



WILLIAMS CANYON PROJECT

❧ NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ❧

CARTOGRAPHY SECTION REPORT

PAUL BURGER, SEPTEMBER 2000

Surveying

The theodolite survey is done and has been tied into real world coordinates. As soon as I can get around this fall, I will work with Tom to tie the cave surveys into this baseline. For most of the big caves, I am the only one who knows where the entrance stations are. Those folks who have done cave surveys and know the exact entrance station can work with Tom to tie those in (i.e. Octagon-Frazier, Lower Caves-Rick, Longview, Easter Dome-Rick, Donahue's-Rick).

There are still a couple of unfinished survey projects in the canyon including the small caves in the upper canyon (Water Bottle, Flat Rock, Misery Hole). Also the Bow-and-Arrow lead in Breezeway needs to be surveyed and cleaned up. This project was supposed to have been completed two years ago. The flowstone needs to be cleaned up and the tarp at the bottom of Rattlesnake needs to be removed. I am currently working on the final map (with cross sections and profiles) and would like to have that stuff on the map. Also the mud needs to be cleaned before it cements into place. The Project should place a very high priority on this for the upcoming season.

Inventory

Now that most of the caves in the canyon have been surveyed, it's time to change focus to inventorying the caves. I am planning on running a couple of training trips this season. One, for November and one in January (depending on what the Project weekends are).

For those folks who attended the last training, I will conduct a quick refresher training course at the start of the November session and then set you guys loose with some maps and inventory forms. The training will be a classroom session in the morning and then a practice inventory in the afternoon (probably the Lower Caves since my hiking ability is still going to be limited). I will plan on having inventory packets (forms and cave sketches with survey stations) for the major branches of the big caves, particularly Narrows, Manitou, and Huccacove. Please get me a list of interested people with email addresses. If anyone is interested in working on a particular cave or section of cave, let me know (and don't just specify Breezeway as I know everyone wants to get in there).

This should be a fun and exciting project and will generate a more complete database of geologic and other features than is available in any of the National Parks.