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Inside the Mammoth Cave

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CAVE BOOKS, founded in 1981 as a non-profit publishing affiliate of the Cave Research Foundation, is the world's largest publisher of books on caves, karst, and speleological research. To keep costs down and prices low, we depend entirely on a staff of volunteers—all cavers—and all dedicated to preserving the history of cave exploration and cave-related literature.

This new catalog includes two new titles that are sure to be of interest to cavers and historians alike. Colleen O'Conner Olson's *Mammoth Cave by Lantern Light: Visiting America's Most Famous Cave in the 1800s* describes how travelers in the 1800s saw the cave, their views of the ancient American Indians who came before them, celebrities who graced the cave, and the unusual lives of the slaves who guided tours and explored new passages. Thomas Lera's *Cave Post Offices* is a one-of-a-kind book that takes a look at towns named after a cave, cavern, or grotto, and their post offices, postmarks, and cancellation stamps.

All of our books, written by cavers, uphold the high standards we set for clarity, drama, and excitement.

Have a question about a book or an idea for a new one? Give us a call. All of us are here to help. When you can't get underground, reading these books is the next best thing to being there!

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Cave Post Offices

Thomas Lera. 2011

151 color photos

135 pp. 7 x 10

ISBN 978-0-939748-76-1

\$29.95 pb

Cave Post Offices takes a look at towns named after a cave, cavern, or grotto, and their post offices. Where was the town located? From what was their name derived? When did the town's post office come into existence, and is it still operating? What types of postmarks and cancellations were used? These questions and more are answered.

The first chapter is a primer on the various types of postmarks and cancellations used by postmasters, from the early manuscript cancel, to the circle date cancel, to the slogan cancel promoting the town and the cave. Subsequent chapters contain detail listings, state by state, of towns and post offices with "cave, cavern, or grotto" in their name. Examples of postmarks and cancellations are illustrated, and an extensive reference list is included.

Historians will find this book as comprehensive as current research allows. It provides a different look into a communication medium that helped shape our nation from the mid-19th century to today. It will become the guidebook to a new hobby—speleophilately.

Mammoth Cave by Lantern Light: Visiting America's Most Famous Cave in the 1800s

Colleen O'Connor Olson. 2010

45 b/w photos.

121 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 978-0-939748-75-4

\$9.95 pb

Long before Yellowstone became the world's first national park and a long time before Coney Island had a roller coaster (1872 and 1884 for the curious), vacationers already were flocking to Mammoth Cave. When tours began at the cave in 1816, charging people money to go underground seemed like a crazy scheme, but the idea worked and has been working ever since.

Mammoth Cave by Lantern Light looks at how travelers in the 1800s saw the cave, their views of the ancient American Indians who came before them, celebrities who graced the cave, and the unusual lives of the slaves who guided tours and explored new passages.

Some experiences early cave visitors had are familiar to visitors today: gazing fearfully down Bottomless Pit and ducking through a narrow, winding passage called Fat Man's Misery. Others are long gone: arriving by stagecoach and maneuvering through rough, dark passages in a petticoat, corset, and high-button shoes with only a lantern to see your way.

Grand, Gloomy, and Peculiar: Stephen Bishop at Mammoth Cave

Roger W. Brucker. 2009.

280 pp. 5½ x 8½, contains map of Mammoth Cave, circa 1845.

ISBN 978-0-939748-72-3 \$21.95 hb

ISBN 978-0-939748-71-6 \$15.95 pb

Like most slaves in early America, Stephen Bishop dreamed of freedom. But when his master brought him to Mammoth Cave in Kentucky in 1838, he found a new obsession—exploring the vast reaches of what would one day be the world’s longest cave. *Grand, Gloomy, and Peculiar* is based on the true story of America’s first great cave explorer, whose magnificent discoveries helped pave the way for Mammoth Cave to become a national park a century later. Written from the perspective of his wife, Charlotte, this carefully researched novel combines adventure, history, humor, and romance. Indeed, it is a fascinating tale of two unforgettable slaves whose passion for each other, and for the cave below, made it possible for them to endure an otherwise intolerable existence.

“*Grand, Gloomy, and Peculiar* . . . is one of the best historical novels I have ever read. It educates and captivates. I loved it.” —Donald W. Murphy, Chief Executive Officer, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Huautla: Thirty Years in One of the World’s Deepest Caves

C. William Steele. 2009.

23 color, 88 b/w photos, maps

269 pp. 6 x 9

ISBN 978-0-939748-70-9 \$24.95 hb

Huautla: Thirty Years in one of the World’s Deepest Caves is the story of the exploration of a vast and very deep cave system near the town of Huautla de Jimenez, Oaxaca, Mexico, approximately 200 miles southeast of Mexico City. Since the mid-1970s, and continuing to the present day, American speleologists have organized expedition after expedition to explore, map, and study these caves. Along the way it was a grand adventure and many extreme incidents are related in this book, including being trapped underground, the involvement of the Cold War, accidents, attempted murder of cavers by the townspeople, floods in the cave, the eventual death of a project member, and moments of exciting exploration when the wonder of the Huautla caves were discovered for the first time.

“. . . a story told by a person who participated in one of the greatest adventures in the world of speleology.” —Ron Kerbo, *NSS News*

Diamond Caverns: Jewel of Kentucky's Underground

Stan D. Sides. 2007.

22 pp. 6½ x 10

ISBN 978-0-939748-67-9

\$4.95 pb

Diamond Caverns: Jewel of Kentucky's Underground is the story of a historic show cave adjacent to Mammoth Cave National Park. The cave's profuse glistening formations distinguished it from the lengthy dry passages of Mammoth Cave, leading to its popularity as a visitor attraction for nearly 150 years.

The geologic story of Diamond Caverns is identical to that of Mammoth Cave. The sandstone layer capping the Mammoth Cave plateau restricts water flow into the underlying passages. This caprock has eroded away at Diamond Caverns, resulting in deposition of extensive formations in Diamond Caverns.

This book, loaded with dozens of beautiful color photographs, outlines the rich history of this remarkable show cave, introduces the geology of the immediate area of the cave, and invites the reader to savor another aspect of the beauty and uniqueness of the Mammoth Cave region.

Today, historic Diamond Caverns is the second oldest show cave in the Central Kentucky region, and fourth oldest operating commercial cave in the United States. It is located within the Mammoth Cave National Park International Biosphere Reserve.

Cave Geology

Arthur N. Palmer. 2007.

561 b/w photos, 760 figures, 250 maps and diagrams.

454 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 978-0-939748-66-2

\$42.95 hb

Cave Geology is the definitive book on the subject by an internationally recognized authority. It can be easily understood by non-scientists but also covers a wide range of topics in enough detail to be used by advanced researchers. Illustrated with more than 500 black-and-white photographs and 250 diagrams and maps, this book is dedicated to anyone with an interest in caves and their origin.

Concepts, techniques, and field examples are stressed. Most examples are from American caves, although the scope is international. Topics within the fifteen chapters include: cave science and exploration, karst landscapes, cavernous rocks, karst groundwater and chemistry, characteristics of solution caves, cave origin, relation of caves to geologic setting, cave minerals, caves in volcanic rocks, cave meteorology and internal weathering, dating caves, field techniques, and relation of cave studies to other sciences. Also included is a detailed glossary, reference, and index.

Under Plowman's Floor

Richard Watson. 2006.

224 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 978-0-939748-65-7 \$12.95 pb

Under Plowman's Floor is the story of a man who becomes devoted to cave exploration. We follow him from his first cave trip underground through his metamorphosis into a master caver in charge of directing the exploration of one of the most demanding caves in the world.

In his fifties, driven by an obsessive passion, he begins solo caving. Some thirty years after his first cave trip he reaches a goal that make him into a legend. *Under Plowman's Floor* provides an answer to the eternal question: Why climb that mountain? Why explore that cave?

Richard Watson was for more than twenty years a member of a small group of cavers who led the exploration of the Flint Mammoth Cave System in Kentucky, now the world's longest as the result of their efforts.

"*Under Plowman's Floor* is a novel that peels open the dark spooky world of caving. It portrays with power and precision one man's quest to explore the unknown, to discover not just what lies in the mysterious depths of the earth but of his own heart." —Willard Manus, author of *Pigskin Rabbi*

True Tales of Terror in the Caves of the World

Paul Jay Steward. 2005.

141 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-939748-61-4 \$10.95 pb

They say that truth is stranger than fiction, and this book proves it. These stories will stretch the imaginations of the best fiction writers. Discover which cave contains the remains of more than 30,000 people, or the cave in which the police find a woman's body cut into eight pieces, and her head encased in cement. Can you imagine entering a cave and finding human limbs hanging from the walls and ceiling, and barrels of remains pickled for human consumption? How about finding a cave whose walls were painted with the blood from torture victims, or the ceiling blackened from the burning of human flesh?

The stories in this book will take you on a journey across the globe and into the depths of the Earth where some of the most vile and cruelest acts imaginable have been committed. You have been warned.

"In this remarkable compilation and examination of the topic, Steward takes the reader on a tour-de-force journey into the darkest recesses and depths of the earth, of the human mind, and of human cruelty." —Wm. Michael Mott, author of *Caverns, Cauldrons, and Concealed Creatures*.

Prehistoric Cavers of Mammoth Cave

Colleen O'Connor Olson. 2004.

22 b/w photos.

64 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-939748-58-4 \$6.95 pb

Four thousand years ago, long before modern people set foot in Kentucky, Native Americans ventured into Mammoth Cave's dark passages, lighting the way with reed torches. Who were these ancient people, and why did they risk their lives to enter such a foreboding place?

Artifacts such as torch fragments, slippers, baskets, drawings, and even mummified remains of these brave explorers reveal some answers about the prehistoric people who were the ancient world's greatest cavers.

This book takes us into the lives of these ancient people who lived near Mammoth Cave and unravels some of the mysteries of their journeys through the dark passages of the world's longest cave. Since 1993, Colleen O'Connor Olson has been an interpretive ranger at Mammoth Cave National Park.

"A much-needed summary of pre-Columbian exploration in the world's longest cave: written expressly for the general public . . ."

—Patty Jo Watson, author of *Archeology of the Mammoth Cave Area*

Hidden Beneath the Mountains: The Caves of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Joel Despain. 2003.

97 color, 9 b/w photos, 10 maps.

128 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-56-8 \$12.95 pb

Hidden Beneath the Mountains: The Caves of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks by National Park Cave Specialist Joel Despain is a new book about the amazing caves in this mountainous region of California. This large-format volume focuses on the larger caves of the parks and describes their fascinating human history, the rare and strange animals that live in the caves, and the role of these caves in science.

The book is richly illustrated with color photos of beautiful cave formations, stunning marble banding, and the wonderful mountains that contain the caves. *Hidden Beneath the Mountains* also includes many cave maps and graphics illustrating the geology that makes caves.

"Joel Despain takes us deep into California's caves of the Sierra Nevada and regales us with tales of exploration and science." —Ronald Kerbo, National Cave Management Coordinator, National Park Service

Scary Stories of Mammoth Cave

Colleen O'Conner Olson and Charles Hanion. 2002.

7 drawings by Roger W. Brucker.

92 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-939748-54-1 \$7.95 pb

As you enter the world's longest cave you cannot help but wonder about scary stories. Two centuries of tourists and explorers—some of whom got lost, saw or heard the unexplainable, or just wanted to tell a good tale—cannot leave a cave without stories. *Scary Stories of Mammoth Cave* is a collection of nineteenth and twentieth century fiction, historical and more recent first hand accounts of unusual experiences by National Park Service employees, cave explorers, and scientists.

"These eerie tales and believable accounts may have you thinking twice before entering a cave and will have you looking back over your shoulder after you arrive." —Troy Taylor, President, American Ghost Society

"Scary Stories offers more than simple tales; a feeling of history permeates the pages. It's a nicely produced, well-priced paperback that any caver will enjoy."

—Chris Howes, Editor, *Descent*

The Life and Death of Floyd Collins

by Homer Collins as told to John Lehrberger in 1955. 2001.

38 b/w photos.

206 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-939748-39-8 \$14.95 hb

ISBN 0-939748-47-9 \$10.95 pb

This is a family story of America's most famous cave explorer who was trapped and died in Sand Cave, Kentucky, in 1925. That story has been told many times but never before has the complete life of Floyd Collins been presented. Floyd's younger brother Homer tells how Floyd was fascinated with caves from his childhood, of his discovery of the famous Crystal Cave on the home property, and of the Sand Cave rescue attempts from the viewpoint of a devoted brother whose extraordinary efforts to save Floyd were rewarded by his being removed from the premises while others inexperienced in working in caves carried on the unsuccessful attempt. It is a warm story of a man whose love in life was exploring caves, a man who endured his grim death with dignity and pride in his vocation.

"The book is interesting, and the narrative reads smoothly . . ."

—Bill Mixon, *NSS News*

The Darkness Beckons

Martyn Farr. 2000. Foreword by Bill Stone.
85 color, 195 b/w photos, 68 maps and illustrations.
304 pp. 8 x 10
ISBN 0-939748-32-0 \$37.95 hb

**This book
is currently
out-of-print.**

This profusely illustrated book, written by one of Britain's leading cave divers, is a spectacular introduction to the world's most dangerous sport.

The Darkness Beckons describes the techniques and fascinating history of cave diving from the first known cave dive in 1878 with the familiar globe shaped helmet, heavy boots, and sturdy air lines fed by surface pumps, to the sophisticated rebreather systems used by divers today. This internationally comprehensive book includes accounts from the United States, France, Switzerland, the West Indies, Mexico, South Africa, UK, and Australia.

It is a chronicle of outstanding sporting endeavor, as yet little known outside an elite specialist world, but sure to inspire anyone with a taste for adventure.

"I would recommend this fine book to anyone, caver or not, who likes to read about exploration . . . very clear writing . . . amazingly up-to-date. The frontiers of underwater cave exploration today are as challenging, if not more so, as the conquest of the sea, the mountains, and the arctic." —Bill Mixon, *Texas Caver*

Deep Secrets: The Discovery and Exploration of Lechuguilla Cave

Stephen Reames, Lawrence Fish, Paul Burger, Patricia Kambesis. 1999.
16 color, 52 b/w photos, 16 maps.
381 pp. 6½ x 9¼
ISBN 0-939748-18-5 \$32.95 hb
ISBN 0-939748-28-2 \$24.95 pb

In 1986, a devoted group of explorers dug through the floor of a small cave in the New Mexico desert to discover one of the most spectacular caves in the world. Lechuguilla Cave quickly gained national attention for its stunningly beautiful passages, deep pits, and scientific wonders.

This is the story of discovery, danger, and adventure, and of the cavers who explored the cave. It is also a story of politics, conflicts, and intrigues as various individuals vied to control the exploration. In the midst of all this, a falling boulder broke the leg of an explorer while she was over a mile underground. More than a hundred cavers cooperated to complete four days of stretcher-transport through narrow crawlways and up immense pits to remove her from the cave. Here, for the first time, is the complete story of the trials and triumphs of the Lechuguilla Cave explorers.

Emergence

Marian McConnell. 1999.

17 drawings by the author.

173 pp. 6 x 9

ISBN 0-939748-49-5 \$19.95 hb

ISBN 0-939748-48-7 \$10.95 pb

Emergence is the story of six women and a young girl who go on an overnight cave trip into Dragons Den, a Virginia cave full of delicate formations, sinuous underground passages, and a 100-foot waterfall to a lower-level stream passage. Danielle and Nicole are the trip leaders. Accompanying them are Sydney, who is also an experienced caver, three who are going caving for the first time: Gabby, photographer; Lynne, mother of three; Melissa, nature lover; and finally Kate, Danielle's daughter, a veteran caver eight years old.

After they drop the waterfall pit, three young men enter the cave and accidentally cause a rockslide that traps the women in the lower level of the cave. This fast-moving story is about their struggle to escape the cave and, in the process, to find themselves.

"It is a book full of adventure that will be devoured by any reader who enjoys a well-told tale It was simply fantastic." —Meredith H. Johnson, *NSS News*

A Guide to Speleological Literature of the English Language 1794-1996

edited by Diana E. Northup, Emily Davis Mobley, Kenneth L. Ingham III, William W. Mixon. 1998.

552 pp. 9 x 11

ISBN 0-939748-51-7 \$34.95 hb

ISBN 0-939748-52-5 \$24.95 pb

A Guide to Speleological Literature opens the door to an amazingly diverse universe of books about caves: history, caving adventure, archeology, geology, biology, paleontology, conservation, exploration, show caves, and much more. Individual chapters cover the history of the literature in the major sub-disciplines while indexes provide geographic, subject, and author access. In addition, noted authorities have contributed introductions to the literature in the major areas of speleology. The editors traveled the world to examine and document many of the over 3,500 different books and booklets in the *Guide*.

"This *Guide* is the definitive bibliography on caves and caving. . . . Not only will it provide reference information for everyone interested in caves, it will challenge young people to enter the field of speleology. Every library should have it."

—Linda Ballard, Director, University City Public Library, Missouri

Speleology: Caves and the Cave Environment

George W. Moore and Nicholas Sullivan. 1997.

8 b/w photos, 20 drawings.

176 pp. 8½ x 10

ISBN 978-0-939748-45-7

\$16.95 pb

This newly-revised edition of a classic introduction to speleology covers the latest discoveries about the mysterious world of caves. Drs. Moore and Sullivan are among the founders of modern cave research. They present here the principles of speleology in language that anyone can understand. The authors show how cave processes involve biological as well as geological, chemical, and physical processes, and they examine such topics as the origin of caves, the structure of cave food chains, and the evolution of blind cave animals. The book was a selection of the Science Book Club, and is widely used as a textbook in high schools and colleges.

“Five stars. Anyone interested in learning about caves will want this book. It’s easy to read, yet introduces cave science (speleology) in a clear and logical way. Even a layman like me can understand it. It’s beautifully illustrated with detailed diagrams and striking drawings.” —David McClurg, NSS Special Publications

Archeology of the Mammoth Cave Area

edited by Patty Jo Watson. 1997.

49 b/w photos, 73 figures, 54 tables, foldout Mammoth Cave map, circa 1908.

255 pp. 7 x 10

ISBN 0-939748-41-X

\$24.95 pb

Cavers and archeologists alike will welcome the reprinting of this classic volume presenting results from the first decade of archeological research in the world’s longest cave in Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky.

This book established dark-zone archeology as an essential source of information on prehistoric lifeways in Eastern North America, and still provides the most detailed evidence available for indigenous, pre-maize agriculture and diet 1,500 years before European contact.

“This profusely illustrated book contains 31 chapters arranged in six parts dealing with surface work in Mammoth Cave National Park, Salts Cave archaeology, Mammoth Cave archaeology, aboriginal use of other caves in the National Park area, and archaeology in Wyandotte Cave, Indiana. Watson concisely sums it all up in chapters on the prehistoric miners and horticulturists of Mammoth Cave area . . . one of the most exciting frontiers of Eastern Woodlands archaeology.” —*Southeastern Archaeology*

The Art of Caving

Linda Heslop. 1996.

67 illustrations.

50 pp. 11 x 8½

ISBN 0-939748-44-4 \$9.95 pb

The Art of Caving is a visual journey into the world of caves and those who explore and map them, through the eyes and ink of artist/illustrator, Linda Heslop.

The Art of Caving, a coffee table book, is a collection of more than sixty works compiled to take the reader on a journey down to the secret world of caves not accessible to the uninitiated explorer. It provides a window for the reader through which to view the challenges faced by those who map and explore underground.

Readers are taken down rope drops, across underground waterfalls, through tortuous passages to vast chambers, to emerge once again into the world of daylight. Heslop's images include caves of Europe, USA, Mexico, and Vancouver Island.

Caving

Richard Watson. 1994.

17 pp. 4¼ x 5¾

ISBN 0-939748-37-1 \$3.00 pb

Caving is a short, thought-provoking book on the subject of caving, written by Red Watson, one of the caving community's most notorious individuals. In the book, this down-to-earth professor of philosophy explains why cavers do what they do, go where they go, and think what they think. Also included in the book is the humorous acceptance speech he gave when he received an Honorary Life Membership from the National Speleological Society.

Excerpts from *Caving*

"I began caving for the adventure of exploring caves. And there is no adventure without danger, without fear, without facing death. I continued because the dark secrets of the cave drew me underground as the sailor is drawn to the sea."

"There is immense satisfaction in going not just where no human being has ever gone before, but where—if there is any meaning in it—no human being was ever meant to be."

Caverns Measureless to Man

Sheck Exley. 1994.

16 color, 55 b/w photos, 16 maps.

325 pp. 6½ x 9¼

ISBN 0-939748-33-9 \$32.95 hb

ISBN 0-939748-25-8 \$21.95 pb

ISBN 0-939748-20-7 \$125.00 hb ltd ed

Caverns Measureless to Man is the story of the passion of an extraordinary individual who spent his life exploring underwater caves. For nearly thirty years, Sheck Exley was the leader. He set records, he developed the techniques, and he maintained the highest standards of excellence. Sheck lived a life of adventure, danger, and excitement of a degree that few people can ever dream of; or, if they do, those dreams are nightmares. If you participate on the highest level, you know that some of your best friends are going to die. If you continue to push yourself and your equipment to the limits—if you persist in being a world class diver as Sheck was—the chances are very high that you, too, will die.

This book may terrify you, but it will unquestionably fascinate you, and in the end, Sheck Exley will convince you that his death came to him in the midst of the incredibly intense joy he took in diving into the depths of the earth.

South China Caves

Rondal R. Bridgeman and Karen B. Lindsley. 1991.

25 b/w photos, 20 maps and illustrations.

62 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-27-4 \$7.95 pb

South China Caves is a very informative and well-illustrated report on the March 1988, joint expedition of the Institute of Karst Geology, the Speleological Society of South China Normal University, and the Cave Research Foundation.

This report focuses on the high karst plateau in northern Guangdong Province, the slope mountain karst within southern Hunan Province, and the mature tower karst area in Guangxi Province of southern China. These areas are rich in caves and have the potential to contain the deepest caves in the world.

An overview of the geology of these areas is included along with chapters that cover speleothems, cave fauna, cave management and conservation, karst management, and the background of modern Chinese speleology. Readers will also enjoy Michael Ray Taylor's light-hearted excerpts from his surface diary of the people and places of this area.

Atlas of the Great Caves of the World

Paul Courbon, Claude Chabert, Peter Bosted, Karen Lindsley. 1989.

376 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-21-50 \$21.95 pb

Atlas of the Great Caves of the World is a guide, an encyclopedia, and a book of records all under one cover. It is an invaluable reference for cave explorers and cave enthusiasts of all levels. Contained in its 376 pages are:

- Descriptions of more than 2,000 caves from all over the world.
- Maps of 200 caves that are either more than 700m deep or over 30km long or of special interest.
- Lists of caves and cave maps for 118 countries
- Special section on deep pits with profiles of pits more than 300m deep.
- World's Longest and Deepest Caves List.
- Chronology of World Depth Record.
- Record Cave Dives.
- Longest Cave Chambers.
- Non-limestone Caves.
- Complete Index of all Caves.

Rambles in the Mammoth Cave, During the Year 1844, by a Visitor

Alexander Clark Bullitt. 1985. New introduction by Harold Meloy.

6 engravings, foldout Mammoth Cave map, circa 1845.

134 pp. 5 x 7½

ISBN 0-939748-16-9 \$6.95 pb

Rambles in the Mammoth Cave was originally published in 1845. Alexander Clark Bullitt describes the cave as easily accessible, with comfortable local accommodations, and as offering safe and pleasurable cave trips for ladies and gentlemen. The book provides beautiful descriptions of the sights in the cave that could be seen by visitors in 1844, and can still be seen by visitors today. It has been a source book for all future guidebooks, and remains a most attractive souvenir for visitors who want to remember their trips into Mammoth Cave.

The new introduction by Harold Meloy is based on his many years of historical research on Mammoth Cave. It provides information about the early owners, managers, guides, and visitors to the longest cave in the world.

“The physical reproduction of the text is excellent and the binding worthy of the classic this is.” —*International Journal of Speleology*

Yochib: The River Cave

C. William Steele. 1985.

41 b/w photos, 15 drawings, 8 maps.

164 pp. 7¼ x 10¼

ISBN 0-939748-10-X \$10.95 pb

This is the gripping account of the history and exploration of Mexico's most dangerous and challenging river cave, Sumidero Yochib, located beneath a remote valley in the highlands of Chiapas, southern Mexico.

The exploration took place from the spring of 1974 through the spring of 1977, and was possible only during a few dry months each winter and spring. It is the story of the almost unbelievable exploits of Steele and his companions while they explored a cave prone to frequent flooding that contains almost two dozen sheer drops as much as forty-five meters deep.

Well-drafted maps in each chapter guide the reader through the action taking place, whether it is the near drowning of team members, the horror of being trapped in a flooded cave, or the thrill of being the first one down a waterfall.

"It is a precious slice out of speleological history."

—Bill Stone, coauthor of *Beyond the Deep: The Deadly Descent into the World's Most Treacherous Cave*

The Grand Kentucky Junction

Patricia P. Crowther, Cleveland F. Pinnix, Richard B. Zopf, Thomas A.

Brucker, P. Gary Eller, Stephen G. Wells, John P. Wilcox. 1984.

96 pp. 9½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-08-8 \$100.00 pb

This is a Limited Edition printing signed by all seven authors.

On September 9, 1972, a team of six cavers, five men and one woman, entered Unknown Cave through the Austin Entrance within the Flint Ridge Cave System in Kentucky. Their goal was to follow a newly found passage, if possible, to the end. Ten and a half hours later their dream came true when they emerged in Mammoth Cave, over seven miles away, connecting these two caves into one, making it the longest cave in the world.

The Grand Kentucky Junction is the story of that connection trip as told by those who were there, including Thomas Brucker, who was not, but who only days before had discovered the passage that led this team to Mammoth Cave.

The Grand Kentucky Junction is the companion book to *The Longest Cave*. This is the second chapter in an exciting story that began over forty years ago with the idea of connecting the two cave systems. Once connected, the total length of the Flint/Mammoth Cave System was 144.4 miles. This magnificent achievement has been compared to the conquest of Everest.

The Jewel Cave Adventure: Fifty Miles of Discovery Under South Dakota

Herb and Jan Conn. 1981.

89 b/w photos, 15 maps, foldout Jewel Cave map.

240 pp. 7 x 10

ISBN 0-939748-01-0 \$15.95 pb

In *The Jewel Cave Adventure*, Herb and Jan Conn trace the early history of Jewel Cave (discovered around 1900) and describe exploration before 1959. Then they tell with humor of the day the little cave took possession of them, and with quiet excitement of how that day in Jewel Cave led to nearly two decades of dedicated exploration and mapping—accomplished by Herb and Jan with small groups of friends.

During those years the cave grew to over fifty miles of the most intricate three-dimensional networks of underground passages in the world. Fifteen excellent maps—including a giant folded map—guide the reader through the maze as the cave is extended mile by mile.

“*The Jewel Cave Adventure* is destined to be one of the very few true classics of American caving It makes me wish I had been there every inch of the way.” —William R. Halliday, author of *Depths of the Earth*

Carlsbad, Caves, and a Camera

Robert Nymeyer. 1978.

185 b/w photos. 318 pp. 7½ x 10½

ISBN 0-939748-36-3 \$15.95 pb

In *Carlsbad, Caves, and a Camera*, the author, a professional photographer, recalls cave explorations he undertook while a young man in the 1930s.

This is the story of amateurs who plunged, inexperienced, unadvised, and unguided, into the underground; who met their problems as they arose; and who bungled their way into competence. It is the thrill of penetrating the unknown, with the threat of danger ever present in the darkness beyond. It is the thought of boundless beauty, lost for eons in darkness, until the feeble light of the explorer brings it into view. It is the surge of pride in knowing that no human beings have been there before. It is also a story of people simply having fun.

This book is a deeply felt tribute to a way of life and a part of nature that are beyond the bounds of most people’s experience.

The author, who learned cave photography as apprentice to Ray V. Davis, the first Carlsbad Caverns photographer, kept a visual and written record of these explorations. As a result, we have an intimate account of what these young men saw, what they said, and how they felt. In addition we have a photographic essay of 185 large-format pictures, many of breathtaking beauty.

Subterranean Climbers: Twelve Years in the World's Deepest Chasm

Pierre Chevalier. 1975. New introduction by the author.

45 b/w photos. 248 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-914264-15-X \$7.95 pb

The Dent de Crolles in southeastern France is one of the greatest cave networks in the world. Chevalier and his companions spent twelve years, 1935-1947, unraveling its mysteries foot by foot, and establishing a record depth of 2,159 feet. This enthralling account of their labors and the final triumphant linking of the Glaz and the Guiers-Mort caves is one of the classic sport and science adventures of the century.

To this exploration, these underground mountain climbers devoted all they had of leisure, money, and the meager resources of occupied France. Un-sponsored, ill-fed, dependent on their own ingenuity and courage, some of them fighting as partisans against the Nazis at the same time, they broke world depth records and added important chapters to the history of both cave exploration and hydro-geological research.

This edition brings Chevalier's accounts to a new generation of readers. It contains a new introduction by the author, who puts the exploit into a present-day context.

The Caves Beyond: The Story of the Floyd Collins' Crystal Cave Exploration

Joe Lawrence, Jr. and Roger W. Brucker. 1975

New 15-page introduction by Roger W. Brucker.

74 b/w photos. 6 maps, 318 pp. 6 x 9, (2005 reprint with new cover).

ISBN 0-939748-63-0 \$15.95 pb

In February 1954, under the direction of Joe Lawrence, Jr., the National Speleological Society sent the largest, most highly organized, and best-equipped expedition in the history of American cave exploration into Floyd Collins' Crystal Cave, Kentucky. *The Caves Beyond* is the official account of that expedition. It is a classic American caving story. There is no other caving book like it.

Brucker's new introduction contains a number of previously untold stories about the expedition, including details of the politics behind the C-3 expedition, and of how the book came to be written in an attic in Brooklyn in two weeks' time. There is also a detailed index, which the first edition lacks.

"This excellent book is by far the best written on the adventures of exploring a single cave . . . This is really a terrific book, and if I had to single out the most enjoyable caving book in my library, this would be it."

—Chuck Pease, *Explorers Ltd. Source Book*

Ten Years Under the Earth

Norbert Casteret. 1975. New preface by Richard Watson.

31 b/w photos. 320 pp. 5½ x 8½, (2002 reprint with new cover).

ISBN 0-914264-07-9 \$11.95 pb

This is the best of the many books by Norbert Casteret, prolific author and undoubtedly the most famous of speleologists. Through his evocative writings, which have been translated into more than a dozen languages, he has introduced countless readers to the wonders of caves and the adventure of caving. Here are Casteret's firsthand accounts of adventure and archeological discovery in the caves of the Pyrenees, on the border of France and Spain.

Ten Years Under the Earth ranges from "The Story of a Raindrop" (concerning the slow growth of cave features) to "An Ice World below Ground: The Grotte Casteret," from "The Phantom Hands of Gargas" (about ritual mutilation practiced by ancient cave dwellers) to "The Deepest Abyss in France, the Gouffre Martel." Here is a wealth of firsthand archeological and caving lore, for the beginner as well as for the experienced caver and caving enthusiast.

"The book . . . is dangerous; it has probably excited more people about caving than any other book, person, or thing."

—Richard Watson, coauthor of *The Longest Cave*

Memoirs of a Speleologist: The Adventurous Life of a Famous French Cave Explorer

Robert de Joly. 1975.

16 b/w photos.

200 pp. 5½ x 8½

ISBN 0-914264-09-5 \$7.95 pb

Memoirs of a Speleologist consists of sixty-six reminiscences that run the gamut from comedy to tragedy by one of the heroes of modern cave exploration. The reader encounters cowards and heroes, experiences the deep thrill of rediscovering a cave where humans dwelt thousands of years before, and feels the pathos and joy of de Joly's last cave visit at the age of eighty. Above all, the book displays the strong and eccentric personality for which de Joly was known, and conveys a vivid impression of the landscape, people, and caves of the *causses*, the cave-riddled limestone plateaus of southern France.

In 1926, at the age of forty, Robert de Joly chose to devote himself to systematic cave exploration. During his career he explored over eight hundred caves and trained several generations of the best French cavers. With Norbert Casteret, he revitalized French speleology between the world wars. De Joly also revolutionized caving worldwide with his invention and perfection of the flexible, lightweight, cable ladder.

Alpine Karst 2008, Vol. 3

edited by Tina Oliphant. 2008.

61 b/w photos, 44 maps, 216 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 978-0-939748-68-6 \$19.00 pb

Alpine Karst 2006, Vol. 2

edited by Tina Oliphant. 2006.

127 b/w photos, 70 maps, 170 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 978-0-939748-64-8 \$17.00 pb

Alpine Karst 2004, Vol. 1

edited by Tina Oliphant. 2004.

82 b/w photos, 21 maps, 3 foldout maps, 130 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-62-2 \$14.00 pb

Alpine Karst documents the unique challenges and rewards of exploring caves located in the alpine regions of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, California, Utah, Canada, and Europe. It also featured articles on advanced caving techniques, geology, and equipment. Most alpine caves are located in wilderness areas adding interesting dimensions to the explorations and articles. A generous amount of photos and maps accompany the publication. For more information go to (www.alpinekarst.org).

The Cave Research Foundation: Origins and the First Twelve Years 1957-1968

edited by Richard A. Watson. 1981.

12 b/w photos, 30 maps and illustrations.

495 pp. 8½ x 11

ISBN 0-939748-02-9 \$12.00 pb

This immense volume is loaded with information for anyone interested in cave exploration, research, science, archeology, geology, and the beginnings and early history of the Cave Research Foundation. It also contains the first ten CRF Annual Reports. These reports show vividly and graphically how the scientific work, through trials and tribulations, grew and evolved into the cave science of today. Nowhere else is this amount of information available in one place, and if it were, it would surely cost more than \$12.00.

Annual Reports

Cave Research Foundation Annual Reports document the work and accomplishments of CRF scientists.

Topics include cartography, exploration, geology, hydrology, mineralogy, microbiology, archeology, anthropology, evolution, ecology, conservation, history, and the arts. Numerous maps, photos, charts, and illustrations add to the wealth of information contained in these reports.

1974-78, 341 pp. \$15.00 pb*; 1975, 80 pp. \$3.00 pb; 1976, 65 pp. \$3.00 pb;
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1998-00, 129 pp. \$10.00 pb*; 2001-03, 128 pp. \$10.00 pb*;
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*One volume

Wilderness Resources in Mammoth Cave National Park: A Regional Approach

Joseph K. Davidson and William P. Bishop. 1971.

7 maps and illustrations. 34 pp. 8½ x 11

\$3.00 pb

Anyone with an interest in the Mammoth Cave area will find a wealth of useful information within these pages. Prepared at the request of the National Park Service, this report includes the geological, biological, and archeological features of the park with details of the drainage basin, the caves, karst features, cave and surface fauna, and the influence of human activities in and around the caves.

Also included is a cave passage classification system based on natural underground features. Active processes and a dynamic interaction with surface phenomena are stressed. Five zones are delineated: horizontal drainage, vertical drainage, gypsum, rare minerals, and extraordinary features. Examples of each in park cave are described. Contains a selected bibliography.

MAPS

Mammoth Cave, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

Max Kaemper. ca. 1908. 49 x 28. \$3.50

This map includes all of the known passages of Mammoth Cave explored up to 1908, depicted in five colors, one for each level of the cave. Included on the map is an index of all 112 passage names.

Mammoth Cave Map Card, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

CRF. 1993. 14 x 11. \$1.75

This sturdy three-color map shows 341.8 miles of the Mammoth Cave System contained in approximately fifteen square miles, overlaid on a detailed map of the surface features above the cave. On the back of the map is a brief summary of the history and exploration of the cave.

Mammoth Cave Poster Map, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

CRF. 1981. 36 x 24. \$3.50 (Collector's Edition \$25.00)

This large map shows over two hundred miles of the Mammoth Cave System. Multiple colors depict each level of cave passage against a black background. Included are surface features and cave entrances.

Lee Cave, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

CRF. 1975. 40 x 32. \$4.00

This detailed three-color map shows passage names, cave features, survey station numbers, and passage section views overlaid on a detailed map of the surface features on Joppa Ridge.

Carlsbad Caverns, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico

CRF. 1979. 28 x 19. \$2.00

This extremely detailed two-color map shows numerous cave features along with all the names of the passages and rooms. Included are tourist trail routes throughout the cave.

Ogle Cave, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico

CRF. 1976. 25 x 19. \$1.50

This very detailed map shows horizontal and vertical views of the cave. Included are passage names, survey station numbers, cave features, and detailed passage section views.

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MAIL TO:

“Below ground everything seems to have come from another world, and surprises and hallucinations are constant.”

—Norbert Casteret
