, but the trail goes on down to cross Max Creek. This part alone is worth the trip.

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.

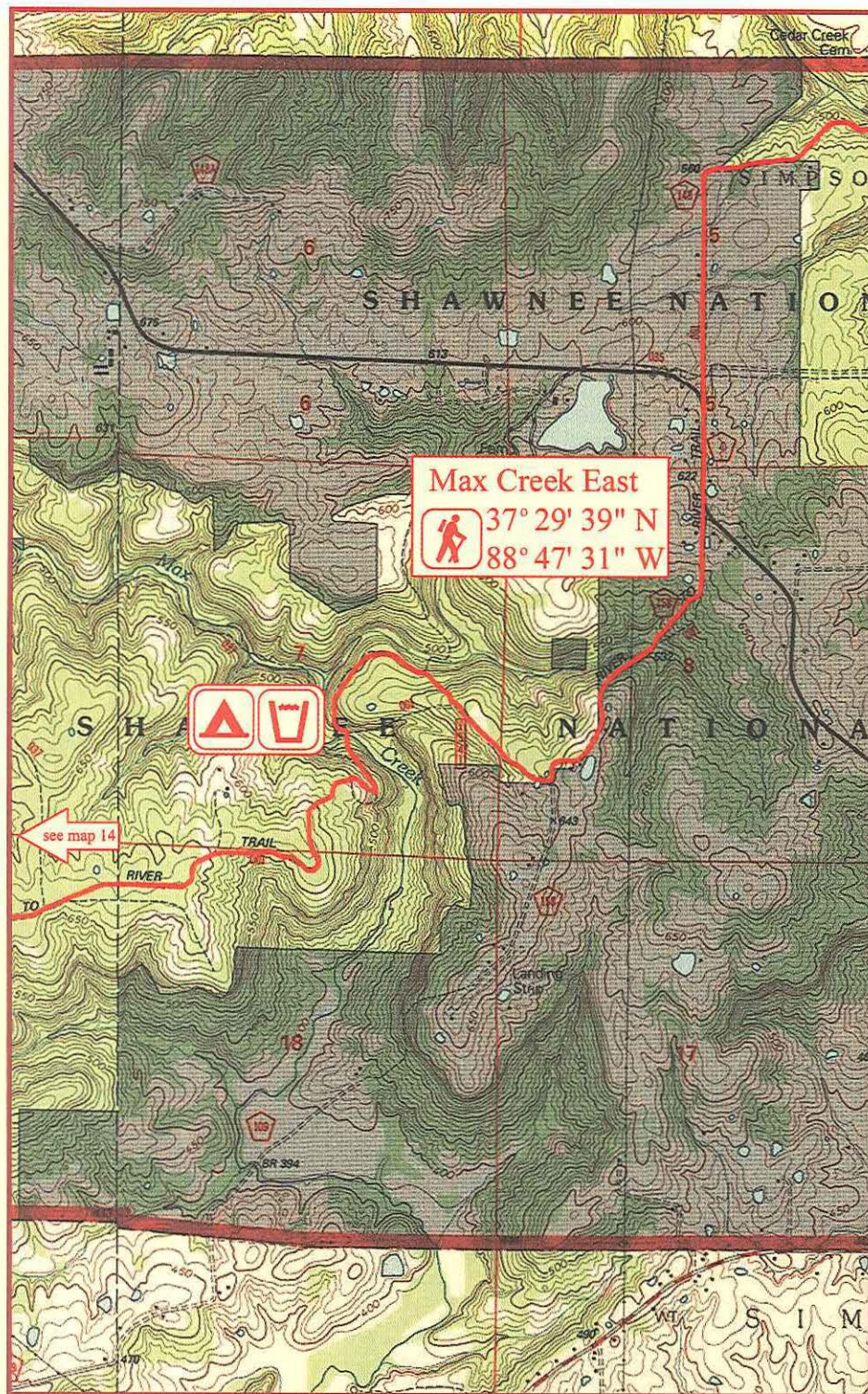
There are also some nice vistas on the road going to the southeast from Trigg Tower, but the best view is from the tower.

Trigg Tower to Highway 45 is about six miles.





## Highway 45 to Dutchman Lake Then Ferne Clyffe Map 12, 13, and 14



Max Creek East

37° 29' 39" N

88° 47' 31" W



see map 14

The trail crosses Highway 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 called the Tunnel Hill Trail. 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 are 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 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.

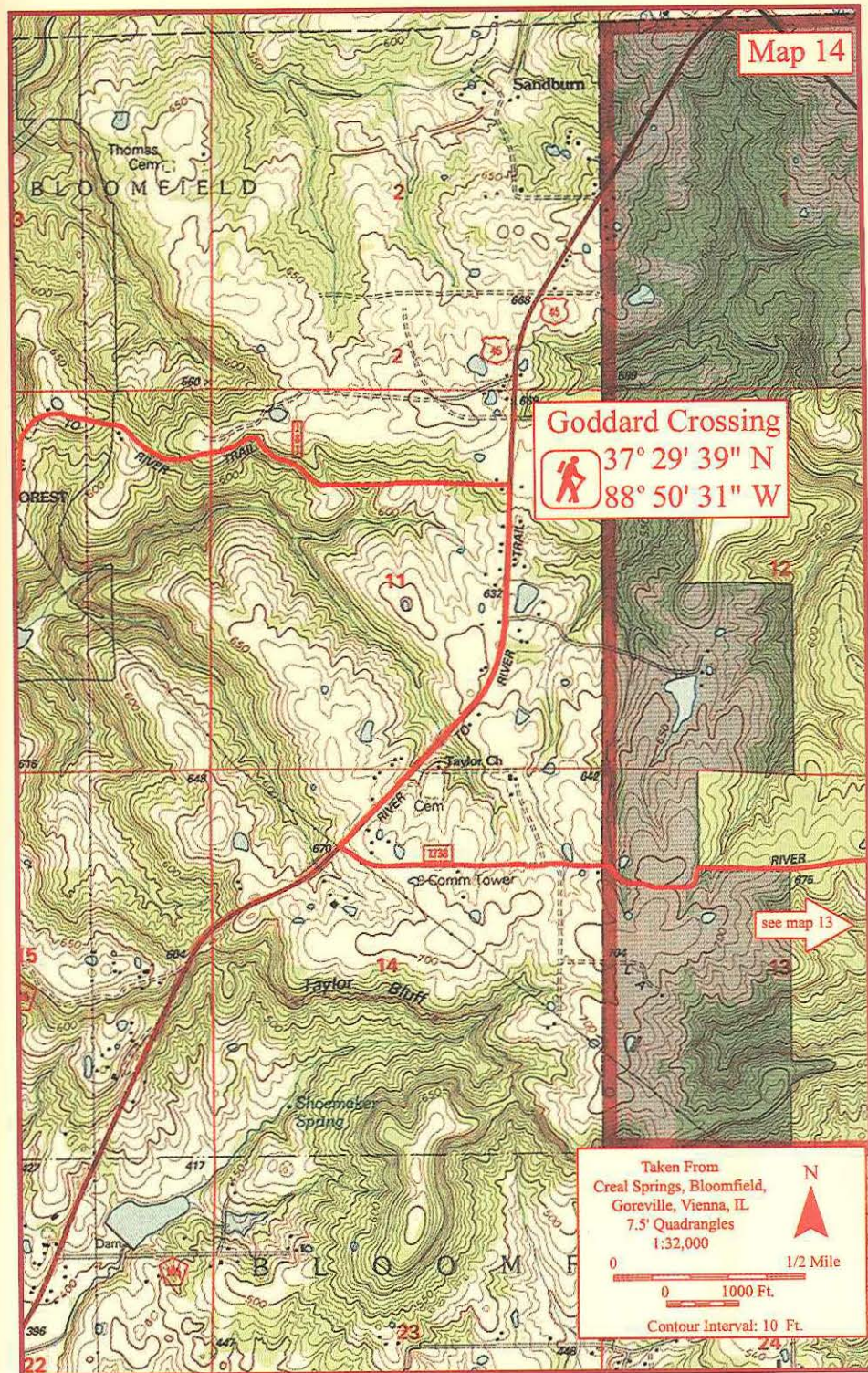
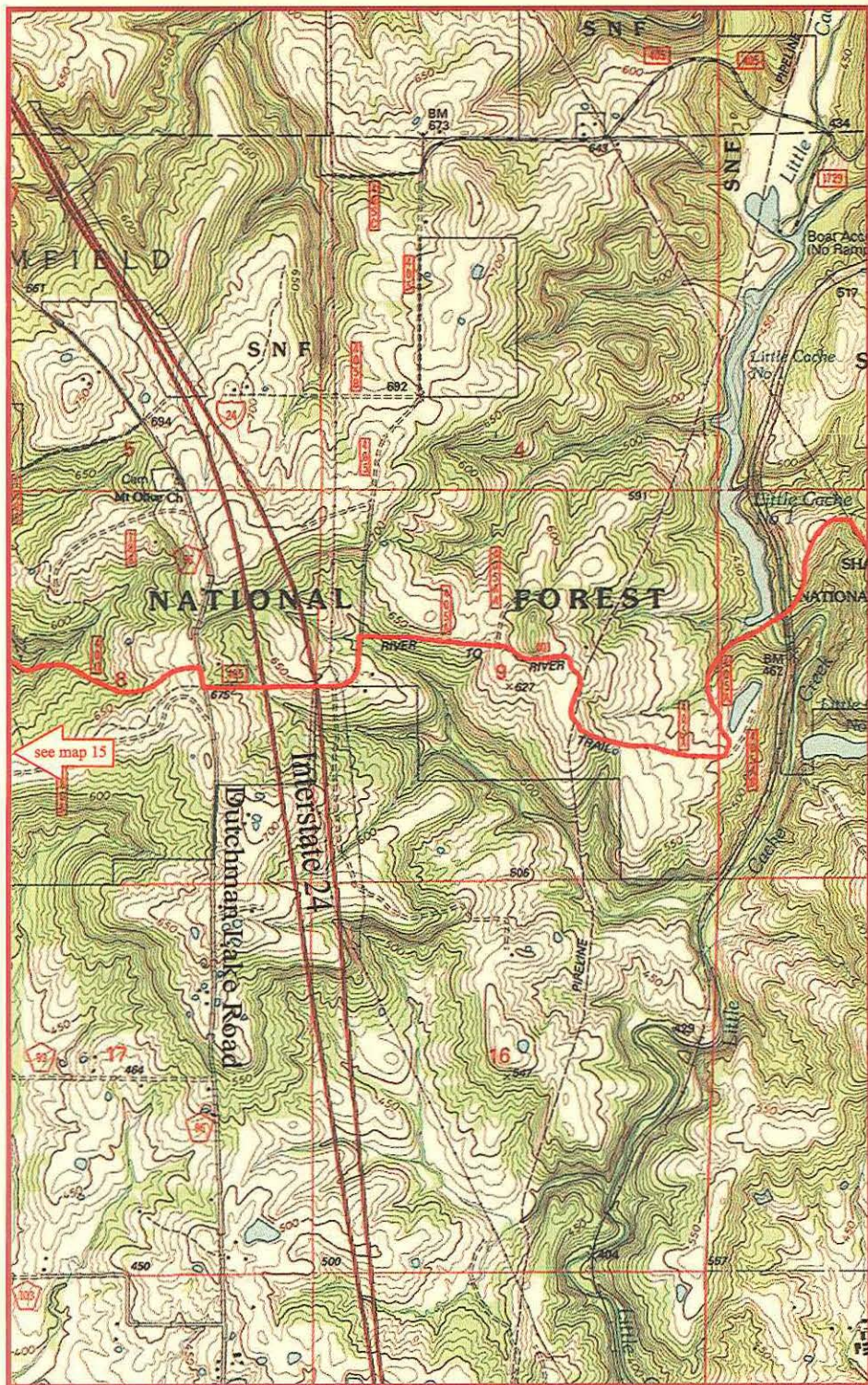
The Cache Lakes are another hidden treasure. The trellis going over the Cache at this point is the highest in the state that crosses a body of water at about 75 feet. The canyons here are very steep and very pretty and probably the result of a seismic event creating the fault. Yes in Southern Illinois.

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. He is also responsible for the trail going through Crab Orchard Wilderness and is the only person in our Hall of Fame twice.

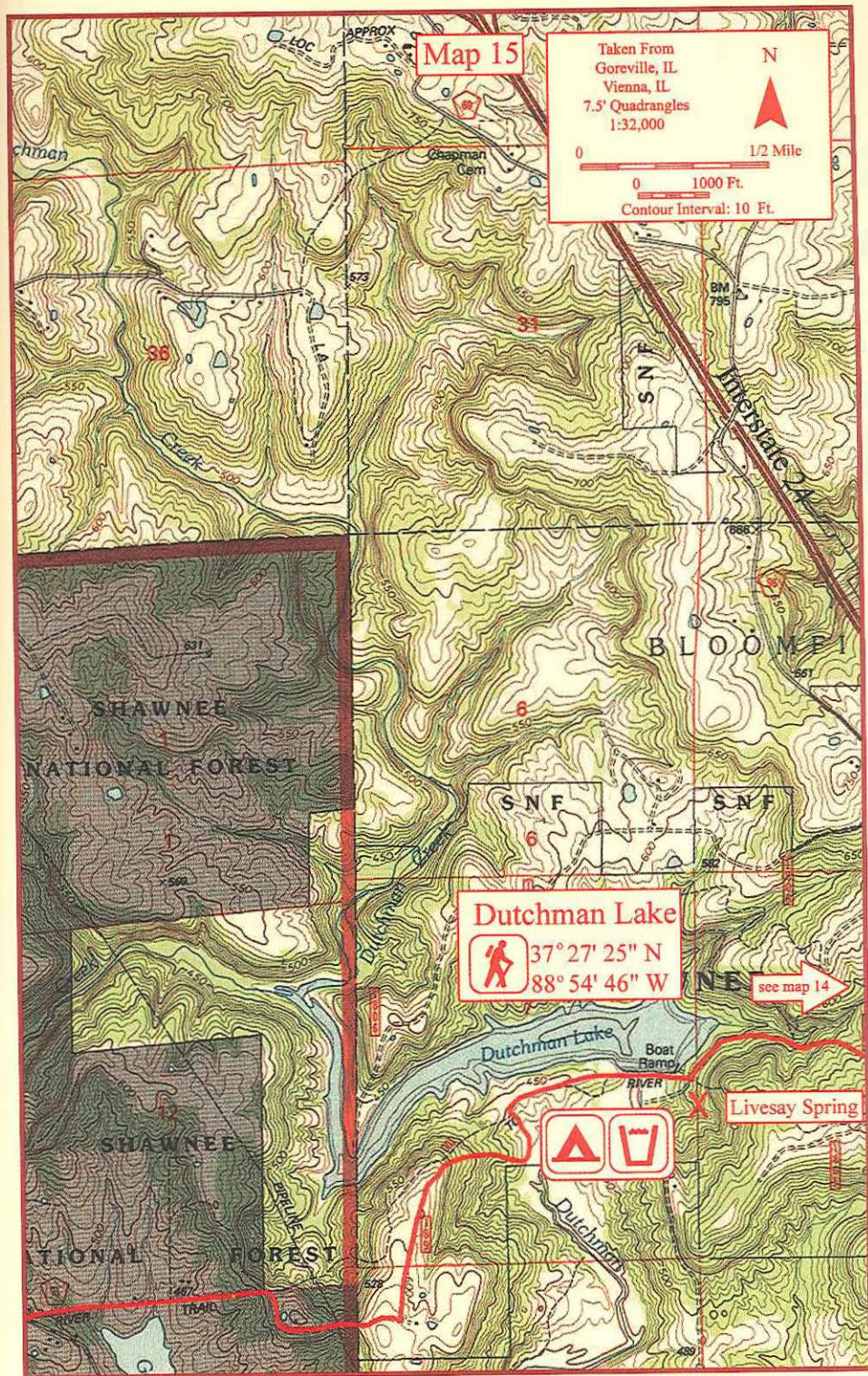
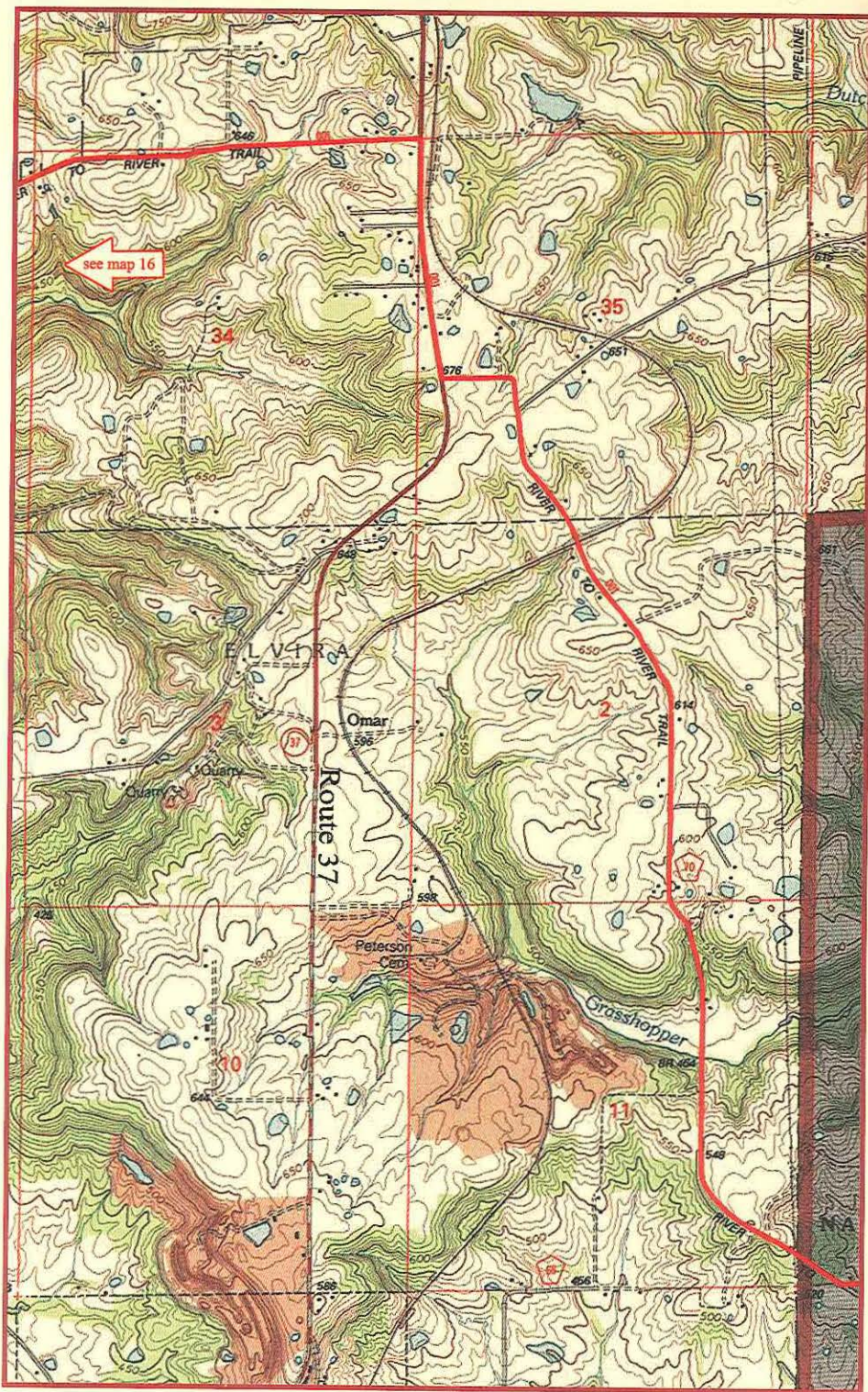
Ferne Clyffe and Giant City State Park is closed to horses between October and April but remains open to hikers. Mountain bikes are also excluded.

From Highway 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. As an aside, you may wish to go through the main entrance of Ferne Clyffe and camp at one of the campsites that tourists use. You can then pick up the trail on top of Hawkes cave or exit at the north end of the Park. The Park is indeed a treasure. 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 exit's 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 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" with the Goreville Blacktop. Once the River-to-River Trail reaches the Goreville Blacktop, it turns west or left past the scenic overlook, now closed, (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

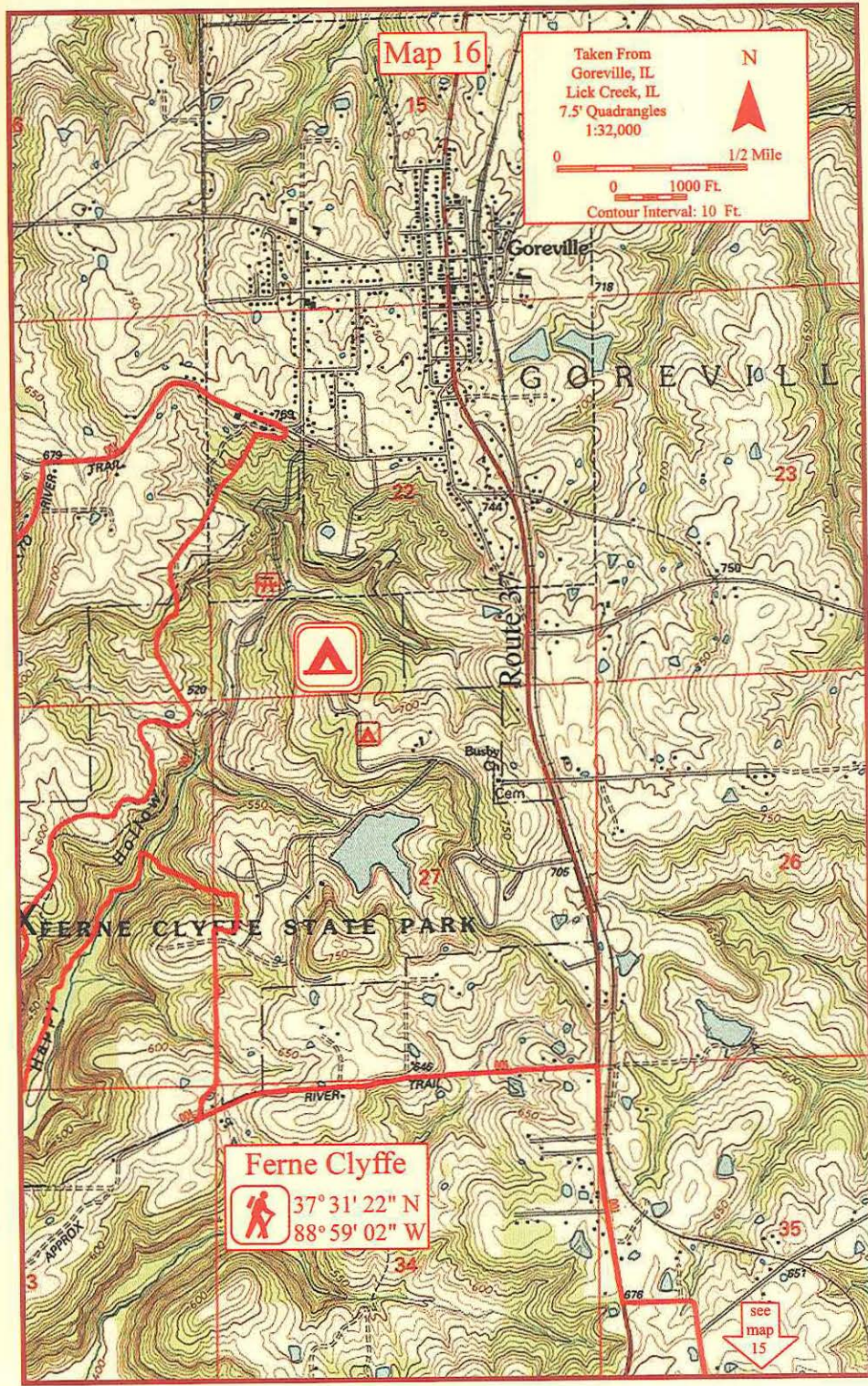
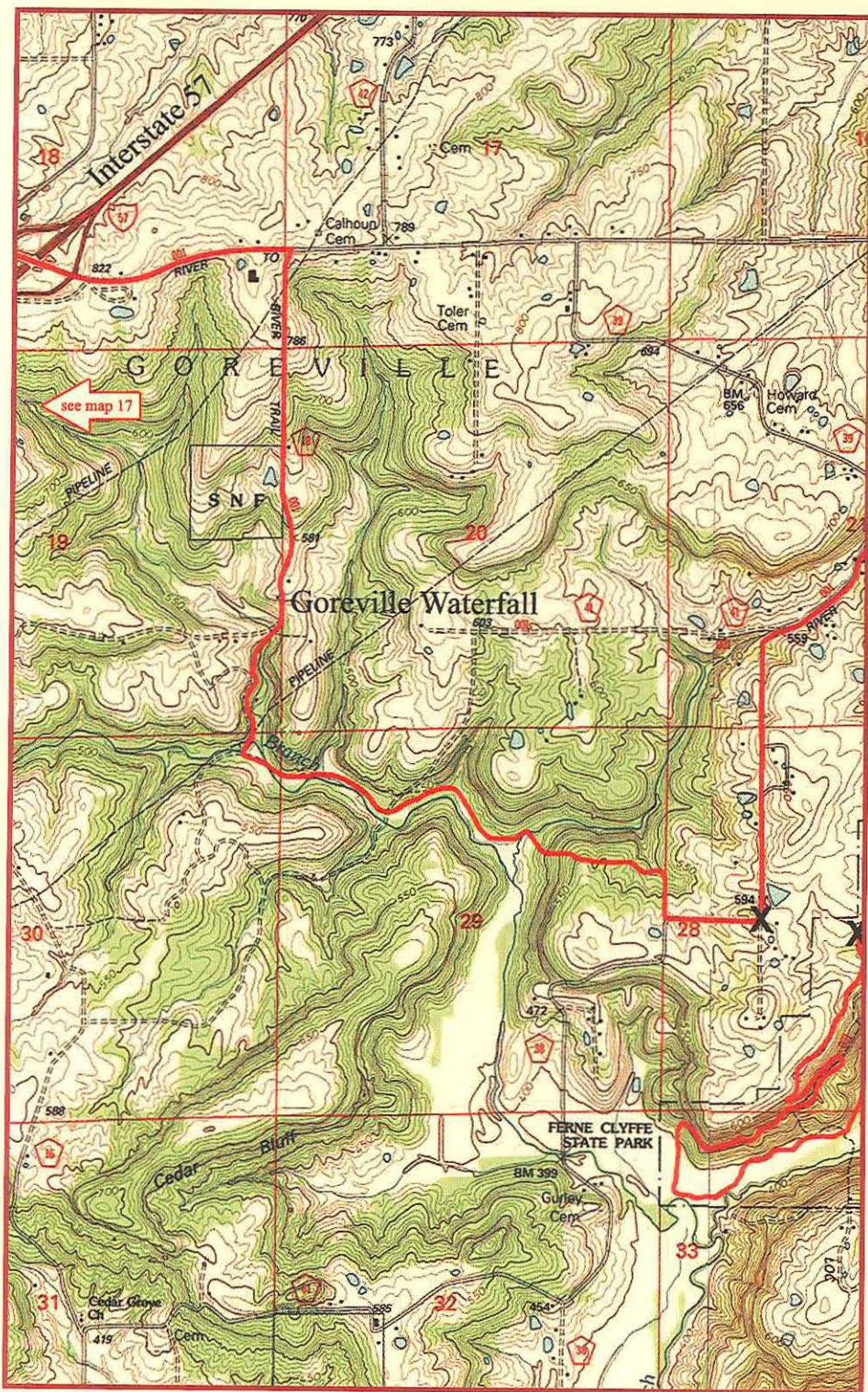
chip road.

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 trails 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 Rock 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.

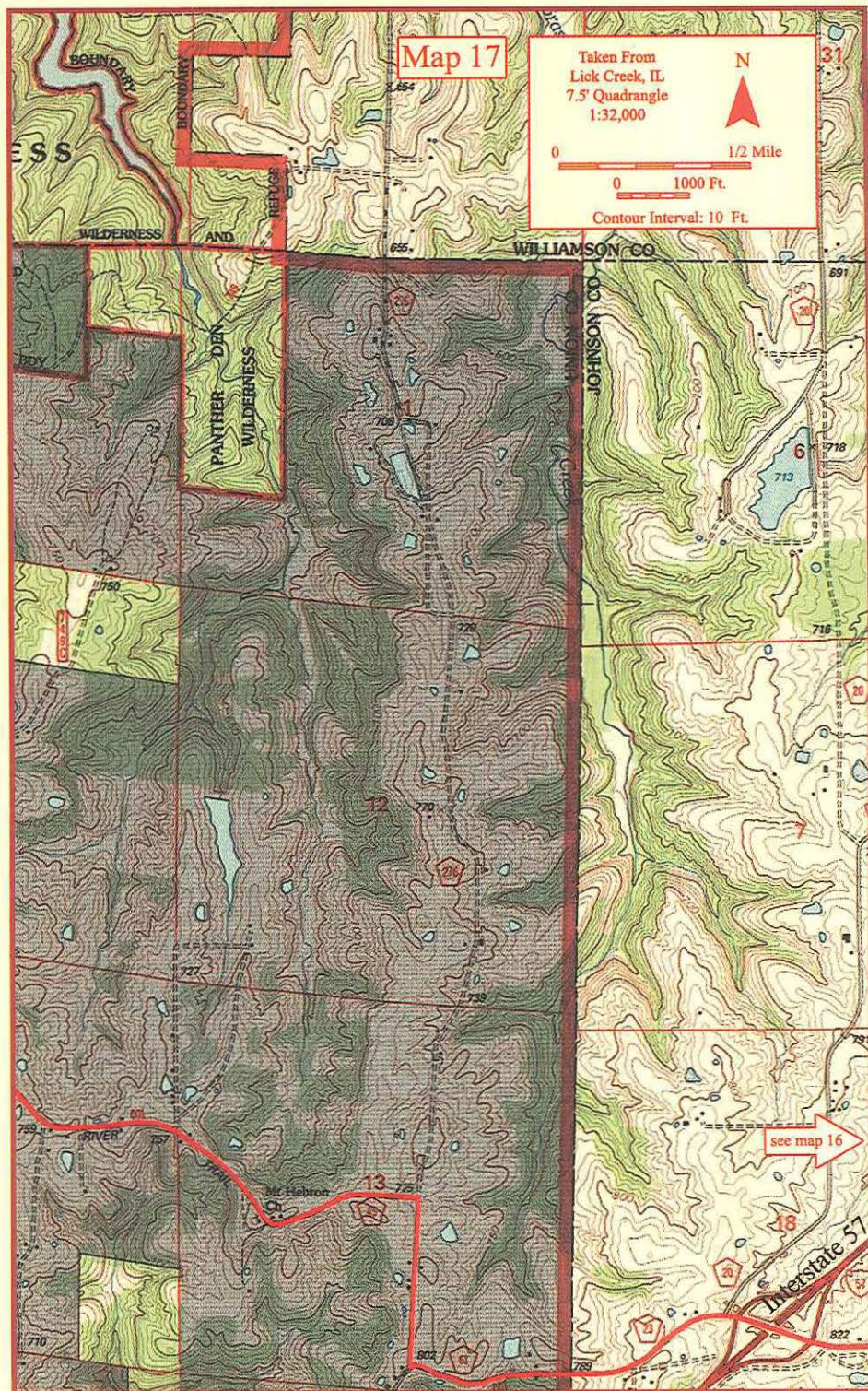
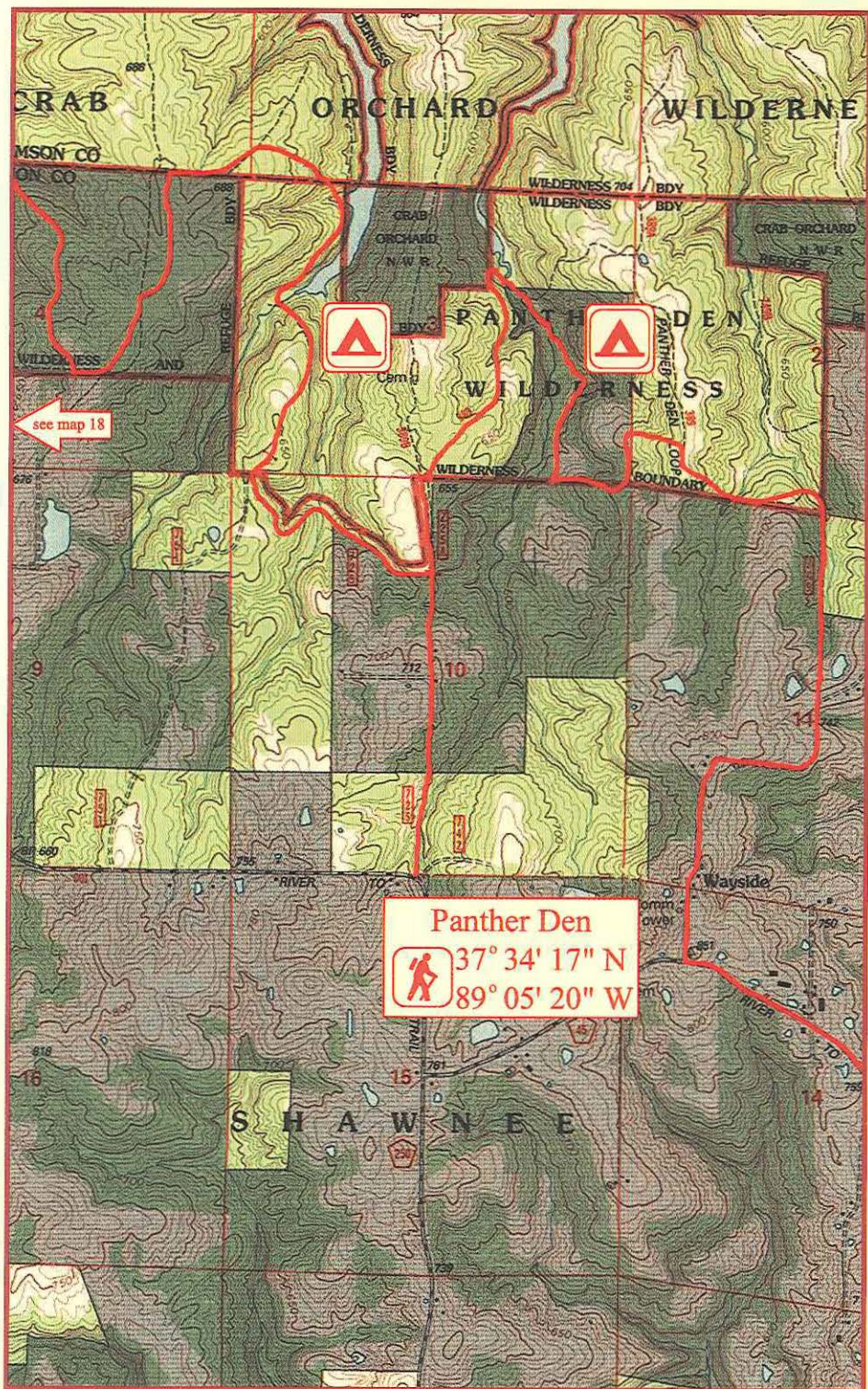
The trail goes through Giant City on the lower equestrian trail.

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, 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 Highway 51. After crossing at the Presley Tours building, continue on the blacktop for about a mile

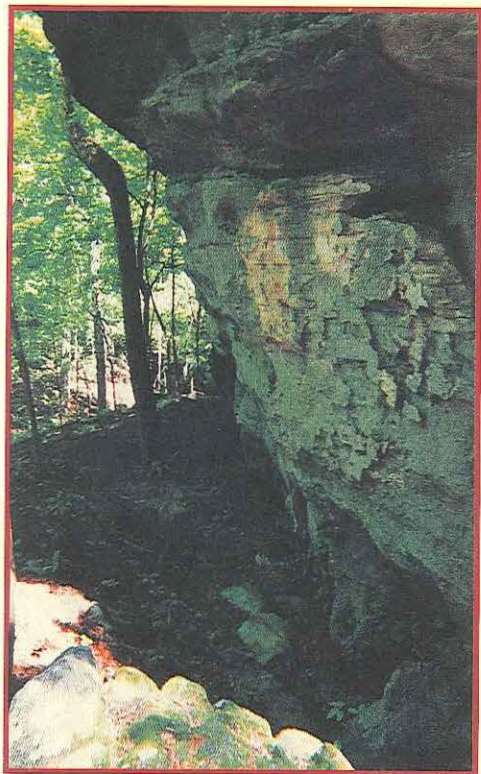
and turn left at the first road, go a quarter mile and turn south on the road leading to Lirley Cemetery. After passing the cemetery on the left, the trail entrance to Forest Service land will be on the right (west). The trail travels on the south side of Cedar Lake to its point of departure almost three 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.

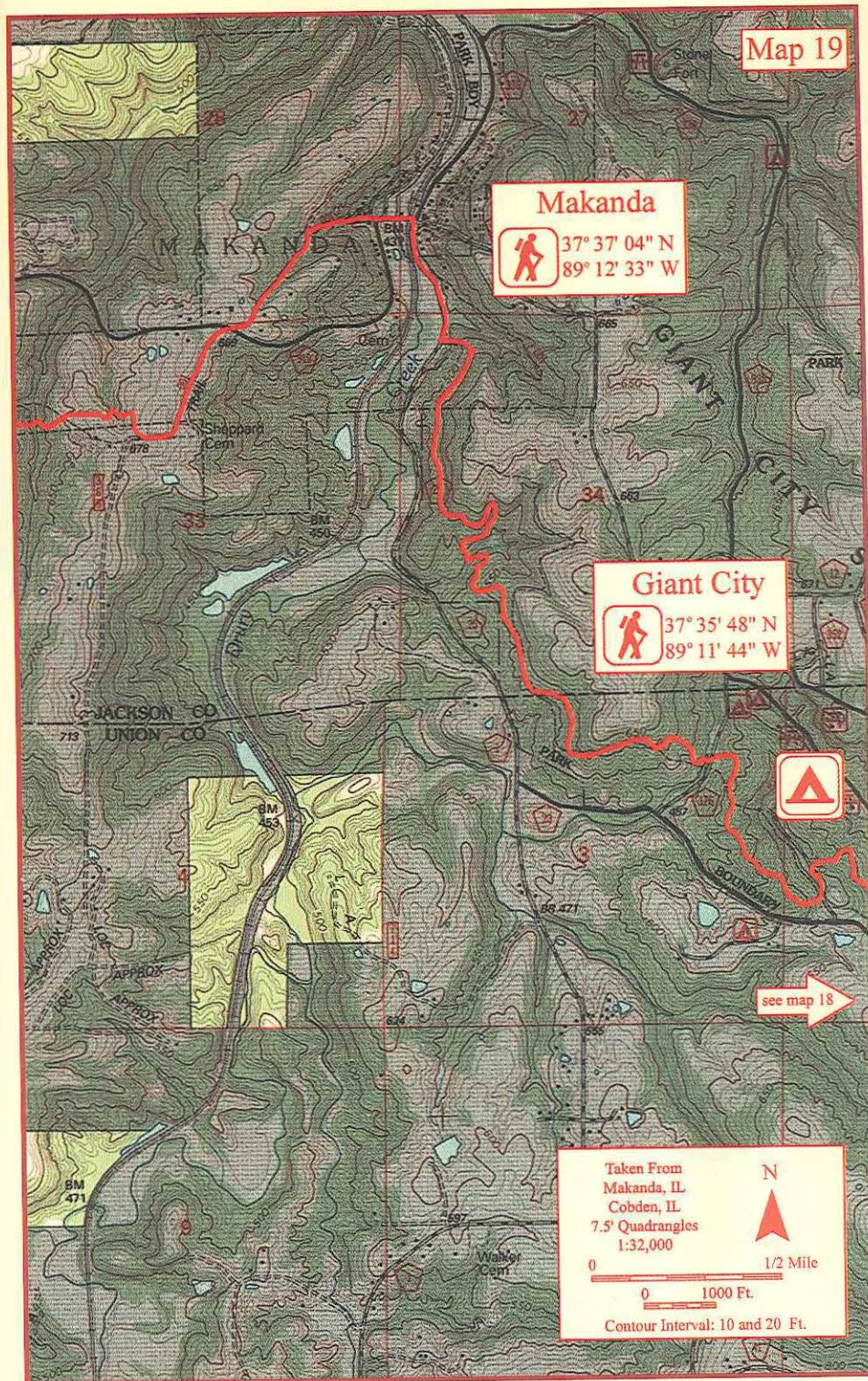
Cedar Lake is a very pretty lake and has some very nice facilities and some extra hiking. It is reported the natives sometimes go naked in this vicinity.

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

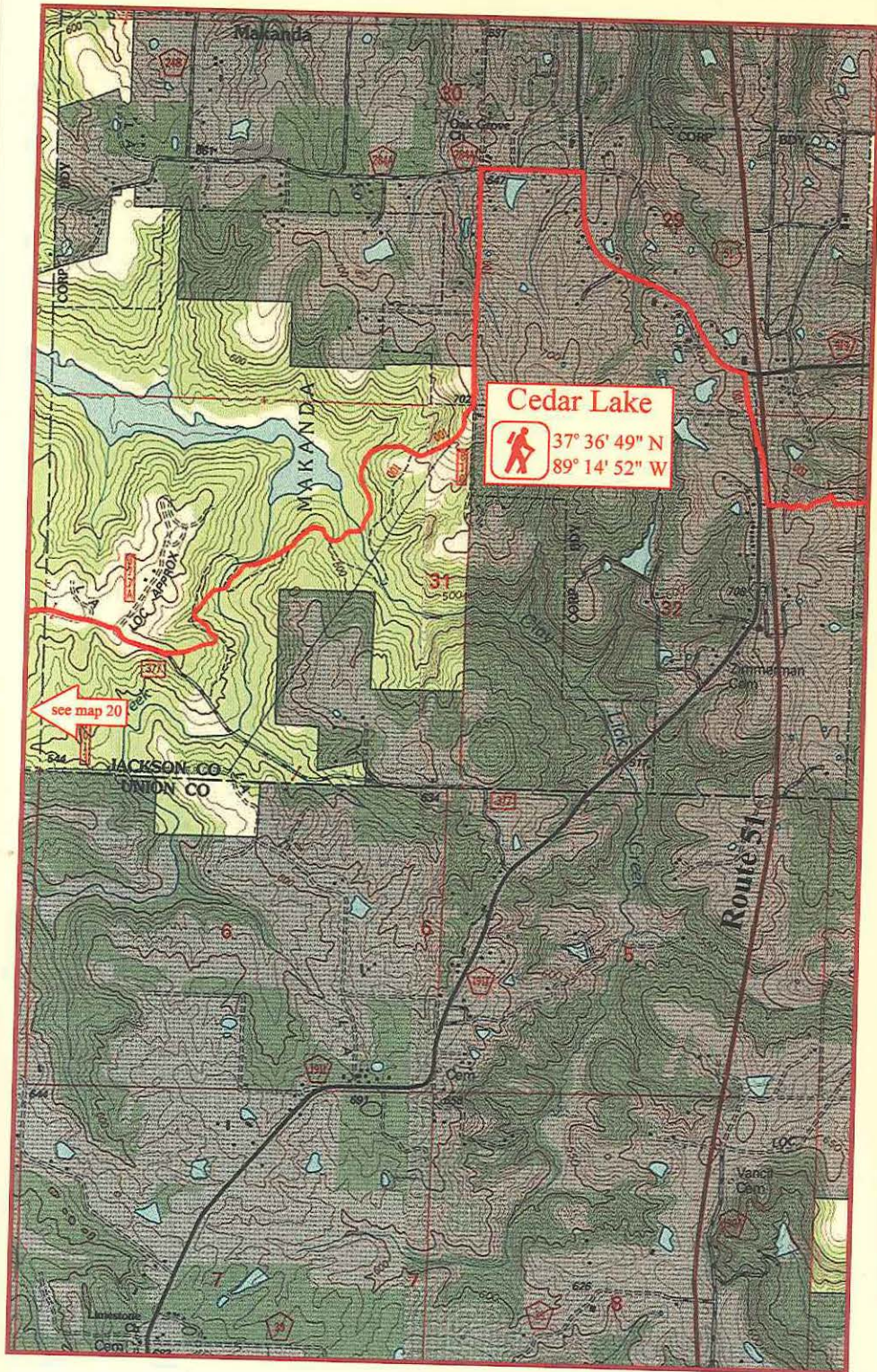
Distance through Giant City is about five miles. The distance from Giant City to the point of departure from Cedar Lake is about six miles.



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 out of town and take the Bald Knob Cross Road. About half way to the Cross, you will see the sign for the Godwin Trail which goes off to the right or west. Take the Godwin Trail for two miles, cross Hutchins Creek and follow the markers up the next hill and 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 actual-

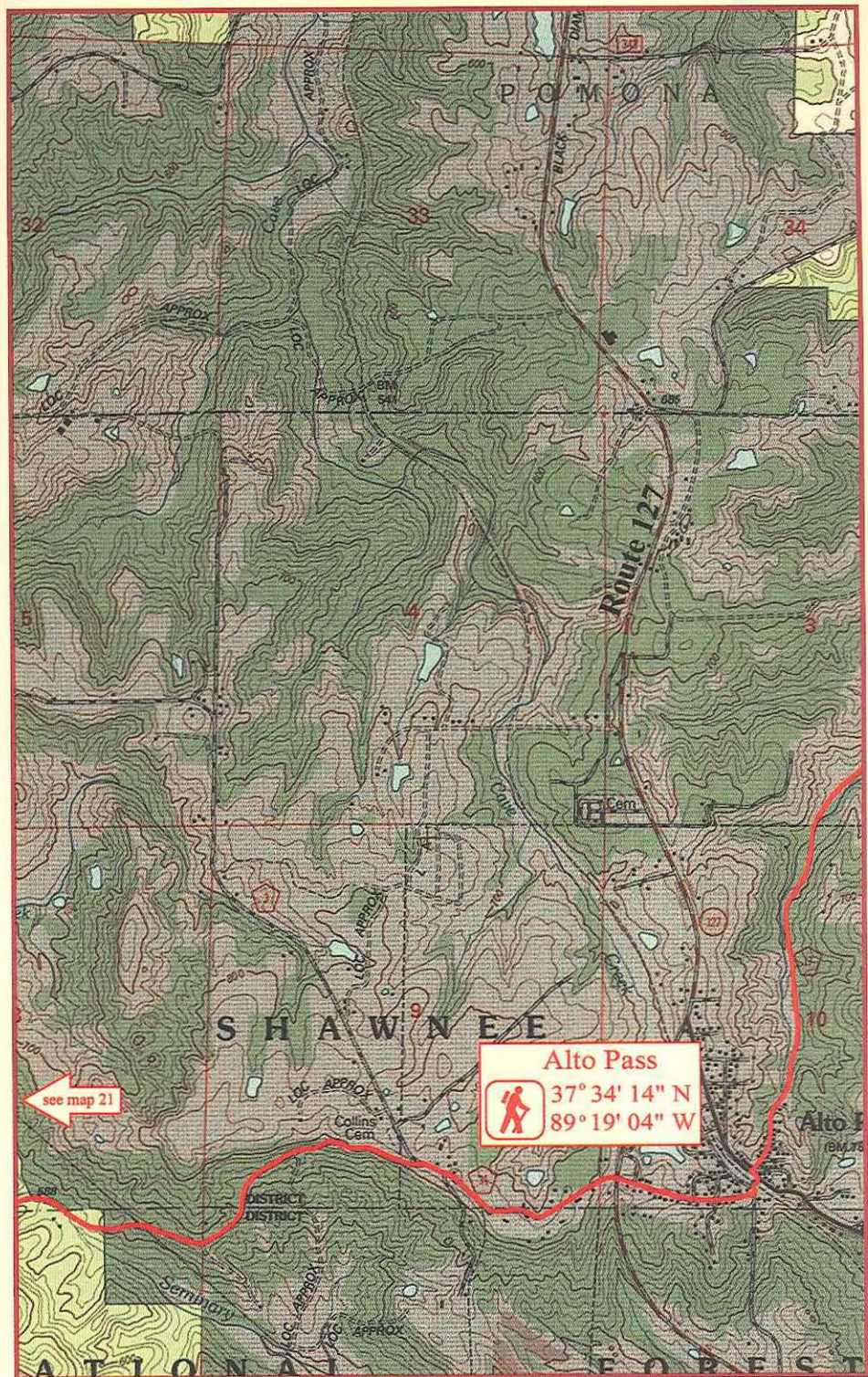
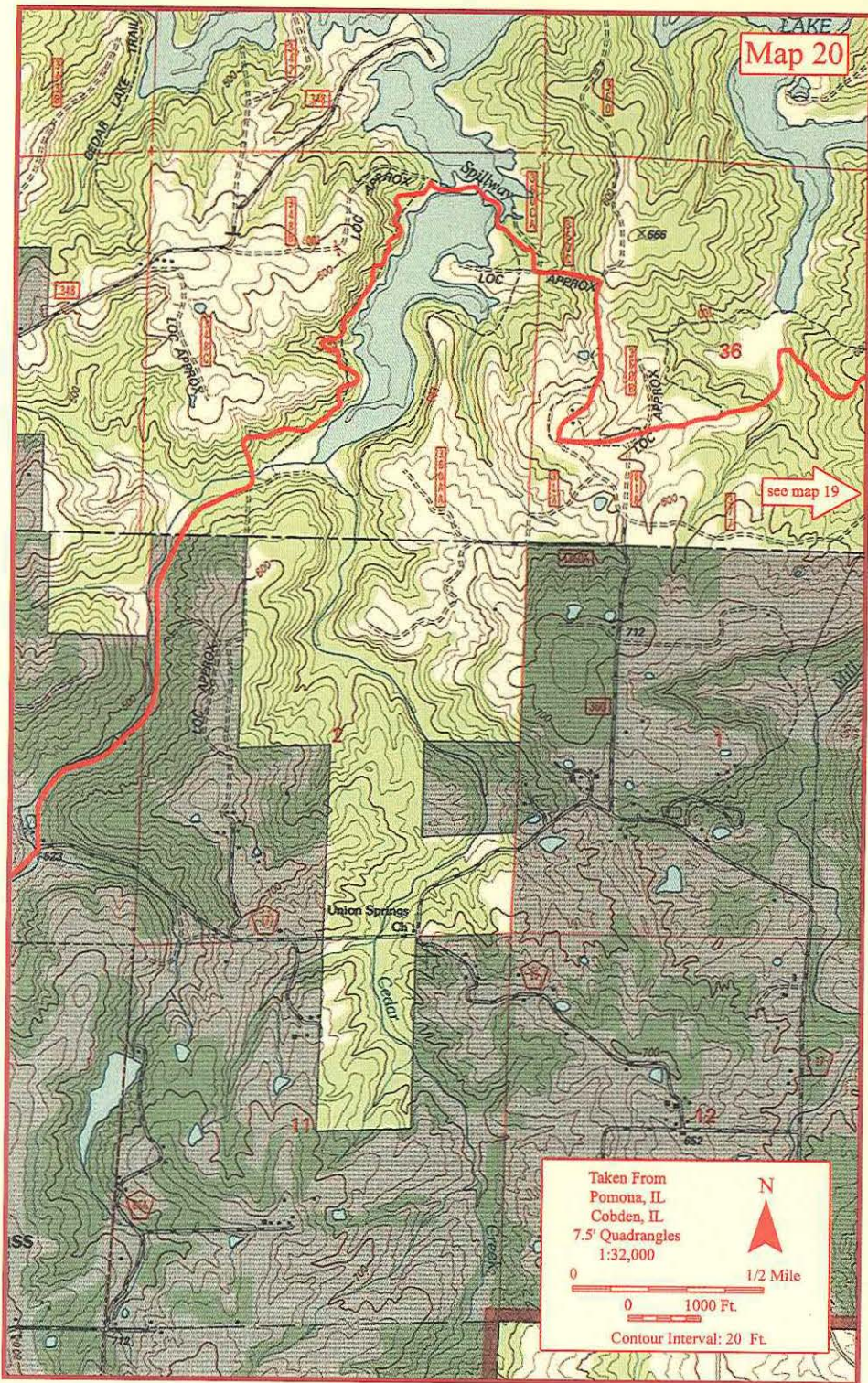
ly going from Bald Knob Wilderness to Pine Hills National Natural Landmark and the trail comes out on a blacktop road at the entrance to Clear Springs Wilderness. Three special natural areas on this section alone.

Turn north on the blacktop and go downhill until the intersection of the next blacktop and turn left (south) until you reach Winters Pond and the levee road. The rock outcroppings above you are much photographed and yes the road at the base of the bluffs that goes straight ahead ( you will turn right 90 degrees on the levee) that is closed in season for the migrating reptiles.

There are many nice vistas overlooking the Mississippi Valley and the bayou beyond on the hilltop road going south and is beautiful even at the base along the levee& truly wonderful.













# Pine Hills to Devil's Backbone Park

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.

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 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.

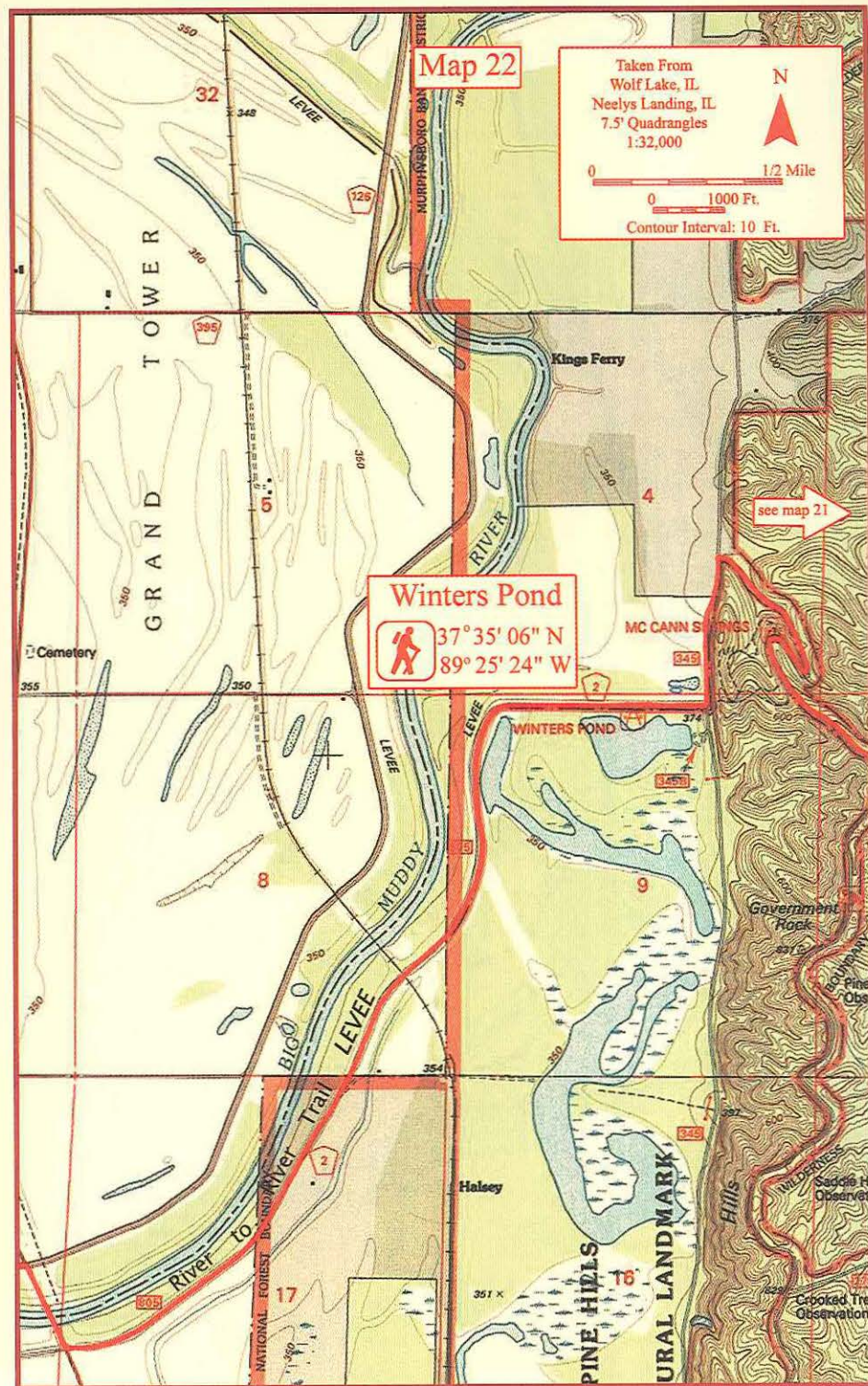
The American Discovery Trail leaves the River-to-River Trail at the park and travels up-river to St. Louis on the levees.

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.

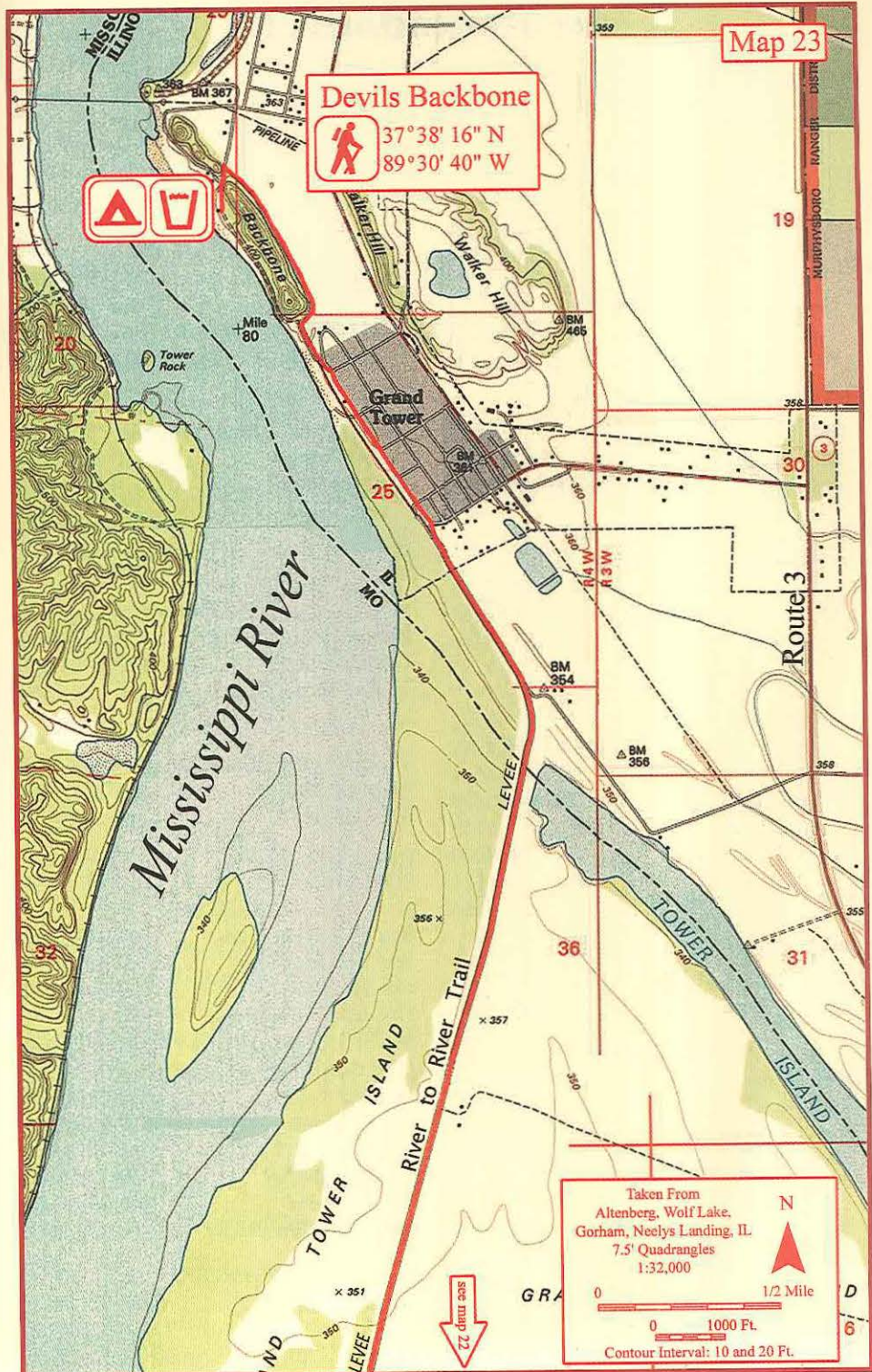
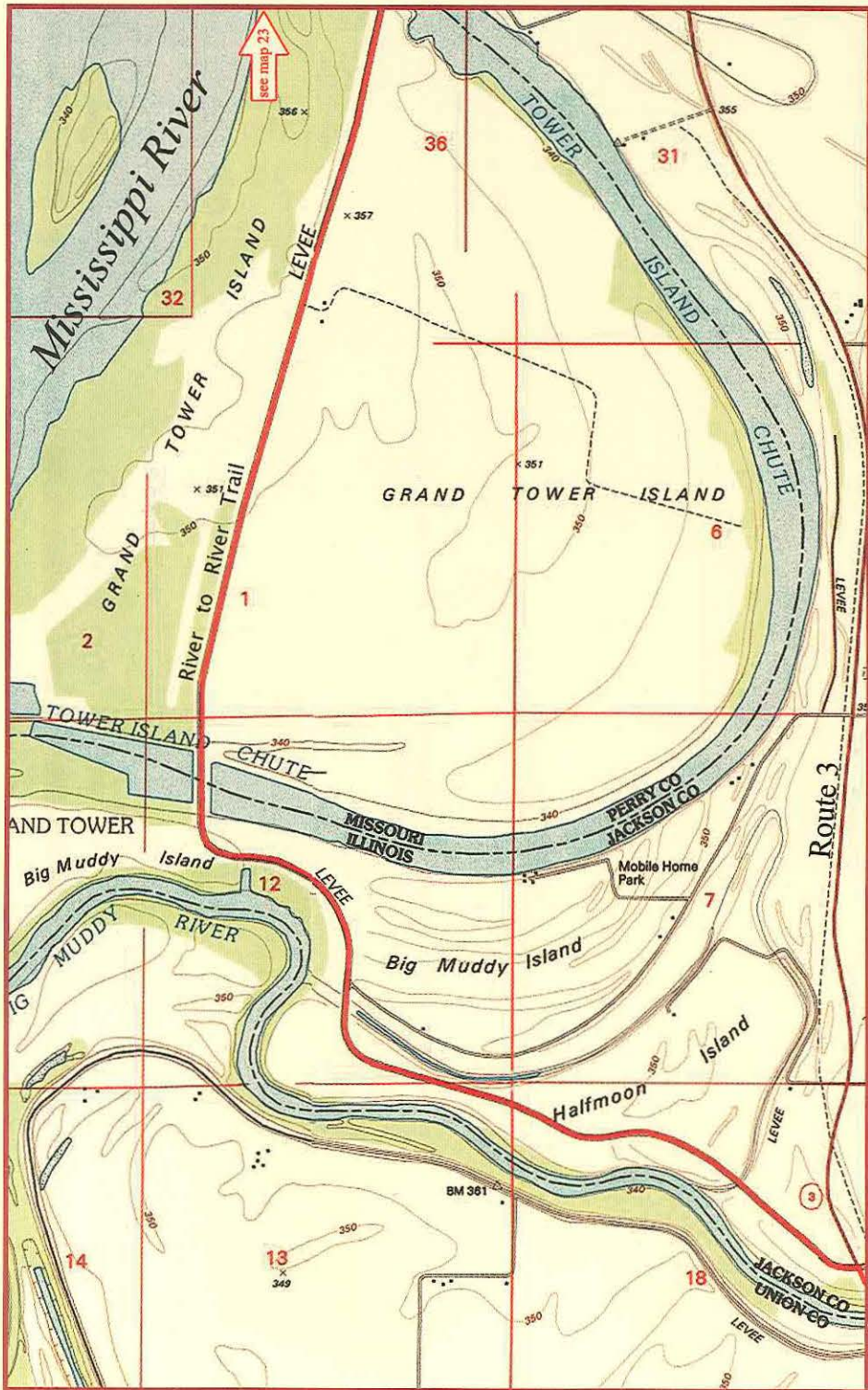
Something for the eyes, something for the smell, something for the touch, something for the heart.

*Edd Sterchi on finishing the Trail 2001- River to River Trail Board of Directors-Lusk Creek Section*

*Something for the eyes  
With each and every view  
Around every bend  
Something fresh and new  
Something for the nose  
With each and every smell  
Over fields and flowers  
Where sweet aromas dwell  
Something for the ears  
With each and every sound  
Nature's musical notes  
Widespread can be found  
Something for the hands  
With each and every touch  
Glorious sensation  
Awakening to so much  
Something for the heart  
With each and every thought  
Emotions running over  
Lasting memories caught*









## 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 Sugar wood (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:

Rose Hotel . . . . .618 287 2872  
River Rose Inn . . . . .618 287 8811  
Elizabethtown (B&B) . . . .618-287-8811

### 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:

Budget 8 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 Holidome . . .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:

American Inn . . . . .618-524-7431  
Best Inns of America . . . .618-524-8200  
Metropolis Inn . . . . .618-524-3723

Players Riverboat Hotel . .618-524-5678  
Anise (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

### MURPHYSBORO:

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

## 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 . . . . .618-288-5273  
Hayes Canyon Campground 618-672-4751

### EQUALITY:\*\*

High Knob Ranch . . . . .618-264-7197

### GOLCONDA:

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

### OZARK:\*\*

St. Noel's Retreat Center . .618-695-3590

### PRAIRIE DU ROCHER: (On the ADT)

LaMaison due Rocher (B&B) . .618-284-3463

### ULLIN:

Best Western Cheekwood Inn . .800-528-1234

### VIENNA:

Dixon Motel . . . . .618-658-3831  
The Budget Inn . . . . .618-658-2802

### 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 Lake Glendale Stables . . .618-949-3737.



## Canoeing

People often ask and think about canoeing in the Shawnee Forest. Cache Core Canoes in Perks Illinois has canoe rental on the Cache River but there are no rentals in the Forest. If you want to bring your own, a couple good options are Saline River (anywhere in the Forest) and along the Muddy River. Lusk Creek is the obvious center of greatest possibilities if the water is high enough.. It is regarded as a "very flashy stream." You might wish to look on the internet for the water monitor station on Lusk Creek at Eddyville

on the USGS homepage

<http://il.water.usgs.gov/usgs/> to see if it is about 2 feet above mean. If it is, you will have to figure your own way into the creek preferably north of Salt Petre Cave to Ragens Ford in the south, and be prepared for a great ride. You can take the trip all the way to the Ohio as well.

Bill Morrow of USGS was kind enough to respond to our inquiry and wrote the following:

Go to 'data realtime streamflow

station name', then pick "Lusk Creek at Eddyville" and 'real time data'. By choosing 30 days worth of record (or 7), you can see what the stage is right now and what it has been. You can also get data older than that by going from the main menu to 'data', the 'historical data'. Then follow the menu driven options. If you know a day when canoeing was just the right stage, I would note the stage of the river for future reference. You can also see what the year was in table form by going from 'data' to '2000 annual report'. In summary, I would find out from various people when they went canoeing, and how were conditions. I'd find out the river level (stage) at that day at Eddyville, and make a chart for comparison

Idea contribution by David Winkleman, River to River Trail Board of Directors, Cedar Grove Church Road to Trigg Tower.

reviews its impact. Please, ride responsibly.

Trail surfaces vary from smooth gravel rail-trail to technically challenging rocky outcroppings with many steep grades. Knowing where to ride is key to an enjoyable experience in the Shawnee. Since very few trails besides the RTR are marked, maps are nearly essential. Trail

maps, as well as other advise, are available from the Shawnee Mountain Bike Association. They may be contacted by phone at: (618) 252-3577 or by email at: [smba@intrnet.net](mailto:smba@intrnet.net) .The SMBA is the local bike organization working

with the Forest Service and other user groups to promote continued mountain bike trail access in the Shawnee. They encourage responsible riding, trail stewardship and adherence to the IMBA Rules of the Trail. *- Jeff Jones*

## 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 .....	
Route 1 to Camp Cadiz .....	
Camp Cadiz to High Knob .....	.Bill Recktenwald
Elizabethtown to Karbers Ridge .....	.Illinois Trailriders-Sue Perina
High Knob to Garden of the Gods .....	.David Flanders
Garden of the Gods to Herod .....	.Bryan DeNeal
Herod to Concord Cemetery .....	.Richard Rudy
Concord Cemetery to Eddyville .....	.Ed Sterchi
Eddyville P.O. to Cedar Grove Road .....	.Jack and Zola Van
Cedar Grove Road Trigg Tower .....	.David Winkleman
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 .....	.Loren Easter
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
Tecumseh Trail .....	.John O'Dell
Williams Hill Tower .....	.Beecher Williams
Williams Hill Trail .....	.Mark O'Dell
Emeritus .....	.Ray Morris
Scenic Attractions Trail .....	.Doug Champion/Joe Hicks
ADT West leg .....	.Marvin Fisher
ADT Coordinator .....	.John O'Dell
Illinois Hiking Society .....	.Randy Oliver/Lisa Roundtree

## Mountain Biking in the Shawnee

Abundant and wide-ranging opportunities are available to the mountain bicyclist within the Shawnee National Forest. Nearly all of the 500 miles of trail outside the Wilderness Areas and Natural Areas are open to mountain bikes...at least for now. Until the new Forest Management Plan is adopted with more specific rules, mountain biking is allowed while the Forest Service



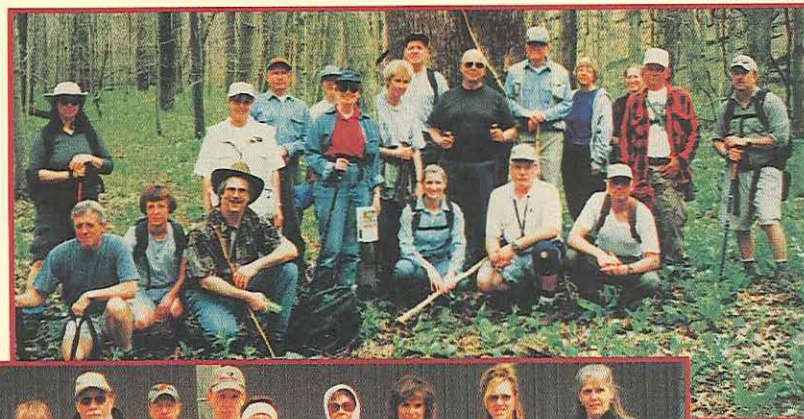
# River to River Trail Society

1142 Winkleman Road  
Harrisburg, Illinois 62946  
618-252-6789

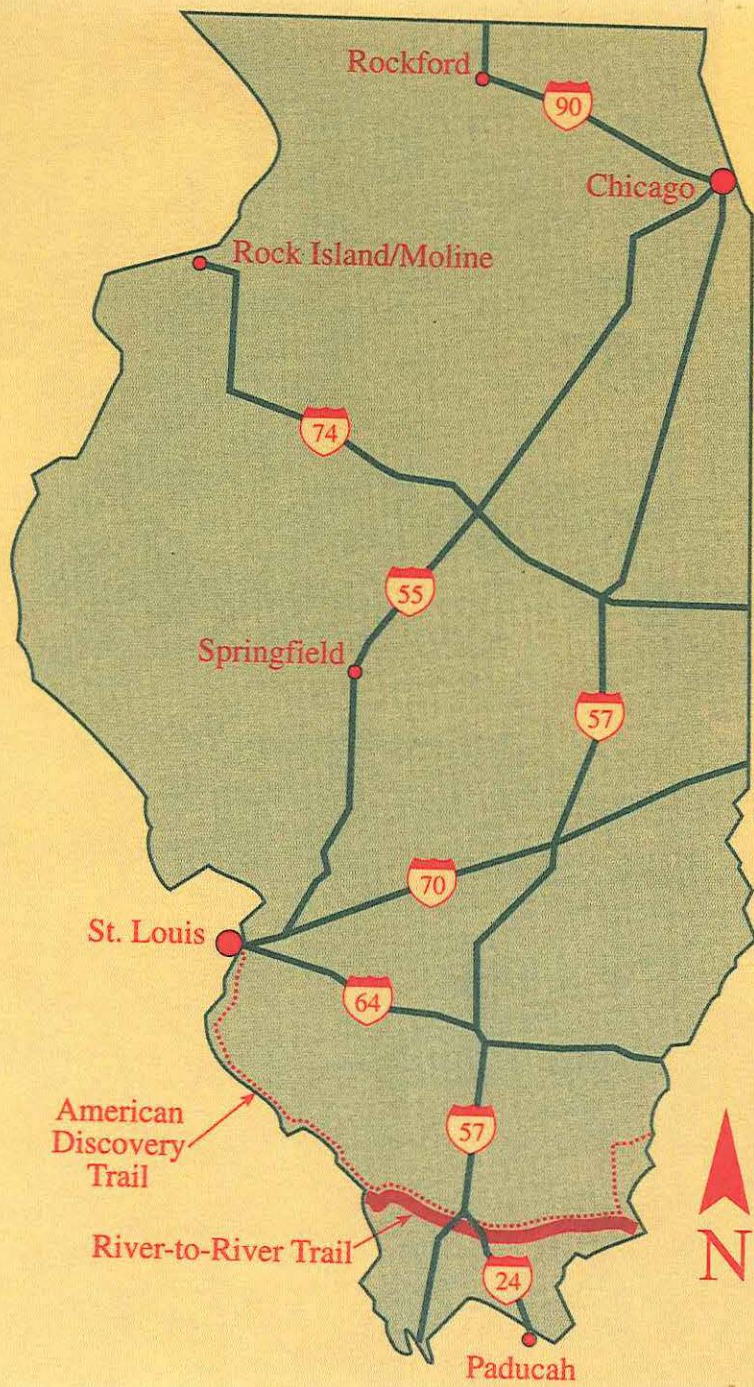
www.Trails444@hotmail.com  
web page www.Rivertorivertrail.org

## Things to Buy

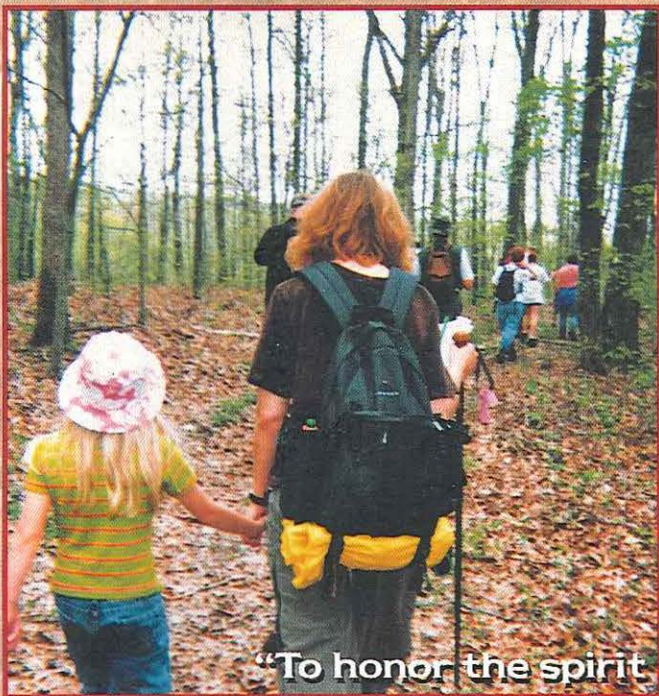
- River-to-River Trail Guide . . . . . \$20 plus \$3 shipping
  - River-to-River T-shirt . . . \$12 plus \$3 shipping — state size
  - River-to-River sweatshirt \$18 plus \$3 shipping — state size
  - River-to-River hat pin . . . . . \$5
  - River-to-River patch . . . . . \$5
  - River to River music (The Trail) CD: Zola Van [www.Zolavan.com](http://www.Zolavan.com)
- A backpackers specialty shop in Carbondale  
Packlite Outdoor Gear - Butch Dunn, Owner  
5317 S. U.S. Highway 51 Carbondale IL 62901  
[www.packlite@peoplepe.com](http://www.packlite@peoplepe.com) 618 351-8585









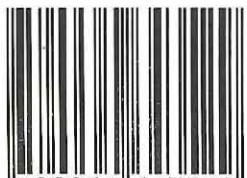


**“To honor the spirit** of those who

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 Society

ISBN 0-9646435-2-9



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RIVER-to-RIVER Trail Guide

RIVER-to-RIVER Trail Society

# RIVER TO RIVER

## TRAIL GUIDE

ACROSS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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



FOR HIKERS,  
BACKPACKERS  
& EQUESTRIANS

THIRD EDITION