

Ozark Underground Laboratory, Taney Co., Missouri

July 7, 1973

Biology, Honors visited area this afternoon and evening. Those in party are: Randy Altman, Catherine Brungardt, Richard Lewis, Fletcher Miller, Margaret Williams, Robert Williams, Charla Conley, Mr & Mrs Robert Chionetti, Mr & Mrs Gary Sams, Merlin Tuttle and

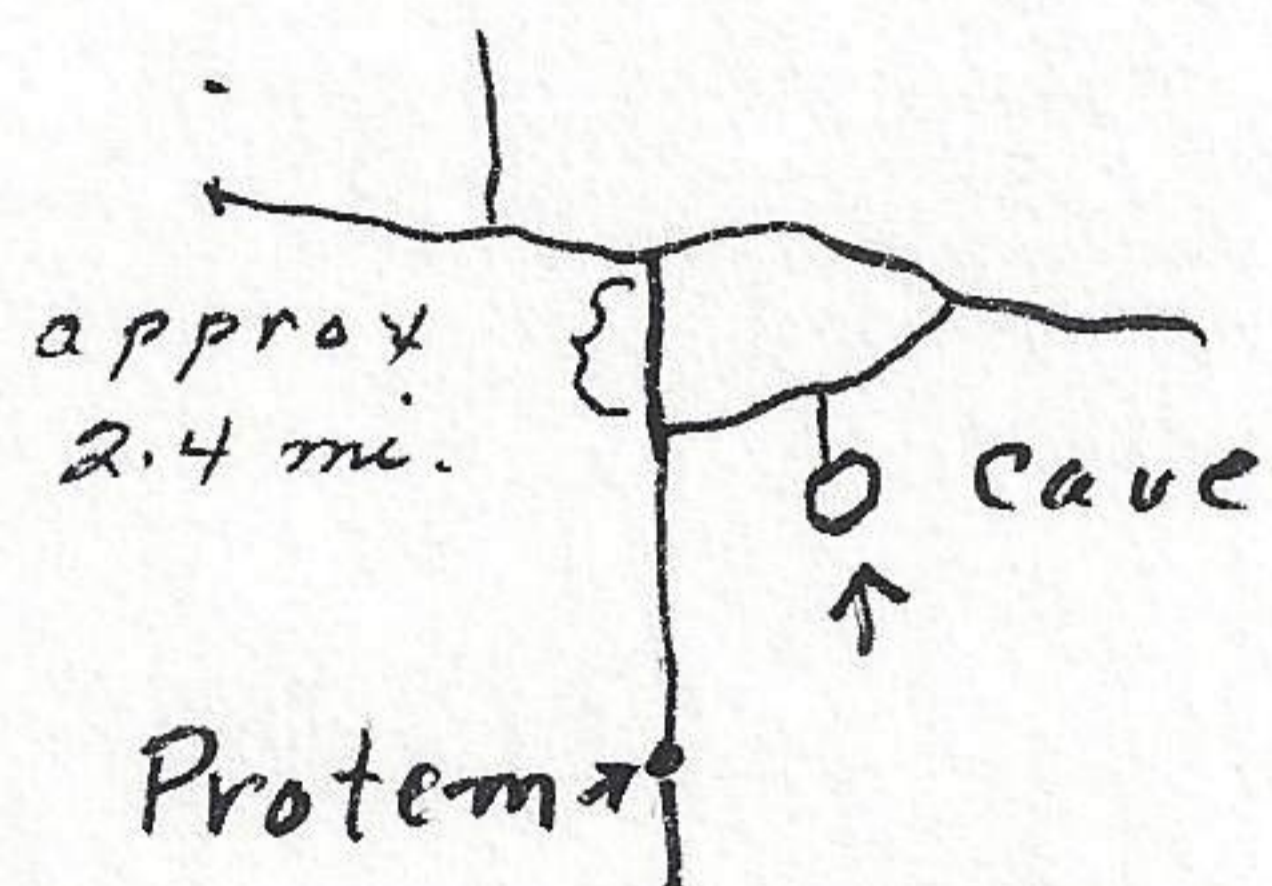
Left Lawrence 7:35 A.M. at mileage 70337.

Route 150 to 13 south to Springfield, thence to Forsyth, thence to Underground Laboratories. The nearest town is Protem to the south.

Arrived Forsyth 2:25 at mileage 70581 and at

Laboratory at ~~70584~~⁶¹⁷ at 3:30 P.M. Mileage included side trip before arriving at destination. Usual birds enroute. Dickcissel stop about east border of Kansas. First Crow at laboratory. No red-headed woodpecker.

The terrain becomes deeply eroded south of



Springfield with roads traversing ridges and valley bottoms undisturbed. Forests cover most of the slopes. Heard pillolated woodpecker at the cave area and was told that the nest still had young. Met Tom Aley at the cave. His present address is 1958 Cherry Street Court, Springfield, Missouri. 65802 tel - 417-862-6326, and he committed to cave whenever conducted tours are required (\$5.00 per individual).

The road to cave property is a county road and is passable under normal wet conditions. The entrance to Aley property (125 acres) is thru a red gate bordered by stone supports and an unobtrusive sign OUL. The road to field house and cave is passable but very low slung cars may have problem. Road bed solid except some water holes during rain. Parking area for approx. 10 cars only.

Spent afternoon on surface of cave area discussing influence on cave proper. Discussed effect of ^{surface} water, slope, exposure, soil types, vegetational cover, erosional areas, sink holes, straining effect of soils, mineralogy etc, as they relate to the cave below. Creek loses water to underground caverns at a rate of 5 gals or more per second and these waters are not being filtered to eliminate small particles. Sink holes are used in Missouri for refuge, oil wastes, chemicals, sewage etc which do irreparable damage to cave ecology. Aley pointed out one area bordering the present drainage which had been created by sinking of roof of cave below thus: