# RIVERTORIVER TRAIL GUIDE 

 SOUTHERN ILLINO1S

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

FOR. HIKERS, EQUESTRIANS, AND OTHERS INTERESTED INTHE OUTDOORS

## RIVER TORIVER <br> TRAIL GUIDE

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Garden of the Gods

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John ODell, Chaiman River to River Trail Society

## Trail Mileage

## Based on Trailhead Placements

| Location | Distance to <br> next location | Total dis |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| from Batte |  |  |

Please remember that in most wilderness areas, you will only make about I mile per hour. The trail may change from time to time so the milage will change also. It is recommended that a person choose one or two sections and hike them over a few days and then return to walk other sections. For hikers, the trail would normally take from 10 to 14 days to hike straight through.

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

## RIVER TO RIVER

## TRAIL GUIDE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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

Trail descriptions and history-John O'Dell
Cartography and Design-Jim Balsitis, American Resources Group, Ltd.


## RIVER TO RIVER TRAIL <br> QUICK GUIDE




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## Acknowledgments

 tant people without whom the River to River Trail and this guidebook would not have been possible.To Ray Morris who was able to get the 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. 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 for the Forest Service. To Don Coale and Ned Enrietto of the Department of Conservation who helped to gaining access to the two state parks 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 rough section. To the Nine Day Trailride who came through with a nice contribution at a really important time. To Lee Smith who has done a lot of leg work when I began to slow down and lent of his creativity and computer expertise. To Jon Musgrave who keeps having these really bright ideas and helped us with a large gift from the Boy Scouts, and to the Boy Scouts of America, and the State of Illinois through Marilyn Hurst for their contribtions. 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 Peterein of her staff who has been such a big help to us and trail development in the forest, and to Scott Curry of the Forest Service who put the trail on a map for us.

When we started putting this trailguide together we didn't have a clue on how to get started. Jim Balsitis of American Resources Group, Ltd. with great patience and expertise got us over the rough part and made many excellent format suggestions that have resulted in the product in your hands.

I must thank my wife Marilee and my son Mark for the times they had to pick up the work load at home, drop me off on the trail while I was doing a lot of marking, and for putting up with all those little expenditures that took away from our home budget.

I am also grateful for the work that has been done by those giants who loved Southern Illinois that are mentioned in the trail history. Truly the direction they were going confirmed the same conclusions we have drawn in this generation.

F
Dedication
or those who will be seeing southern Illinois for the first time, there are many surprises. Beautiful scenic overlooks, complex and vast wilderness, opportunities, space, solitude, 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, our forefathers, some of whom have left their names upon the land. It seems that once a person learns

The River to River Trail Society was chartered January 17, 1992 as a not for profit corporation in Illinois. The organization is based on a chairman and a working board of directors of 19 members. General membership now lists 400 members.

The Society's purpose is to mark, advocate, and publicize a multiuse trail from Battery Rock on the Ohio River to Devils' Backbone Park on the Mississippi River, for a distance of approximately 146 miles. The Ameri-
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, Waylon Presley are among the many.

This Guide Book is therefore dedicated to our pioneering forefathers whose families formed the heritage of the region and the people who have and who now love southern Illinois. The completion of the trail would mean a great deal to all of them.

The River to River Trail Society

## Forward

can Discovery Trail, when looking for a link in Illinois, chose to overlay the River to River Trail. This ADT extends from New Haven to East Saint Louis, Illinois for a distance of about 300 miles. The chairman of the River to River Trail is also state coordinator for the American Discovery Trail. Many the activities are interrelated.

In September 1993, the marking of the River to River Trail was substantially completed and work began on a this trail guide and a brochure.

The River to River Trail follows an east to west description to honor the migration routes of the pioneers. The trail starts at Battery Rock on the Ohio River, about $61 / 2$ miles above Cave In Rock. It then travels about 146 miles through the Shawnee National Forest to Devil's Backbone Park, in Grand Tower on the Mississippi River. Follow the blue " i " in paint or a blue " i " on a white painted diamond.

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

Battery Rock: Follow the Lamb Road which is on Highway 1 about 5.5 miles north of Cave in Rock. When the road turns to gravel and then dirt, follow the blazes. The Trail goes along back roads back to Highway 1, and then turns north to Hardin County mile marker 6.53 , and turns west. This goes to Rock Creek. The trail signs are sometimes taken down or vandalized, so don't get discouraged and just ask someone for directions.
Rock Creek: From Highway 1, turn at Mt. Zion Church, which is about 6 miles north of Cave in Rock. From Highway 146 turn north at the Hasty Mine, which is about two miles from Highway 1. Ask for information at the. Corner T Tack Shop in Rock Creek. The trail is just north of Rock Creek and goes to Camp Cadiz. This is a good place to start for a three day trip to Lusk Creek Canyon. Horse trailer accessible.

## Trailheads

Camp Cadiz: From Camp Cadiz, cross the road 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. This is an old Civilian Conservation Corps camp, and has camping, parking, and water but no supplies. Horse trailer accessible.
High Knob: A very conspicuous and scenic hill off the Karber's Ridge Black-Top is about 20 miles southeast of Harrisburg off Highway 34. The trail goes near the top where you can go both directions. There is a horse camp at High Knob so you can camp, get water, and shower. Go west to the Garden of the Gods and east to Camp Cadiz. Horse trailer accessible
Garden of the Gods: From the Garden of the God's parking lot the trail goes west about eight miles to Herod. There is camping and water, but no supplies. Schaffers Grocery is about two miles away at the intersection of Karbers' Ridge Blacktop and Highway 34..

Herod: Herod is on Highway 34 approximately 20 miles southeast of Harrisburg. The trail passes through Herod on the way south and makes a slight dog leg over the bridge. From here go either north to Garden of the Gods or south to One Horse Gap and then on to Lusk Creek Canyon. Markers are right on the main highway. A store here is sometimes open. The Herod Post Office can be used as a drop. Horse trailer accessible.

Eddyville: Eddyville is about 20 miles due south of Harrisburg on Highway 145. The trail runs past the Post Office and a store where groceries and a telephone are available. Going east will take you to Lusk Creek Canyon, going west will take you to Jackson Hollow and Hayes Creek. These beautiful areas are not right on the trail but you can spend a day off trail in these areas. Horse trailer accessible.
Tunnel Hill: Tunnel Hill is located off the Tunnel Hill Road about ten miles north of Vienna on Highway 45, or 20 miles southwest of Harrisburg on Highway 45. An Illinois state rails to trails project goes north and south at this point and the River to River Trail crosses it about two miles south of Tunnel Hill. You can hike through the tunnel going south until you come to the River to River Trail intersection, or you can pick up the trail as it crosses Highway 45 about one and a half miles south of the Tunnel Hill Road. Watch for the markers along the road. Going west from Highway 45, the trail passes between two houses and it looks like you are going through their driveway. This way will take you to Dutchman Lake and Ferne Clyffe State Park. Going east, the trail follows Highway 45 for one mile turning east on a gravel road, before the big transmission lines. This leads to Max Creek.
Dutchman Lake: On the Tunnel HillLake of Egypt-Ferne Clyffe Road there is a turnoff leading to Dutchman Lake. The trail crosses the dam. Horse trailer accessible.

Ferne Clyffe State Park: The trail enters the park on the south end of the park boundary 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 State Parks from November through April. Horse trailer accessible.
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 the Cedar Bluff area. Or go west following the markers until "Wayside" at the large antenna. This will take you to the Panther Den Wilderness Area.
Giant City: Giant City State Park is located about seven miles south of Carbondale off Highway 51 or Giant City Road. This wonderful park has a campground and a lodge. The River to River Trail overlays the park's equestrian trail. Horse trailer accesible Makanda: The trail goes through the town of Makanda which has a post office and some small shops. Go east and you will return to Giant City State Park. Go west and the trail crosses Highway 51 and then goes to Cedar Lake.
Cedar Lake: On Highway 127 ten miles south of Murphysboro, the trail crosses the highway at a Cedar Lake access road entrance. Follow the trail east around the lake toward Makanda or west to Pomona.

Pomona: A small town located off Highway 127, it has a post office and a general store. The trail turns north at Pomona and goes toward Pomona Natural Bridge, or east to Cedar Lake. Clear Springs: The Clear Springs trail head is located about two miles north of the Larue-Pine Hills National Natural Landmark, accessible off Highway 3, four miles north of Wolf Lake. The "springs" are located next to a blacktop road that goes to Hickory Ridge Road. Follow the trail north to Lookout Point, or go south to the Clear Springs Wilderness area and exits in the Pine Hills.

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. Supplies, telephone and camping are available.

The trail head locations are not intended as a description of the trail, but as general directions to trail heads and where the trail will take you from there. Make careful plans for your trip by obtaining U.S.G.S. contour maps or use this trail guide. Ask at the trail head for more information on that section, or call the River to River Trail Society at 618-252-6789. Always take a compass, map, and a companion with you.

## The River to River Trail

## T

 he River to River Trail as a concept has been a part of the Shawnee Forest since its beginning. Until recently, the trail started from Cave-InRock and ended at the crossing of route 45 for a distance of about 80 miles. Over several decades there have been many 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 it's existence because for the past generation, it has been kept open and cleared by horsemen using these old trails.Battery Rock to Devils Backbone

More recently the "Hike a Nation" effort walked across the state from west to east and Southern Illinois Trailriders now make a annual trip from river to river also traveling from west to east.

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.

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 an 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 more quiet than walking on leaves, it is possible to walk up on wildlife before either knows of the others presence. Remember to bring your camera!

Most trails are passable all year, except for the coldest days in January or February. The average winter temperature will be in the 40's which is good hiking or riding weather. Summer brings the usual mid-western insects and the woods in August have cobwebs to accompany the heat and humidity which can make it uncomfortable for the less seasoned hiker.

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.

The American Discovery Trail is a coast to coast trail that overlays the River to River Trail. The ADT enters Illinois from Indiana at New Haven then turns south on Highway 1 until its intersection with the River to River Trail in Hardin County. On the west
side, the ADT travels north from Grand Tower up the levees to points of departure at Modoc on the Modoc ferry or on Eads Bridge at St. Louis.

Measurement of the Trail on the map yields 146 miles. Almost all hikers find they can only cover about 1 mile per hour because much of the trail goes side to side although it is shown as a straight line. Through Hikers find that it takes at least ten to fourteen days to do the total trail. It is our hope that more people will make several week end trips rather than trying to do the whole trail at once. Once becoming familiar with the each section of the trail, it is interesting to return and hike the side trails.

The Terrain varies from moderate to difficult. Although this trail does not have the long sustained climbs they might have 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. This trail guide cannot be precise in measurements but is as close to reality as we can make it at this point.

Through hikers's 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.

Remember to bring your trail etiquette and carry out whatever you carry in.

## Battery Rock to Rock Creek

Battery Rock is located about five miles upstream from Cave-InRock. To get to Battery Rock you should turn off Highway 1 at Minerva Mine Road about five miles north of Cave-In-Rock. The black top 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 black top will turn into gravel shortly after the community of Lamb, and at the next two forks stay to the left. About one mile down the road there will be a turnaround after you pass a field that has a nice view of the Ohio River. The road is not passable from this point so if you are a purist and are counting on the full experience, proceed down the road at the bottom of the bluff. There is a nice beach with cliffs and a springlwaterfall 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 1860's. The road leading up to Battery Rock, however, was used probably about 1800 because the Brown Cemetery further down the road has stones of about that date with some Revolutionary War veterans in it. Battery Rock was a location for the film "How the West Was Won" starring James Stewert and others.

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

If you have an opportunity, the view from the river of 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 surrounded by forest.

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 Highway 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.

Please note: This is the longest section of the River to River Trail on roads but a new route from Battery Rock going west will travel along cliff tops and through some wonderful
wooded hollows. This is the Jim Price Trail and will probably be done at the end of 1995 or spring of 1996. From Battery Rock, follow the markers to the end, at the crossing of Highway 1. Watch for the eagles. From Battery Rock to Highway 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 Highway 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 two miles, (there will be one vista on the right and then one on the left), to a graveled lot on the north side of the road. Follow the trail markers back to Rock Creek and then westerly to the gravel road. At the crossing of the gravel road and the trail, Corner T Tack shop can be found that has trail services.

At Rock Creek where this trail first meets 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 an Indian woman she had befriended, she found that a type of nightshade (white snakeroot) 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 Highway 1, is Pott's Tavern which is on private property. Billy Pott's 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. Pott's 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 could discover his true identity. An almost unbelievable account of the area between 1800 and 1840 can be found in the book "Satans Ferryman."

## GENERAL MAP KEY







## Rock Creek to Camp Cadiz

Before you leave the Rock Creek area, take a look at the " H " tree in the Rock Creek Church yard. Rock Creek is a registered ghost town. At one time this was a home to approximately 500 people. A story I heard was that a prominent landowner passed on surprising wealth to his heirs and wasn't until later that it was strongly rumored that he had been involved with a gold robbery in California.

## Map 3 and 4

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 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.

## Camp Cadiz to High Knob

Camp Cadiz was a Civilian Conservation Corps Camp of the Depression Era. The buildings are now gone and what remains is a multiuse campsite. The River to River Trail enters the camp from the south and exits through the camp at the north end. A gravel road intersects the camp. Shortly after leaving the camp the trail takes a sharp left turn to the west. This section of the trail is very straight forward and proceeds about three miles until reaching the blacktop and turns right until reaching the Karbers Ridge blacktop about 100 yards after turning. Continue directly across the blacktop and proceed about 100 yards and the trail turns to the west (left). High Knob is a prominence with a spectacular view. High Knob Campground is located at the road entrance so this would be a good place to start or stop. There are also some caves and cliffs worth seeing and the trail from the blacktop is old growth forest. Even thoughit 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. My family and I were there one time when migrating monarch butterflies decided to rest there.

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

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


## High Knob to Garden of the Gods <br> Map 5 and 6

0ne 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 Area so the view inside and outside make it worth a special trip. There area 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 two miles away in Karber's Ridge there are supplies.

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 gravel road. After about a half mile the trail will turn off the gravel road and enter the woods going north. Watch for the painted blue "i"'s on the trees, although the brush in the summer may make it a little difficult. The distance to Garden of the Gods is about five miles by following the regular trail. This trail is somewhat longer and has some rough spots in it. At the first scenic overlook, that some call Buzzard's Roost, there is a
trail going to the west while the regular route goes almost due north at this point. 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 charts 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 several million 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 campgrounds located at Garden of the Gods are 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 

1he trail from Garden of the Gods can be started from the parking lot, or the campground. The trail goes northwest from the parking lot, and intersects the regular River to River Trail in about 3/8ths mile then takes a long loop to the north before turning south and then west to exit on the Herod Blacktop about five miles away. The trail enters this road about a half mile above Herod and turns left or south to continue. At Herod, the trail turns right to cross the bridge on Highway 34, and then immediately turns left or south on Raum Road.

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

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

Garden of the Gods road can be reached from the Karber's Ridge Blacktop which is the next major road past Herod. (Turn left, east, off Highway 34, then, north, left again off Karber's Ridge Blacktop.) This road leads north past Garden of the Gods 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 Highway 34 near Rudement.


Camel Rock at Garden of the Gods Recreation Area.


# Herod to One Horse Gap and Concord Cemetery 

Highway 34 passes through Herod going from Harrisburg toward Elizabetown. Hike from Garden of the Gods to this highway and after crossing the bridge and having turned right, then look for the sign directing a left turn across Highway 34 to Raum Road which is gravel. The next trail into the woods is about $11 / 2$ 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. Someone has been persistent in taking our signs down so we may have an alternative entrance at the concrete ford.

William's Hill, the second highest point in Illinois at 1064 feet, is about two miles away. There are some nice trails to the northeast of the high point that go into another forested area. Wamble Mountain lies across Highway 34 from William's Hill ...yes the latter is higher.

Upon entering the trail from Raum Road, there will be some trees close by that have been felled by beaver. The trail crosses the beaver dam and proceeds on a slow climb up the hill. 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.

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.


## Concord Cemetery through Lusk Creek to Eddyville Map 8 and 9

rom 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 $21 / 2$ miles before things really start getting interesting. The River to River Trail continues in more or less a straight line through this area and finally emerges about five miles from the cemetery on a gravel road that has a well developed trail head with ample parking for horse trailers near the Circle B Ranch which is private. Continue through this park and in another mile you will enter the outskirts of Eddyville at the north edge. The trail zigzags through town and reenters the forest on the west edge of Eddyville on the only road going west. It has a dog leg to the right and another quarter mile before you find the trail straight ahead of you.

The Lusk Creek Canyon area within the Lusk Creek Wilderness Area is some of the most beautiful in the world. In order to see the best of it you must leave the trail in the middle and travel to the north or south when you come to Lusk Creek. By following the contour maps you should be able to see some of the reason why this area is a National Landmark. Indian Kitchen, a great overlook where nothing man made can be seen, a Natural Bridge and plenty
more for someone who may wish to take more than a day and hike this area. In the central part surrounding the state owned property there is only hiking permitted. The Indian Kitchen is accessed by finding the rock wall which looks like a pile of rocks now and turning right. The first small path leading to the niche in the cliff about 100 feet above the creek is only for the agile and brave.

At one point I found an arrowhead in the trail, went down into the creek where there were rock shelters on both sides, 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 is about seven miles, but take two days at least to see this beautiful area.


# Eddyville to Cedar Grove Church Road 

The River to River Trail leaves Eddyville on the western edge. Follow the trail through Eddyville to the only road going west and then turn north. The trailhead is about a quarter of a mile. The first trail, after crossing Hayes Creek, going north off this trail goes to Hayes Creek Campground or Hayes Creek which has a natural waterslide called Double Branch Hole. Follow the plain diamonds to access Hayes Creek Camp, Jackson Hole and Peter Cave although the latter is on private property. This trail is pretty straight forward and passes by the Crow Knob Natural Area on the western end. Don't miss it. The knob is north of the River to River Trail about 100 yards. Not too far away is Miller's Cemetery which is all that remains of a community of freed slaves. Their church was burned out, so the story goes, so they began meeting on top of Crow Knob. Cedar Grove Church Road is another mile. Cedar Grove Road is off Highway 147 between Millstone Bluff and the junction of Highway 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 five mile section and can be made in one day from Lusk Creek. 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 125 foot natural bridge, Sand Cave which is a very large room, the largest in North America, Jackson Hollow Railroad Tunnel, which is different from Jackson Hole, Burden Falls, and the Millstone Bluff National Historic Site. Millstone Bluff is a very distinctive prominence where millstones were quarried by pioneers, but more importantly, is 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 Road To Bay Lake Map 10 and 11

tarting from the intersection of Cedar Grove Road, the trail continues through some second growth timber and pines to the intersection of an old road bed and then the trail turns right or to the west. A side trail continues straight ahead that leads to Bay Creek Ranch. 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 your right as you go. The trail turns away from the lake and then intersects county road 463 and turns to the right. The trail will continue down this road straight ahead, but a road to the right goes to the spillway and dam and other trails leading north from the dam.

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

To reach county road 463 and intersect the trail, the road lies to the east of Millstone Bluff and west of Cedar Grove Road from Highway 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, mile 2.0.

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


River to River Trail marker:


## Bay Lake to Trigg Tower Road and Trigg Tower

starting from Pope 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 a large oval culvert and then starts up hill. Shortly before getting to Trigg Tower Road you begin seeing some hardwoods and then pines. When you cross Trigg Tower Road there will be another excellent trailhead with trailer parking. This would be another starting point to go either direction but would be a long day on horseback and for only ironmen to go to Eddyville. Trigg Tower is about two miles down the trail and then a quarter mile off the trail to the left at the point marked. Trigg Tower has a spectacular view but is a little adven-
turesome 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 Highway 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 $11 / 2$ 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. 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.


Trail Maintenance on the River to River Trail.


# Trigg Tower to Max Creek to Highway 45 Map 11, 12, and 13 

f 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 $2 / 3$ 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 158) and arcs to the west until it reenters the forest. The first fork to the right goes back to Cedar Lake Campground, but the trail goes on down to cross Max Creek. This part alone is worth the trip.

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

Among other features of this area, there are some painted buffalo on cliffs from the middle-woodland period of Early Americans. I have seen one at Gum Springs off Country Road 90 near the Simpson Blacktop. (This is the west branch of Cedar Creek at the Double Bridges.) I have heard of another north of the rocks mentioned above.

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

Trigg Tower to Route 45 is about six miles.


# Highway 45 to Dutchman Lake then Ferne Clyffe Map 13, 14, and 15 

## I

 he 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. 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 railbed goes to the right to the lakeside...and what appears to be a good stopping spot. These lakes are the source of the Cache River. The Department of Conservation will have some facilities constructed for travelers in the near future where these two trails cross.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 dog-leg 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 Highway 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 railroad trestle going over the Cache at this point is the highest in the state that crosses a body of water, at about 75 feet. The canyons here are very steep and very pretty.

At the spillway of ${ }^{\text {D }}$ Dutchman Lake there is a grove of trees that has a spring coming out of the Bluff. This has been named Livesay Spring for Darrel Livesay, the person who opened the trail in this description.

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

From Highway 45 to Ferne Clyffe is about seven miles.




## Ferne Clyffe to Panther Den

pon entering the parking lot at the south end of Ferne Clyffe, follow the markers to a canopied old roadbed that is marked within the park. There is a natural bridge and some spectacular rock formations. The huge rock shelter called Hawkes Cave is a definite "must see" by anyone. The trail exits the park at the north end of Happy Hollow and goes left on the blacktop for about a mile. The road takes two left turns until you turn right to Country Road 39. From here follow the trail west for about a half mile before turning left (south) into the woods. In another mile the trail turns north along an old road. There will be a cliff that has a waterfall with a large rock shelter beneath, before you start up the hill. This road "T"s with the Goreville Blacktop, so you turn west or left past the scenic overlook (just off interstate 57) and to the next "T" and turn right or north. This view along the road is as good or better than the first one just passed. Follow the road for a half mile and turn west or left and continue about 1 $1 / 2$ miles until you see some antenna and a road to the right. This is Wayside.

Continue north on this road until you see the road go to the right and the trail as marked goes straight
ahead. The trail turns to the west and wanders through some rather average trail, bearing to the south when it intersects an unmarked trail going north. Our trail turns to the right or north. It becomes a little more interesting but suddenly you are at a spot that is incredible. This is worth spending some time here. Panther Den is private property at this writing, but it is our hope that it will soon be purchased by the Forest Service.

Exit this area going north, the trail will wind up a hill and then turn south through the hardwoods. At a wildlife opening, the trail will be going west at this point and look for a left turn to the south. The trail crosses a large pasture to a lane on the opposite side which is Country Road 751. At the black top turn right or westerly and at the next "T" turn right on "Rocky Comfort Road" until the next road and turn left.

There are some long sections on road here but there are some spectacular sights on this leg. It is possible to do Ferne Clyffe, the waterfall, and Panther Den at different intervals.

The road that goes north past the waterfall also goes south to Cedar Church. There are trails there that will take you to the top of Chimney Rock and Drapers Bluff and also worth a trip.


## Panther Den to Giant City

After Leaving Panther Den, take the trail out and across some wildlife openings, turning left or south across the large pasture right in the middle until you find a lane which is country road 751 . When you find the black top turn right or west to Rocky Comfort Road, turn right until the next road and turn left on county road 43 . This trail goes to the next "T" in about two miles which is country road 741 and turns
north until it intersects the Giant City Trail. The trail enters Giant City from the east and travels the park's trails to the northern end. There is a horse camp here and plenty to do. Giant City Lodge is unique in it's Yellowstone theme and has excellent food and lodging.

The distance from Panther Den to Giant City is about five miles.

# Giant City to Cedar Lake to Highway 127 

Ihe trail leaves Giant City at the northern end near the Indian Wall. It goes west to Makanda and after crossing the railroad tracks turns to the right in the next block. This section will take you over Highway 51 (at the Presley Tours building) and toward Oak Grove Church. The trail then turns south and soon enters Forest Service land. The trail travels on the south side of the lake crossing the lower leg of the lake on the spillway and then up the perimeter of the lake to the entrance road and turns west until you reach Highway 127 in about a mile.

Map 18, 19, and 20

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

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

Distance through Giant City is about three miles. The distance From Giant City to Route 127 is about six miles.




# Highway 127 to Pomona to Hickory Ridge Road Map 20 and 21 

rom Highway 127 go directly across to the Pomona Blacktop, walk about a mile and then at the "T" (in Pomona) turn to the right and at the next road go straight ahead. You have just passed the Pomona General Store, Post Office and a few residences. This is the road to the Natural Bridge and in another mile (plus) the trail goes off road to the west on County Road 214B. In less than a half mile, the trail turns left on County Road 740B. At the end of this section, which is an old roadbed, the trail intersects the Hickory Ridge Road about $11 / 2$ miles south of the Cedar Creek Bridge. Watch for the markers in this spot because we are in the process of relocating this part of the trail.

Another way to get around this point is to go up Jerusalem Road from Pomona until it intersects Hickory Ridge, then a mile north to where the trail crosses the road. Hickory Ridge

Road can also be reached from Murphrysboro by turning south from 20th street and following the signs for Little Grand Canyon and then keep on going. During the floods of 1993, the bridge was sometimes underwater. The roads in this area tend to be ridge top roads and often have nice views. There aren't any gas stations in this area so make certain to take your maps and enough provisions.

The Pomona Natural Bridge, Bald Knob Cross and Little Grand Canyon are a delight.

The next towns of any size is Cobden and Alto Pass. Four miles from Alto Pass is Bald Knob Cross which can be seen from Highway 127 but not appreciated until you get to the top.

The distance between Highway 127 and Hickory Ridge Road is about three miles.


Garden of the Gods


# Hickory Ridge Road to Clear Springs to Pine Hills 

From Hickory Ridge Road the trail goes south on the road for about a quarter of a mile and then turns west into the woods. There was an old Civilian Conservation Corps camp here at one time. The trail twists around and crosses Wolf Creek and then finds Black Pond Road and goes left or south for about a mile before turning off in about a mile into the deeper woods. After turning off the Black Pond Road the trail will eventually turn back north to cross Caney Creek which is why there is such a big loop here. Follow the trail past Hagler Road to Lookout Rocks and turn down the face of the cliffs to the road at the bottom of the bluffs. Over two miles later you will pass Rattlesnake Ferry which is only a couple of posts sticking out of the Big Muddy River at this time. You can see the boat ramp across the river. Cedar Creek Valley looks like a huge punch bowl. When viewed from the end near the Cedar Creek Bridge the wall on the far side has a break in it, out which flows Cedar Creek into the Big Muddy River and then into the Mississippi River. There is a glimpse of the Mississippi Valley in the distance.

After another half mile you will find Macedonia Road. Turn south
for about $1 / 2$ mile. Near the cross roads there is a wide part (a pull off) where there are two clear springs running. The Clear Springs section of the trail is at the intersection of the road on the east side. This is the Clear Springs Wilderness Area and ends at the Larue-Pine Hills National Natural Landmark. Going up the bluff you follow the ridge between sink holes until you exit on the blacktop forest road. You are high atop the Mississippi Valley looking over some genuine bayou country. Turn right to go north down the hill and the trail takes you onto the levee going west. This is also a very beautiful ridge road and takes you to the bottom of the bluff. At the bottom, the road continues onto the levee. Where the levee road turns at the foot of the bluff is a nice parking area across from Winters Pond. The old road that goes along the foot of the bluffs is closed for migrating reptiles in the Spring and Fall.

Wolf Creek Campground is at the top of the hill at the corner of Black Pond Road.

This is an interesting wild area with a lot a variation because of the influences of the large cliffs, heavy forests, and the bayous below.




## Pine Hills to Devils Backbone

AMap 23, 24, and 25
$t$ the bottom of the bluffs there is a picnic 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 Highway 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 River, 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. It has been noted since the early French Explorers. There is a story that Indians killed a group of settlers at the end of Devil's Backbone. The only survivor was a small boy who grew up and revenged the killing of his parents.

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 share 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.


Larue-Pine Hills National Natural Landmark.


# River to River Trail Board of Directors 

## I

he duties of the Board of Directors will be to attend meetings of River to River Trail Society to consider the matters that come before them. They shall maintain their section of the trail and walk or ride the trail at least once in the spring and once during the fall to insure that markings are adequate. Any major problems should be reported to the Forest Service or the Chair. All Officers shall be nominated from active members of the Board of Directors.,

1. Battery Rock to Route 1

Jim and John Price
618-289-3867
R\#1, Cave In Rock 62919
2. Route 1 to Camp Cadiz

Fred Birch, 618-289-4896
R\#1, Cave In Rock 62919
3. Camp Cadiz to

Garden of the Gods
Dave Flanders, 618-275-4346
R\#1, Equality, IL 62934
4. Garden of the Gods to Herod

Mark O'Dell, 618-252-6789
1142 Winkleman
Harrisburg, Il 62946
5. Herod to Concord Cemetery

David Fletcher, 618-264-2111
R\#1, Box 31, Herod, IL 62947
6. Concord Cemetery to

Lusk Trail Head
Lee Smith/Cindy Smith
618-777-2946
Ozark, IL 62972
7. Lusk Trail Head through Eddyville
Hartzel Black, 618-777-2931
P.O. Box 200, Vienna, IL 62995
8. Eddyville to Cedar Grove Road Ray Morris, 618-672-4346
Box 97, Golconda, IL 62938
9. Cedar Grove Rd. to Trigg Tower Francis Land, 618-695-2670
R\#1, Box 189,
Simpson, IL 62985
10. Trigg Tower to Route 45

Greg Walker, 618-658-8862
P.O. Box 621,

Vienna, IL62995
11. Highway 45 to Ferne Clyffe Darrell Livesay, 618-964-1215
R\#4, Box 579, Marion, IL 62959
12. Ferne Clyffe to

I-57 Overlook
Jim Balsitis, 618-529-2741
Rt. 1 Box 459
Makanda, IL 62958
13. I-57 Overlook to Rocky Comfort Jon Musgrave, 618-244-7270
14. Rocky Comfort to Makanda Janette Dove/Angie Middleton 618-893-2753
R\#2, Box 370,
Cobden, IL 62920
15. Makanda to Cedar Lake Richard and Doris Dale 618-549-6245
16. Cedar Lake to Pomona

Sue Kosma, 618-893-2347
17. Pomona to Hickory Ridge Rich and Mona Diefenbach 618-833-6694
R\#2, Box 494, Anna, IL 62871
18. Hickory Ridge to Pine Hills

Debbie Kessinger, 618-893-4440
R\#1, Box 111,
Pomona, IL 62775
19. Pine Hills to Devils Backbone

Doug McDonald, 618-549-3612
Phoenix Cycles
Carbondale, IL 62901



Fold out for trail quick guide


