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THE CAVES OF SAN SABA COUNTY

PART I

Edited by James R. Reddell and James H. Estes

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THE CAVES OF SAN SABA COUNTY

GEOLOGY

San Saba County is located on the Edwards Plateau in Central Texas. It is bordered on the north and east by the Colorado River and on the south by the northern edge of the Llano Uplift. It has a mean annual temperature of 66°, and the average annual precipitation is 26 inches. The principal stream in the county is the Colorado River. The San Saba River, which flows northeast through the town of San Saba into the Colorado, and its tributary, Brady Creek, are the only other major streams in the county. Total relief within the county is about 850 feet. Locally it seldom exceeds 200 feet, however.

Rocks of Mississippian, Pennsylvanian and Cretaceous age occur in the northern half of the county. The southern part is predominantly covered by the Ellenburger Group (Ordovician) with a few outcrops of Cambrian and Cretaceous strata. The contact between the Ellenburger Group to the south and the younger sediments to the north is a faulted one in many places. The amount and degree of structural deformation increases to the east and in the eastern part of the county fault zones occur that exceed twenty miles in length. The dip of the strata is to the northeast and is mostly gentle except where collapse and faulting has occurred.

Cambrian--

The Wilbarns Formation (Upper Cambrian) occurs in the southeastern part of the county. It is composed of six members of which only the upper two are speleologically important. The lower of these two, the San Saba Member, is a sublithographic to unevenly granular limestone varying in thickness from 70 to 140 feet. The upper member, the Pedernales Dolomite, is fine to coarse-grained and contains some chert. It ranges in thickness from 70 to 277 feet.

Ordovician--

The Ellenburger Group (Lower Ordovician) is by far the most important cave-former in the county and one of the most important in the state. Its three formations are very similar and are distinguished almost entirely by chemical differences. Each formation contains calcitic and dolomitic facies. In general the Ellenburger Group is fine-grained and dense with bedded chert occurring throughout. A fine example of this bedded chert can be seen in Gorman Cave on the Colorado River in the southeastern part of the county. The average thickness of the Ellenburger is about 1200 feet, though in the extreme eastern part of the county it reaches nearly 1500 feet.

Mississippian--

Neither of the two Mississippian formations that outcrop in San Saba County are speleologically important. However, the lower one, the Chappel limestone, is curiously interesting. Its average thickness is only one foot, but in some places it ranges up to 50 feet thick where it was deposited in old sinkholes in the Ellenburger.

Pennsylvanian--

Of the three Pennsylvanian formations that occur in the county only one, the Marble Falls is of interest speleologically. It outcrops across the middle of the

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county in scattered but large patches. It varies greatly in lithology and thickness. It consists generally of dark gray and black, siliceous, fossiliferous limestones and black shales. It ranges in thickness from 33 to more than 400 feet. That it can produce caves locally is evidenced by Harrell's Cavern near Chappel in the southeast part of the county.

Cretaceous--

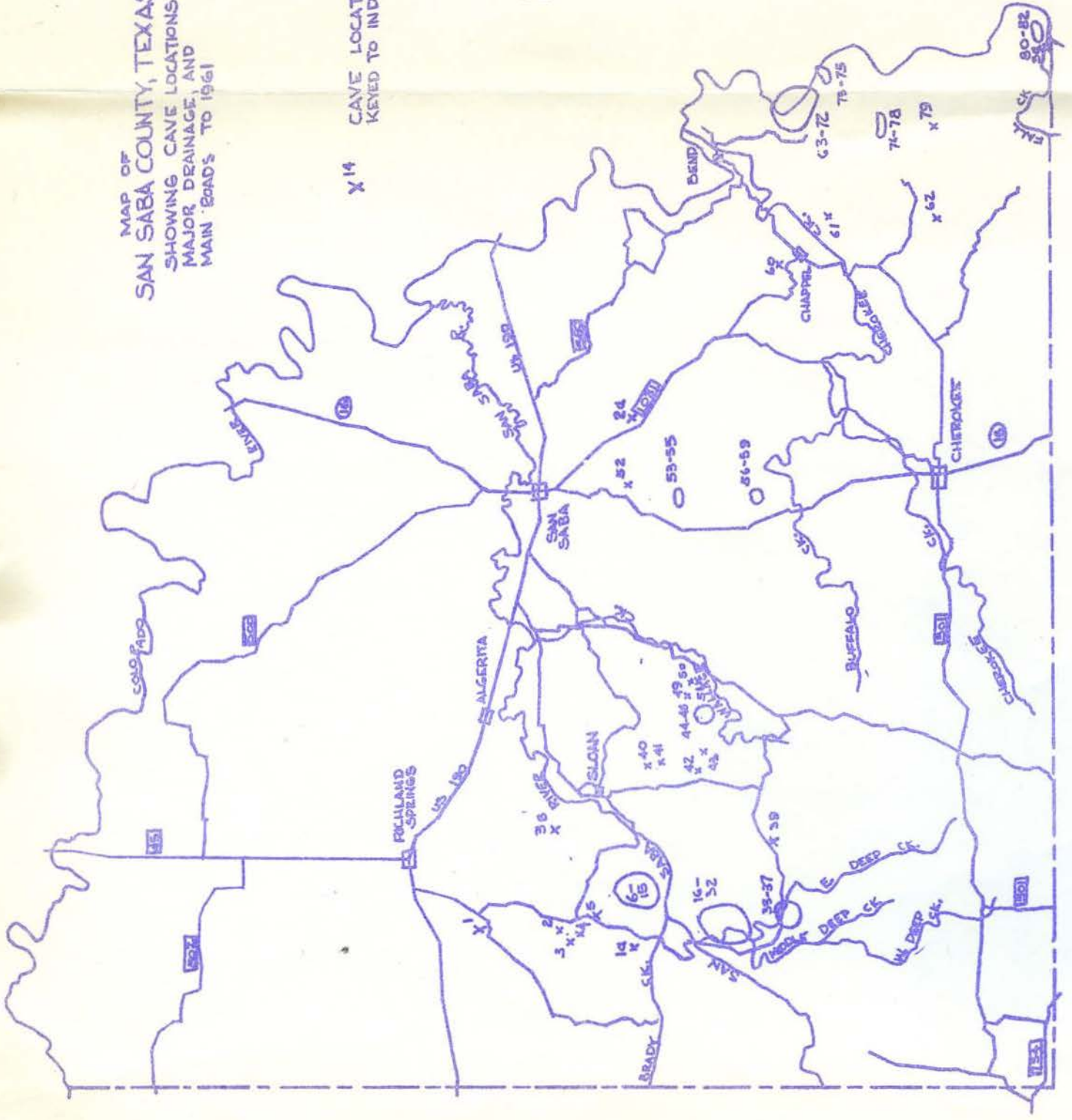
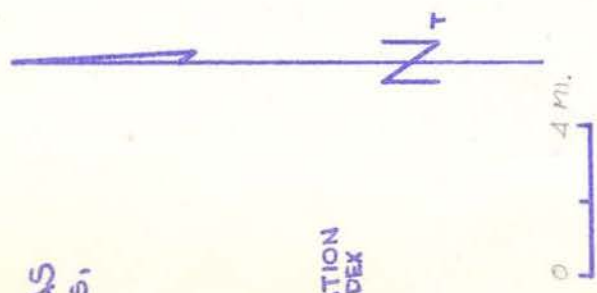
The small amount of lower Cretaceous rock that outcrops in northwest and southwest San Saba County is mostly sand or nodular limestone and contains no reported caves.

Almost all of the caves in the county occur in the Ellenburger. It is an ideal cave-former and ranks second only to the Edwards limestone in quality and abundance of caves in the state.

Much of the county consists of gently rolling hills covered with heavy grass and only isolated trees and bushes. It is a karst topography and heavy faulting and jointing has produced hundreds of small crevice-type caves. The land has been chained within the last twenty years, resulting in the filling of a majority of the caves in many areas. Many of these, however, were located in the beds of small creeks and draws and are re-opening. Serious investigation of the caves of the county has only been begun in the last year. The result has been better than fifty new caves. Only a few ranches have been visited and exploration of them for caves has barely begun. The county ranks second to Travis County in the number of known caves, but once extensive investigations have been made it will doubtless far exceed all other known cavernous areas in the state as far as the number of caves is concerned. Although most of the known caves in the county are small the presence of Gorman Cave indicates the strong possibility of finding other larger caves in the county.

MAP OF
 SAN SABA COUNTY, TEXAS
 SHOWING CAVE LOCATIONS,
 MAJOR DRAINAGE, AND
 MAIN ROADS TO 1961

X 14
 CAVE LOCATION
 KEYED TO INDEX



INDEX TO THE CAVES OF SAN SABA COUNTY

NO.	NAME	LOCALITY	LENGTH	DEPTH	PAGE
1.	Richland Springs Cavern	Richland Springs	1,000 ⁺	80 ⁺	33
2.	Roundtree Cave	Richland Springs	200 ⁺	150 ⁺	34
3.	Spider Cave	Richland Springs	35 ⁺	25 ⁺	35
4.	Wildcat Cave	Richland Springs	30 ⁺	22 ⁺	41
5.	Fall-In Cave	Richland Springs	?	19 ⁺	16
6.	Unknown Cave	Richland Springs	?	?	37
7.	Tin Cave	Sloan	?	?	36
8.	Hook-the-Varnit Cave	Richland Springs	?	15 ⁺	26
9.	Edna Cave	Richland Springs	?	15 ⁺	15
10.	Dodo Cave	Richland Springs	15 ⁺	10 ⁺	14
11.	Shaw's Last Cave	Richland Springs	?	?	34
12.	Carol Cave	Richland Springs	?	25 ⁺	8
13.	Bottle Cave	Richland Springs	?	?	8
14.	Ash Mound Cave	Richland Springs	60 ⁺	25 ⁺	6
15.	Iron Cave	Richland Springs	105 ⁺	30 ⁺	27
16.	Twin Entrance Sink	Richland Springs	15 ⁺	15 ⁺	36
17.	Dead Calf Fissure	Richland Springs	?	20 ⁺	13
18.	Chicken Cave	Richland Springs	20 ⁺	16 ⁺	10
19.	Windmill Sink	Richland Springs	?	20 ⁺	41
20.	Deep Creek Cave	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	0 ⁺	13
21.	Red Handkerchief Cave	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	80 ⁺	32
22.	Cave S-1	Richland Springs	95 ⁺	0 ⁺	9
23.	Grasshopper Cave	Richland Springs	50 ⁺	36 ⁺	25
24.	Wild Man Cave No. 1	Richland Springs	50 ⁺	0 ⁺	38
25.	Wild Man Cave No. 2	Richland Springs	120 ⁺	0 ⁺	38
26.	Wild Man Cave No. 3	Richland Springs	25 ⁺	0 ⁺	38
27.	Wild Man Cave No. 4	Richland Springs	?	?	41
28.	Goat Cave No. 1	Richland Springs	55 ⁺	0 ⁺	19
29.	Goat Cave No. 2	Richland Springs	30 ⁺	0 ⁺	20
30.	Goat Cave No. 3	Richland Springs	50 ⁺	0 ⁺	20
31.	Cave A-2	Richland Springs	25 ⁺	0 ⁺	8
32.	Cave S-2	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	0 ⁺	10
33.	Deep Creek Crevice Cave	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	25 ⁺	14
34.	Deep Creek Black Widow Cave	Richland Springs	150 ⁺	15 ⁺	14
35.	Deep Creek Bad Air Cave	Richland Springs	50 ⁺	15 ⁺	13
36.	Double Trash Sinks	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	25 ⁺	15
37.	Whiteface Cave	Richland Springs	500 ⁺	200 ⁺ (?)	37
38.	Malone's Cave	Herkoville	?	?	31
39.	Pool Trash Sink	Richland Springs	40 ⁺	30 ⁺	31
40.	Moss Cave	Sloan	60 ⁺	33 ⁺	31
41.	Little Dirt Hole Fissure	Sloan	?	20 ⁺	30
42.	Joe's Cave	Sloan	432 ⁺	62 ⁺	27
43.	Grey Rock Cave	Sloan	?	30 ⁺	25
44.	Baby Buzzard Cave	Sloan	?	27 ⁺	6
45.	Cave Meadow Cave No. 1	Sloan	?	15 ⁺	8
46.	Cave Meadow Cave No. 2	Sloan	?	20 ⁺	9
47.	Cave Meadow Cave No. 3	Sloan	?	20 ⁺	9
48.	Cave Meadow Cave No. 4	Sloan	?	20 ⁺	9
49.	Grand Canyon Crevice	Sloan	60 ⁺	58 ⁺	25
50.	Four-Bat Cave	Wallace Creek	530 ⁺	20 ⁺	17
51.	Four-Bat Burial Cave	Wallace Creek	55 ⁺	0 ⁺	19

52. Locke Cave	San Saba	30'	35'	30
53. Connell Cave No. 1	San Saba	?	?	10
54. Connell Cave No. 2	San Saba	?	60'	11
55. Connell Cave No. 3	San Saba	90'	41'	11
56. Stewardson Cave No. 1	San Saba	10'	40'	35
57. Stewardson Cave No. 2	San Saba	?	?	36
58. Stewardson Cave No. 3	San Saba	?	?	36
59. Stewardson Cave No. 4	San Saba	?	10'	36
60. Harrell's Cave	Chappel	500' ^f	50' ^f	26
61. Hancock Cave	Chappel	300'	0'	26
62. Freeze Ranch Cave "System"	Chappel	?	20-60'	19
63. Skull Cave	Bend	40'	0'	35
64. McClarrin Fissure System	Bend	?	5-25'	30
65. Corral Hole No. 1	Bend	0'	12'	12
66. Corral Hole No. 2	Bend	0'	15'	12
67. Corral Hole No. 3	Bend	0'	15'	12
68. Corral Crawl Cave	Bend	30'	0'	11
69. Crowbar Cave	Bend	80'	(?) 90'	13
70. Flea Cave	Bend	60'	35'	16
71. Gorman Falls Cave	Bend	400'	(?) 100' (?)	23
72. Gornalette Waterfall Cave	Bend	40'	10'	23
73. Coon Cave	Bend	35'	40'	11
74. Crevice Cave	Bend	30'	(?) 90'	12
75. Gorman Cave	Bend	2,850'	10'	20
76. Clark's Branch Wall Cave	Chappel	100' ^f	50'	10
77. Karst Caves	Chappel	?	55'	30
78. Barnes Bat Cave	Chappel	350'	20'	6
79. Minor's Keyhole Cave	Chappel	200'	10' ^f	31
80. Postoak Falls Cave	Postoak Falls	50'	75'	32
81. Fall Creek No. 2	Cherokee	61'	0'	16
82. Fall Creek No. 1	Cherokee	36'	0'	15

SHELTERS:

1a. Gibbons Shelter	Richland Springs			41
2a. Nitrate Caves	San Saba			42
3a. Fall Creek Shelter	Cherokee			42

ALTERNATE CAVE NAMES:

- Bad Air Hole --- Gorman Falls Cave
- Bouncing Rock Cave --- Unknown Cave
- Dagger Cave --- Red Handkerchief Cave
- Harrell Caverns --- Harrell's Cave
- Medium Corral Hole --- Corral Hole No. 1
- Sandrock Cave --- Whiteface Cave
- Small Corral Hole --- Corral Hole No. 2
- Snyder Cave --- Unknown Cave
- Treasure Cave --- Richland Springs Cavern
- 200-Foot Cave --- Whiteface Cave
- Waterfall Cave --- Gornalette Waterfall Cave

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: The cave and Iron Cave trend towards each other, and it is presumed that at some time the two were connected before fill and breakdown separated them. The entrance is in a slightly larger sink than Iron Cave and has a large tree growing out of it. The main lead goes to the north side and the first entrance room is filled in the approximate center with a five-foot mound of dirt, ashes and charcoal which were presumed left by the Indians. The cave is dry all the time except for some percolation. The mound contains small animal bones, bits of flint and several mussell shells. These shells were from the San Saba River which is located about one-half mile from the cave and at a much lower elevation. They could hardly have originated in the small cave or in the small draw near the cave. The river has many of them. Another lead in the back of the room extends into a 40⁰ long room with a steeply sloping dirt floor and very loose dirt. Total length of the cave is 60⁰ and the total depth 25⁰. It was mapped in 1961 by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto of the National Speleological Society. (See map, page 7)

Ref: Charles Schneider
Abilene Grotto files

BABY BUZZARD CAVE

San Saba County (# 11)

Buffalo Knob 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The entrance to the cave measures ten feet long by five feet wide and drops to a small breakdown floor 2 1/2 feet below. There are many long and beautiful ferns on the walls of the entrance sinks, and growths of wandering jew around the entrance on the surface. The cave when found contained two baby buzzards, still brown and fuzzy. It was visited in June, 1962, by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador, but has not been entered.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

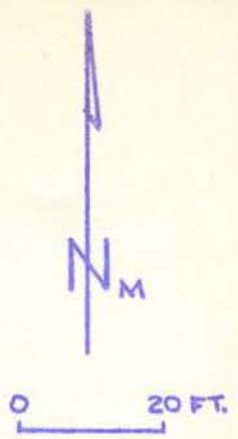
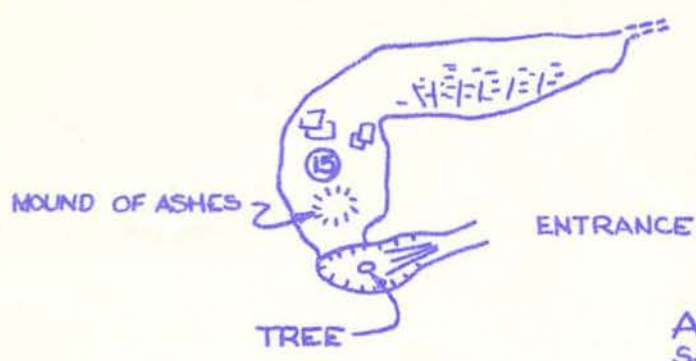
BARNES BAT CAVE

San Saba County (# 78)

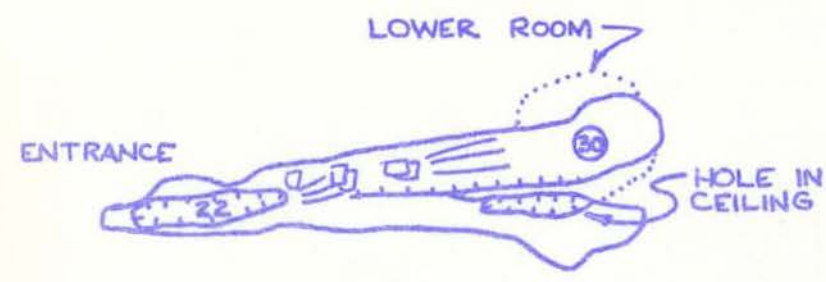
Bend 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Barnes

Description: The entrance to the cave is a fissure located on a small rocky side of the same creek as Clark's Branch Wall Cave. It drops 20⁰ into a low-ceilinged room measuring 40⁰ in diameter and averaging 5⁰ in height. An intermittent stream passage leads to the east into several small bat chambers. The overall length of the cave is about 350⁰ with possibilities of additional passage being found. The largest colony of bats observed in the cave were Big Brown Bats and number in the 10,000's. Also seen were some Mexican Free-tailed Bats, Tadarida mexicana. The cave shows evidence of flooding during unusually



ASH MOUND CAVE
 SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY
 BY THE ABILENE GROTTO



TOTAL LENGTH 80 FEET

GRASSHOPPER CAVE
 SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY
 BY THE ABILENE GROTTO

wet weather. It was explored by members of the Abilene and Dallas-Ft. Worth Grottoes in June, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

BOTTLE CAVE

San Saba County (# 13)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: Trash must be moved before this cave can be entered. A small hole below a rock seemed to lead for a short distance.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GAROL CAVE

San Saba County (# 12)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: As the cave is not yet fully explored, its total length and depth are unknown. The entrance is a small hole about 2.5' in diameter in the side of a small dry creekbed. There are numerous harvestmen on the ceiling of the cave and many 8" centipedes have been seen near the entrance. The cave extends downward at a 30° angle for some 25 to 30 feet before coming to a horizontal crawlway. During its initial and possibly its only exploration, there was insufficient light to continue. A flashlight beam revealed a passage continuing for an undetermined distance. Its prominent direction, that of most caves in western San Saba County, is N20E. It was explored by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Bibliography: Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, page 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE A-2

San Saba County (# 31)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthicum

Description: The cave is a small solution grotto filled with dry formations. It is 25' long. Several very small companion caves are near it, but none are of any importance. There was evidence of animal habitation in the cave.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE MEADOW CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 45)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: This is an unexplored crevice-type cave on Cave Meadow. It has a 15' entrance drop. Entrance is 2' x 8'. It has been visited by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE MEADOW CAVE NO. 2

San Saba County (# 46)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: An unexplored crevice-type cave on Cave Meadow, it is a 2' x 8' hole dropping 20'. It was visited by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador in June, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE MEADOW CAVE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 47)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: This is an unexplored crevice-type cave located on Cave Meadow. Its entrance is about 2' x 8' and drops about 20'. It was visited in June, 1962 by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE MEADOW CAVE NO. 4

San Saba County (# 48)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The cave is entered by a 2' x 8' entrance, dropping 20'. It is an unexplored crevice-type cave on Cave Meadow. It was visited by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador in June, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CAVE S-1

San Saba County (# 22)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: The cave has at least three entrances. The main entrance is a large arched shelter-type hole about 30' in width. In the first low-ceilinged room there is a conglomerate pillar and a small pit. There is much dust and evidence of partial habitation by animals and goats. Two small tunnels lead off to the right and join after some 30'. There is a small 20' tunnel going on to the left becoming smaller. After the passages join, there is another 15' to another entrance. There is a third entrance below this one, but the passage leading into it from the other part of the cave is too small. Small beetles and ticks were found. Total length of the cave is 95'.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: A large arched entrance leads into a one room shelter-type cave. There are a few formations, all dry, on the ceiling. Some guano on the floor indicates occasional habitation by bats. It is also inhabited at times by sick goats. The entrance is 30^o wide and total length of the cave 40^o. It may possibly contain Indian artifacts since the floor is thickly covered with dirt and the height of the shelter would make it a desirable living place.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CHICKEN CAVE

San Saba County (# 18)

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: This is a small solution cave along a fracture. The cave consists of one room covered with 4" of mud. Its total length is 20^o and its depth is 16. The cave is inhabited by cave crickets, surface grasshoppers, harvestmen, and one surface-type salamander.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CLARK'S BRANCH WELL CAVE

San Saba County (# 76)

Berd 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Barnes

Description: The cave has a 3^o in diameter circular entrance to one side of a creek bed. It drops 25^o into a room measuring 20 x 40 feet. At the north-east end of the room a small drop leads to a water passage and a siphon. Total length of the cave is about 50^o. It was explored in June, 1962, by members of the Dallas-Ft Worth and Abilene Grottoes.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

CONNELL CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 53)

Bear Hollow 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Connell Ranch

Description: The cave was filled with brush so that it could not be entered without much time and effort. Investigated by Bob Hudson and Gordon Danz.

Ref: Bob Hudson

CONNELL CAVE NO. 2

San Saba County (# 54) ⁻¹¹⁻

Bear Hollow 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Connell Ranch

Description: The cave is little more than an enlarged fissure. At the time of exploration by Bob Hudson and Gordon Darr it was so full of tin cans that it could be descended for only about 60'. Rope is required. It is very warm and inhabited by many cave crickets.

Ref: Bob Hudson

CONNELL CAVE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 55)

Bear Hollow 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Connell Ranch

Description: The cave is entered by a vertical sink dropping to a ledge about 6' down and from there to the floor 35' further down. At the bottom of this drop there is a room about 20' wide by 60' long. It is joined to another room about 30' in diameter and 10' high. The floor and walls show swirl markings and mud tracings indicate placement by swiftly running water. There are no formations and no fauna was observed other than cave crickets. It was explored by Bob Hudson and Gordon Darr.

Ref: Bob Hudson

COON CAVE

San Saba County (# 73)

Gorman Falls 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McLarrin

Description: The cave is located on top of the bluff above Gorman Cave. It is entered by a 4' long, 1' wide crevice which drops 40' vertically as a 20' long, 1' wide fissure. At one end it extends about 15' to the left. It was explored in February, 1962, by Bud Frank and Tommy Phillips.

Ref: TSS files

CORRAL CRAWL CAVE

San Saba County (# 68)

Gorman Falls 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McLarrin

Description: This consists of a 25'-30' long crawl. It is dry and dusty. It is located in a low cliff near the Corral Holes

Ref: TSS files

CORRAL HOLE NO. 1 (MEDIUM CORRAL HOLE)

San Saba County (# 65) ⁻¹²⁻

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The original report on these caves cites them as being of little interest except that 75⁰ of rope is required to explore them. A trip in 1962 by Stiles Roberts, James Reddell, and other members of the University of Texas Grotto found the cave to be filled with silt and rocks to within 12⁰ of the surface. The entrance is about 5⁰ long and 3⁰ wide.

Ref: TSS files

CORRAL HOLE NO. 2 (SMALL CORRAL HOLE)

San Saba County (# 66)

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: Like Corral Hole No. 1, this cave was reported to require 75⁰ of rope to explore, but otherwise being of no interest. It was visited in 1962 by James Reddell, Stiles Roberts, and other members of the University of Texas Grotto, and found to be filled with silt and rocks to within 15⁰ of the surface.

Ref: TSS files

CORRAL HOLE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 67)

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: Another of the Corral Holes reported to require 75⁰ of rope to enter, this cave was also found to be filled to within 15⁰ of the surface with rocks and silt. It was investigated in 1962 by James Reddell, Stiles Roberts, and other members of the University of Texas Grotto

Ref: TSS files

GREVIGE CAVE

San Saba County (# 74)

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The cave is entered by a narrow fissure which drops about 20⁰ to a slope. This in turn leads to a vertical drop of about 30⁰ to a flat shelf. Here it intersects a perpendicular fissure which drops an additional 40⁰ to the bottom of the cave. It is a total of about 90⁰ deep, but lacks any significant horizontal distance. It was explored by Bud Frank and Tommy Phillips in February, 1962.

Ref: TSS files

CROWBAR CAVE

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San Saba County (# 69)Gorman Falls 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The cave when found was a small crevice blocked by large rocks. A crowbar was used to move the rocks and a hole large enough to enter was opened. A 3' wide fissure drops 30' into a narrow room. To the right a 25' drop, followed by a 6' drop, leads to a 20' in diameter room. From this room a 30' drop leads to the bottom of the cave, where it is blocked by fill. The maximum width attained by the cave at any point is 25'. It was explored by Stiles Roberts, Bill Ball, and other members of the University of Texas Grotto in the spring of 1962.

Ref: TSS files

DEAD CALF FISSURE

San Saba County (# 17)

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: This cave, with a 2' wide and 8' long entrance, had at one time been filled in with a bulldozer, but recent rains have resulted in its re-opening. There is moss on the walls and a large dead stump is caught about 4' down. A dead calf had been thrown into the cave before it was filled. There is about a 20' drop to breakdown, with treacherous dirt and rock fill funneling towards its fissure-type entrance.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

DEEP CREEK CAVE

San Saba County (# 20)

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: This is a beautiful cave with ferns and ivy growing inside on the floor and on rocks. Large iceland spar calcite crystals may be found on walls and ceiling in many places. There is evidence of much vandalism. The entrance is 25' wide and a good view can be had from it. One small grotto to the right leads to a hole in the ceiling in which someone had placed a log for entrance. A small room lies up through this hole and contains more calcite deposits. There is a small tunnel leading a short distance to another entrance just downstream from the main one. Total length of the cave is 40'.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

DEEP CREEK BAD AIR CAVE

San Saba County (# 35)

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: The cave is located in the rocky bed of a small draw emptying into East Deep Creek. A 2' in diameter hole drops about 10' to a shelf, from which

a 6' drop occurs. From the bottom of this drop a crawl extends for about 30' before ending in trash fill. The air was found to be bad throughout the cave, causing extreme difficulty in breathing. Fauna included a black widow spider, numerous harvestmen, and cave crickets. Explored in June, 1962, by James Reddell and Orion Knox.

Ref: TSS files

DEEP CREEK BLACK WIDOW CAVE

San Saba County (# 34)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthicus

Description: This cave is located downstream from Deep Creek Bad Air Cave about 100 yards. There are two entrances, both sinks about 8' in diameter. The southern-most of the two sinks drops about 8', while the other sink is filled with breakdown, leaving a sloping crawl to the south, which connects to the former sink. Two crawls extend from the southern sink, both of which end after about 30'. A crawl running parallel to the northern sink extends for about 25' before becoming too small to negotiate. The cave is infested with fleas. Other fauna includes harvestmen, cave crickets, numerous black widow spiders, and at least three species of other spiders. It was explored in June, 1962, by James Reddell and Orion Knox.

Ref: TSS files

DEEP CREEK CREVICE CAVE

San Saba County (# 33)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthicus

Description: The cave has a crevice-type entrance about 2' x 10', dropping 22' to a floor of breakdown and fill. To the north it becomes too narrow after a few feet, while to the south it extends for about 20' as a 10' high, 3' wide passage. This becomes very narrow and drops a few feet. Although it continues for at least 10' further much time and effort would be involved in further exploration. Fauna included a 6" long centipede and numerous harvestmen and cave crickets. The skeleton of a goat was found on the floor of the cave. It was explored in June, 1962, by James Reddell and Orion Knox.

Ref: TSS files

DODO CAVE

San Saba County (# 10)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: A small round opening drops 10' to a black dirt floor. Length of the cave is about 15'.

Ref: TSS files

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: The cave has two entrances, one of which is used for the dumping of trash and refuse. The main sink measures 10 feet in diameter; the other is 10 feet long and 3 feet wide and is located a few feet away, making a natural bridge between. The floor of the cave slopes slightly downward from the trash fill for a length not over 40 feet and attains a depth of 25' beneath the surface.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

EDNA CAVE

San Saba County (# 9)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: The walls of the entrance are covered with moss and algae, and an air current flows from the entrance. This air current possibly comes from Carol Cave, which is on the same joint system as Edna Cave and Dodo Cave. The entrance is a large fissure-type opening dropping about 15' to the floor. There is some evidence of animal habitation.

Bibliography: Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 62. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

FALL CREEK CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 82)

T-7 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Lower Colorado River Authority

Description: The cave has been covered by the impounded waters of Lake Buchanan. Before its inundation it was excavated by A.T. Jackson of the University of Texas Anthropology Department. The cave consists of one room 61 x 38 feet in diameter. Its comparatively small opening faced north. A summary of the results of the excavation of the cave follows. "The upper two inches of the floor deposit consisted of dust and animal excrement. Beneath this was a layer 15 inches deep of compact soil apparently consisting of dust from the roof intermixed with camp refuse and red river deposits. In this stratum were found...flint artifacts, bone beads, mussel shells and snail shells and split animal bones... The bones include those of the deer, buffalo, small mammals, turkey and tortoise." (White, 1948)

Bibliography: Jackson, A.T. "The Fall Creek Sites." The University of Texas Publications No. 3802, pp. 28, 40, 51-53. Austin, Jan. 8, 1938.

White, Patrick J. "The Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. April, 1948.

Ref: TSS files

Tow 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Lower Colorado River Authority

Description: A small cave, measuring 36 x 20 feet in diameter, it is now inundated by the waters of Lake Buchanan. It is formed in the Ellenberger limestone. Excavated by A.T. Jackson of the University of Texas Anthropology Department, a summary of their finds follows: An exploratory trench dug in May, 1932, indicated that this cave was more extensively occupied than Fall Creek Cave No. 1. "A cross-section in No. 2 showed the following:

Inches	Deposit and Contents
0-4	Recent accumulation of dust, leaves and rubbish.
4-12	Ashy midden soil containing a few flint chips and mussel shells; also a few complete artifacts.
12-15	Layer of pure ashes, without either shells, flint chips or artifacts.
15-20	Hard-packed red clayey soil—such as might be deposited by waters of the nearby Colorado River. In the deposit were found many mussel shells and some flint chips; also a few animal bones; very few artifacts. The greatest number of shells and flint flakes were found twelve inches from the top of this stratum, or at a depth of 27 inches." (Jackson, 1938)

Bibliography: Jackson, A.T. "The Fall Creek Sites." The University of Texas Publications No. 3802, pp. 28, 40, and 51-53. Austin, Jan. 8, 1938.
 White, Patrick J. "The Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. April, 1946.
 Ref: TSS files

FALL-IN CAVE

San Saba County (# 5)

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Gibbons Estate

Description: This is a recently exposed cave formed by the falling of soil and rock debris into a pit. It is near a rumored large cave of that area. The entrance drop measures 19', but the cave is unexplored. Visited by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

FLEA CAVE

San Saba County (# 70)

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The cave is entered by a 10'-15' in diameter sink with a steep silt and rock slope leading down for about 15'. A small crawl to the right extends from the bottom of the sink. After about 10' the crawl opens into a 10' wide

and 10' high passage sloping steeply down for about 50' where it ends in a rock wall. Any passages which might continue are filled with the silt covering the floor. Total depth of the cave is about 35'. The only fauna observed were cave crickets and thousands of fleas. It was explored by James Reddell and other members of the University of Texas Grotto in the spring of 1962.

Ref: TSS files

FOUR-BAT CAVE

San Saba County (# 50)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

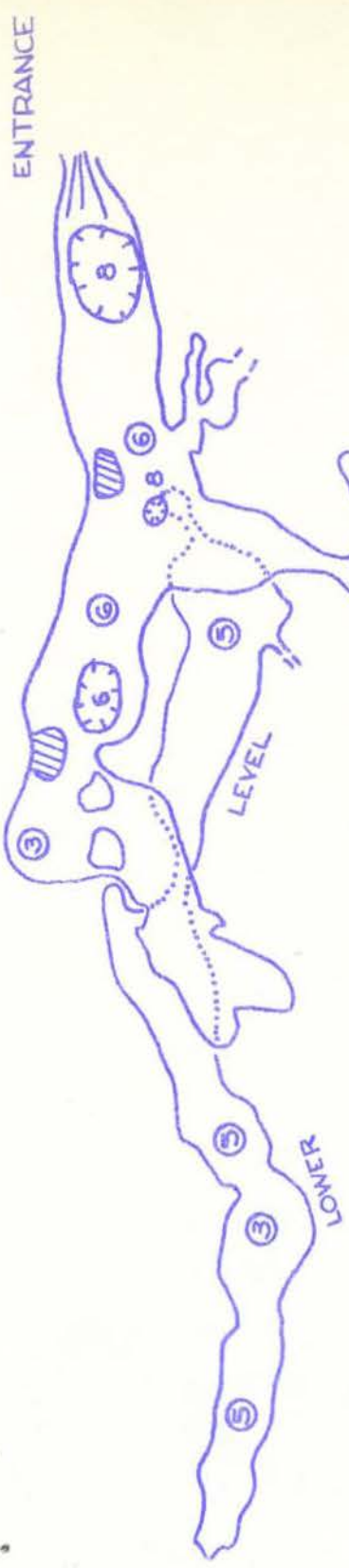
Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The main cave (among three) is the entrance farthest to the left down the hill. After about 50', crossing a filled pit, there are two low-ceilinged passages. The right one goes another 75' to a very low crawlway. The left one continues to a large bat room with a low ceiling and it is about 50' across. The far side of the room contains a higher ceiling, a dome, and a small hole, 2' in diameter, that leads to another bat room. Three bats were observed in this room, and another in hibernation in the first room, when the cave was explored in February of 1962. Exploration in June, 1962, found the number of bats increased to several thousand and the cave infested with numerous gnats. The cave varies little in depth, but it is in excess of 530'. At a point 65' from the entrance an inconspicuous two-foot hole to the right of the "trail" leads down for eight feet to a small black room, in which was found a pond frog. An eight-foot crawlway just large enough to go through leads to a lower level room measuring 20' in diameter. At the back of the room there is a mud bank which is in front of a formation area with some soda straws--all active--and some flowstone. To the left of the mud bank, one can slide through a small hole. This leads to a low-ceilinged room after ten feet with several three-foot stalagmites jutting up into a 1 1/2' high room which has a miniature travertine dam floor the first part of the way. At the far end of the room, or about 25', is a horizontal opening measuring one-foot high and five-feet wide that leads to another low-ceilinged room which is 15' wide. After 20' another room is reached which is long and narrow and goes to the end of the cave. The ceiling in this room is about 5' high and looks to be quite unstable. There is some cave coral on the walls in places and two small domes in the ceiling. To the left side of the room just after the lower level is reached there is another smaller crawlway that seems to lead slightly downward but is too small to negotiate. Removal of loose material on the floor of this crawl may lead to more cave. The upper levels of the cave were explored by James Estes and Paxton Hutchison of the Abilene Grotto and Chuck Larsen, Jerry Fogelman, Neil and Loren Roebuck of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Grotto, in February, 1962. The lower levels were explored and the cave mapped in June, 1962, by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador. Total depth of the cave from the entrance is about 20'. (See map, page 18)

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 65. May, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

FORMATION AREA



0 ——— 30 FT.

FOUR-BAT CAVE
 SAN SABA COUNTY, TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY
 BY THE ABILENE GROTTOS
 4-29-62

FOUR-BAT BURIAL CAVE

San Saba County (# 51)

Buffalo Knob 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The cave is to the right of the shaft immediately to the east of Four-Bat Cave. This small cave is 55⁰ in total length, and consists of two rooms, a branching tunnel to the west, and another to the east, which leads into another small cave. The larger of the two rooms is two-feet high and is 25⁰ in diameter and round in shape. A very strong air current originated possibly from connecting small tunnels from either Four-Bat Cave or the shaft.

Paleontology: The cave contains evidence of having at one time been a burial cave. A femur and section of backbone was found along with several cedar bark mats. A small amount of excavation in early June, 1962, resulted in the discovery of numerous small animal bones. Most are those of large rodents. Bones of small animals, additional vertebrae, and other fragments were sent to be identified but as of this date they have not been.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

FREESE RANCH CAVE "SYSTEM"

San Saba County (# 62)

Indian Hills 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Freese Ranch

Description: This is an area of numerous cracks and sinks. In the area about 60 cracks were entered without access being made to a cavern system as such. One of the cracks was 60⁰ deep, with most of them ranging from 20 to 40 feet in depth. It is an indication of a large collapsed cavern system. Several depressed areas appear to be the collapsed roofs of rooms. It was explored by Gordon Danz and Bob Hudson in 1954.

Ref: Bob Hudson

GOAT CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 28)

Brady Mountain 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: The cave has one entrance on the side of a rocky bluff about 20⁰ from the bed of Deep Creek. After about 15⁰, it goes to the right for another 10⁰, then to the left for a short distance at which point there is a stoopway into a room measuring 15⁰ high, 20 to 30 feet long and 8⁰ wide. A small crevice in the opposite side of the room also pinches out. There are a few speleothems in the room. The floor is of a crumbly material containing dry white clay dirt. No fauna was observed.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GOAT CAVE NO. 2

San Saba County (# 29)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: This cave is in the same bluff and at about the same height as Goat Cave No. 1. It is about 30' long and has another entrance in the form of a chimney to the surface about 25' above. A strong current of air was flowing through the cave, coming down the chimney, at the time of the exploration. No formations or fauna were observed, although it seemed to be occupied by goats most of the time.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GOAT CAVE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 30)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linthicum

Description: Located on the same bluff as Goat Caves Nos. 1 and 2, this cave consists of several small rooms about 10 to 15 feet in length and connected by crawlways. The floor is dry and is a powdery dust. It is occupied by goats most of the time. There are at least four entrances. The total length of the cave is about 50'.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GORMAN CAVE

San Saba County (# 75)

Gorman Falls 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: Gorman Cave is located on the west side of the Colorado River. A narrow steep-walled gully leads from the river and into the mouth of the cave, evidence for believing that the river has dissected the cave. Large breakdown blocks, evidence of ceiling collapse, litter the floor of the gully. The entrance itself is about 10' high and 15' wide, becoming wider after a few feet. In the first room of the cave the left wall is covered with massive calcite crystals with faces up to two inches across. Although coated with mud many of them have been chipped away by vandals, leaving beautiful crystal faces exposed. After about 75', a breakdown slope on the left connects with a filled depression on the surface; this depression is located at the base of a short cliff about 50' above the level of the cave entrance. A short stoop and crawl over large breakdown blocks leads to a 20' wide, 20' high passage floored with river sand and gravel. Several small travertine dams have formed pools, the Fish Ponds, which lie across the cave passage. River perch and catfish have been found in them after floods in which this portion of the cave is flooded by the Colorado River. About 200' past the Fish Ponds an elliptical stream passage is found with a high crack on the left side of the passage. A sharp turn to the left occurs at which the Bath Tub may be seen on the left. This is a low, wide circular pool of water. A ceiling drop occurs shortly after this and immediately after this drop in ceiling height the passage opens into the Big Room. This is a 40' wide, 50' high, 100' long dome room floored with guano and gravel. The

room is inhabited by a small colony of bats during the summer. A winding stream passage extends from the Big Room for about 200', bypassing a small side passage which leads for 100' to the Mouse Room. At the end of the dry stream passage a one- to two-foot deep pool of water, Separation Lake, occurs. This pool is inhabited by numerous crayfish. Gravel banks on both sides of the pool contain quartzite sand, quartz pebbles, and other forms of rocks. About 100' beyond Separation Lake, the first of a series of holes drops into a lower level stream passage containing running water. It cannot, however, be followed for any distance. Here and for the next few hundred feet much breakdown has occurred, it being necessary to climb over and around the large blocks. Immediately after the breakdown area there is a fork in the passage, that to the left dead-ending after about 100'. The passage to the right extends to more breakdown, which can be climbed over or along the sides to the main passage. Beyond this breakdown area there is another junction formed by a large mass of flowstone. A passage above the flowstone mass leads through deep mud, while that to the left extends through a narrow crack to meet the upper passage in the Bat Room. This is a small room floored with guano and containing a large number of bats in the summer. A squeeze out of this passage intersects a large passage. To the left it slopes downwards, becoming a narrow winding tube which contains eight feet deep pools of water. After about 100' a small stream enters from the left and extends for another few hundred feet before siphoning. The upstream part of the passage also siphons. To the right the main passage extends as a large stream passage floored with flowstone and rock. A 30' in diameter lake, containing water several feet deep may be by-passed to the right by means of a crawl. From here a large winding stream passage, GO, Alley extends for several hundred feet before encountering the same fugitive stream seen earlier. To the right, downstream, the passage soon becomes too small to negotiate, while to the left, upstream, it is seen as a 6'-8' deep siphon. Divers have negotiated a 200' long underwater passage into a large walking passage not fully explored.

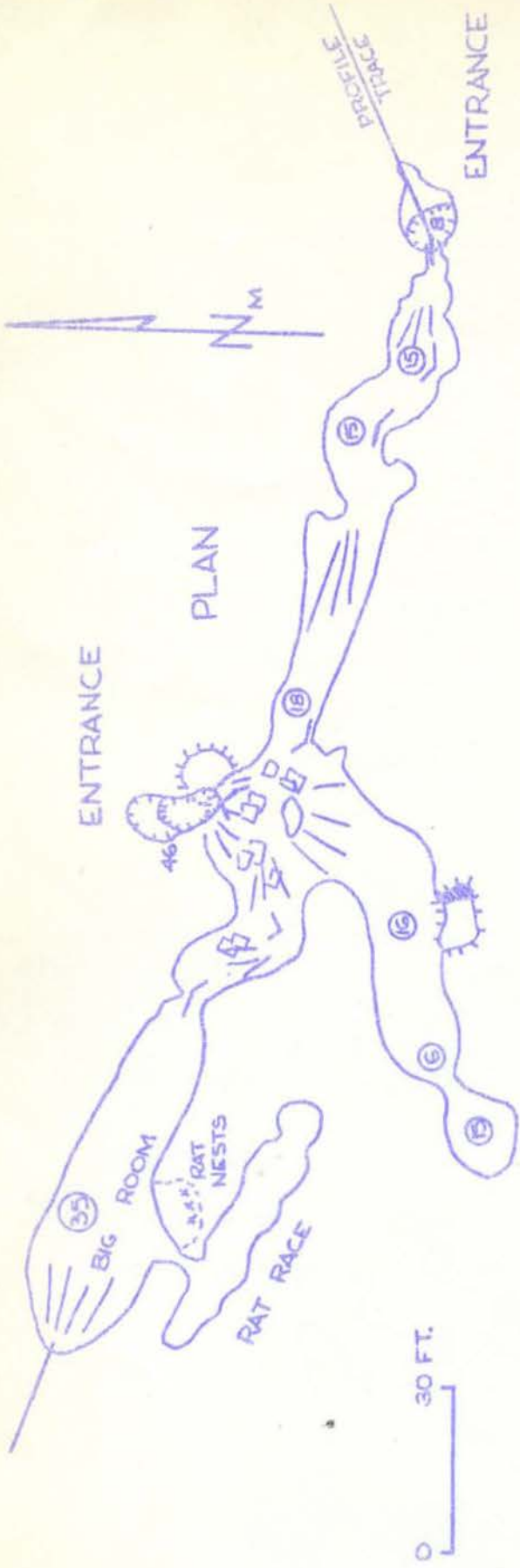
Geology: Formed in the Ellenburger limestone, the speleogenesis of this extremely important cave is quite interesting. Apparently formed beneath the water table in the phreatic zone as evidenced by ceiling pendants and solution pockets throughout the cave, especially in the area known as the Swiss Cheese, the cave shows evidence of complete or near-complete clay filling in an early stage of its development. The cave was also filled at this or possibly an earlier time by breakdown and gravel, remnants of which may be seen in the floor, walls and ceiling. Calcitic filling occurred cementing the gravel and breakdown. At this stage the downcutting of the Colorado River dissected the cave, which became an outlet source for a stream. The extension on the east side of the river is now a narrow, steep-walled gully with no open cave extending from its head. Whereas Gorman Cave was utilized by a stream, the downstream portion of the cave became filled with mud and sealed by breakdown. After the downcutting of the river had opened the cave a stream began removing the clay and cemented fill. With the collapse of portions of the cave walls and ceiling the stream running through the cave found it easier to utilize several small side passages. These are currently the channel for the cave stream. The main passage is frequently flooded in times of heavy rain, when the cave stream becomes too large to limit itself to the small side passages it normally uses. Some flooding also occurs in the first half of the cave when the Colorado River is in full flood. Of no small interest are the large calcite crystals found on the walls and ceilings of parts of the cave, as well as the quartz crystals found in at least one part of the cave. These crystals as well as quartzite sand and sandstone are quite unusual in Texas caves and a full study of this and the sediments in the cave is badly needed.

Biology: No detailed study has been made of the fauna of the cave, but a faunal list includes a number of forms of beetles, millipedes, crayfish, copepods, amphipods, cave crickets, harvestmen, phalangids, and bats. Reports of blind fish are probably based on the occurrence of river perch and catfish in the Fish Ponds after flooding by the Colorado River. Dr. Bassett Maguire of the University of Texas Zoology Department has made a collection of crustacea from the cave. Although many of the crayfish have lost their pigment and are almost white the animals have normal eyes and apparently the loss of pigment is environmental rather than hereditary.

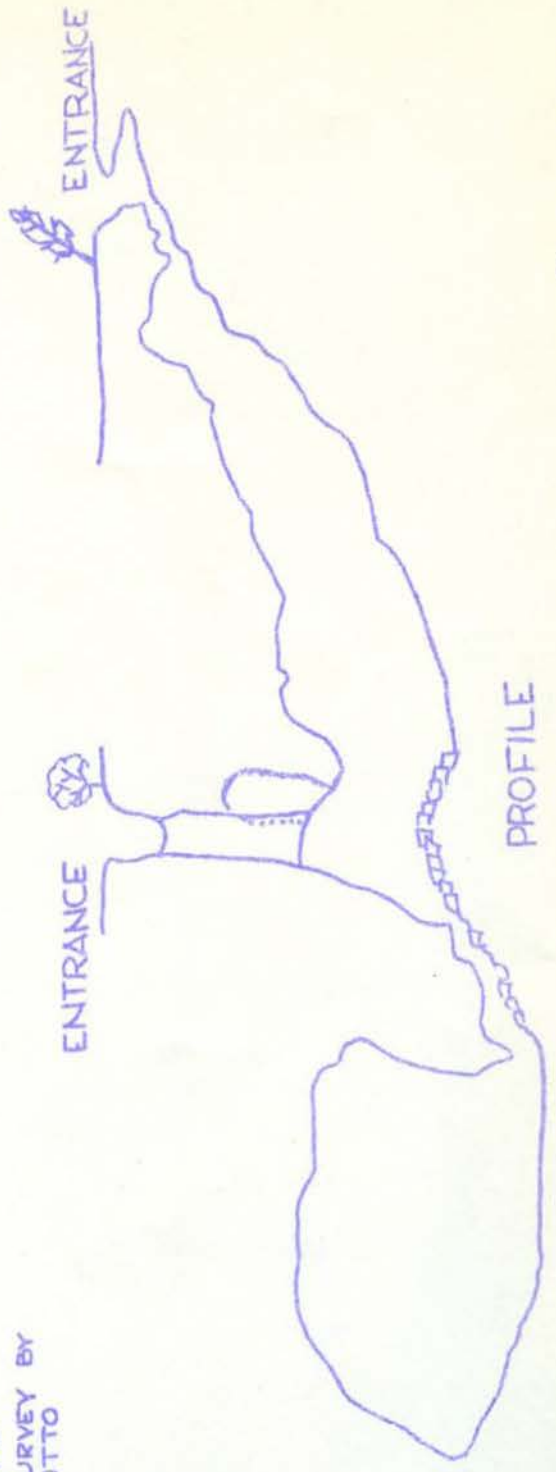
Meteorology: No study has been made of the meteorology of the cave, but it is one of the few caves in the state known to have an excess of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The greatest accumulation of bad air is in the lower level stream passage where decaying organic matter has accumulated in large quantities and where the lack of circulation prevents a refreshing of the atmosphere. The air is also poor throughout the passage known as CO₂ Alley, but is worse at some times than at others.

History: Gorman Cave is one of the best known caves in the state. Visited as early as the 1860's, dates in the cave are found as early as 1876. It is first reported in the First Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Texas, 1889. Since this is one of the earliest reported cave explorations in Texas the account of its exploration is given in its entirety. "Caves are very numerous in the limestones of the Carboniferous, and some of them are very extensive... I entered only one of them, and traversed it about three-fourths of a mile. Sometimes the roof would be high overhead, and then again we would have to crawl upon our hands and knees. There were lateral openings at different places, but we kept in the main opening. Most of the way the bottom was dry, but here and there a pool of water would be found standing in a basin of calcareous rock. Stalagmites covered the floor and stalactites hung from the top. We came to a place where there was a descent of the bottom of the cave for several feet, and lowering our candles into the opening, found on account of the gas they would not burn, so we retraced our way to the entrance." (Cummins, 1889) Well known among local people the cave has been visited many times with much resulting vandalism. It was first discovered by spelunkers in 1951 by members of the University of Texas Speleological Society. Many trips have been made to the cave since then by most of the major caving groups in the state, as well as by many independent cavers. The cave was mapped by the University of Texas Grotto in 1955; but a more detailed and accurate map of the cave was prepared by the Dallas-Ft Worth Grotto on September 1, 1960. (see map, page 24). In 1962 the underwater passages of the cave were explored by Tommy Phillips and Terry Raines of the University of Texas Grotto.

- Bibliography:** Anonymous. "Future Cave Trips." The Texas Caver, page 2. October, 1955.
Anonymous. "Gorman Cave." NSS News, Vol. 13, No. 8, p. 11. August, 1955.
Anonymous. "Little Known, Really, of Well-Known Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. IV, No. 2, p. 6. Mar.-Apr., 1959.
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Anonymous. "News: Southwestern Univ." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 73. May, 1962.
Anonymous. "News: University of Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 2, p. 16. February, 1962.
Anonymous. "News of the Grottos: Abilene." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 8. January, 1961.



JOE'S CAVE
 SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY BY
 THE ABILENE GROTTO
 4-28-61



FLOWSTONE
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Anonymous. "Summer Activities." The Texas Caver, page 2. October, 1955.
 Cloud, Preston E., Jr., and Virgil E. Barnes. The Ellenburger Group of Central Texas. The University of Texas Publication No. 4621, p. 228. June 1, 1948. Issued December, 1948.
 Cusmins, W. T. "The Southern Border of the Central Coal Field." First Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Texas, 1889, pp. 157-158.
 Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.
 Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." The Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.
 Morgan, Bartel. "Caver of the Month---Bob Rodgers, U.T." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 70. May, 1962.
 Reddell, James. "Texas Speleological Survey." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 4, p. 54. May, 1961.
 Riggs, John L. "Texas Cave Club Explores Long Cave." NSS News, Vol. 9, No. 8, p. 1. August, 1951.

Ref: TSS files

GERMAN FALLS CAVE (BAD AIR HOLE)

San Saba County (# 71)

Gorman Falls 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The entrance to the cave is a crevice several hundred yards upstream from Gorman Falls. A vertical drop of about 100' admits you into a passage reportedly about 400' long. A stream runs through the cave which is possibly the same as that which appears in Gorman Cave. A large waterfall is reported in the cave by J.D. McClung and his son who explored the cave a number of years ago. Recent exploration has been made by members of the Dallas Ft.-Worth Grotto. The cave contains a high concentration of carbon dioxide making it extremely hard to breathe. Because of the nature of the entrance and the bad air, the owner has closed the cave to all explorers. It has been mapped by members of the Dallas-Ft. Worth Grotto, but a map and more detailed description are not available at this time.

Bibliography: Cloud, Preston E., Jr., and Virgil E. Barnes. The Ellenburger Group of Central Texas. The University of Texas Publication No. 4621, p. 228. June 1, 1948. Issued December, 1948.

Ref: TSS files

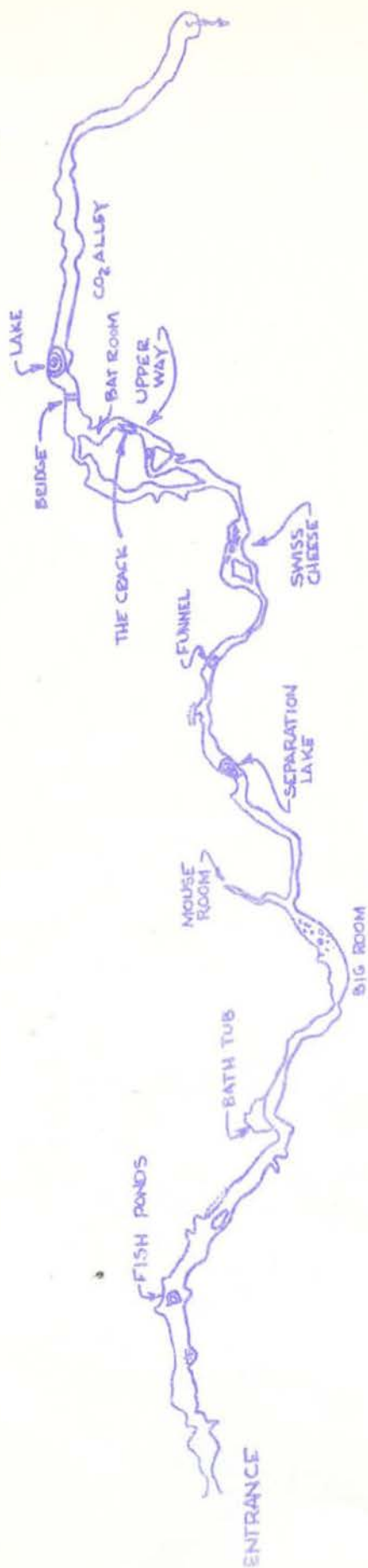
CORRIETTE WATERFALL CAVE (WATERFALL CAVE)

San Saba County (# 72)

Gorman Falls 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The cave is formed behind travertine deposited at Gorman Falls. It is to the left of the present falls and no water runs over it at present. It is entered by a small hole in the travertine about 3' wide and 1' high. It opens up after a few feet into a 6' high, 4' wide passage which extends about 15' to a shelf about 5' high, which in turn drops down about 10' on the opposite side.



GORMAN CAVE
SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY BY
DALLAS - FT. WORTH GROTTO
9-1-60



KARST CAVES

-30-
San Saba County (# 77)

Gorman Falls 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Barnes

Description: The cave consists of four entrances evidently connected in a system, probably collapsed many years ago. Average depth of each entrance is about 55' and then the water table seems to be reached. There is much loose breakdown lodged in these crevice-type caves. About 100' of actual cave passage was explored. It was visited and explored by members of the Abilene and Dallas-Ft. Worth Grottoes in June, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

LITTLE DIRT HOLE FISSURE

San Saba County (# 41)

Baker Spring 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The cave consists of a fissure-type sink about 20' deep and of an unknown length as it is unexplored. A small round hole in dirt not far from it is evidence of a recent cave-in. It has been visited by James Estes of the Abilene Grotto.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

LOCKE CAVE

San Saba County (# 52)

San Saba 7.5° Quadrangle

Owner: Locke Ranch

Description: The cave is a vertical sink filled with brush. It drops 10' in diameter to a talus floor 25' down. Beneath a low ledge there is a room reached about 20' high and 30' in diameter. About 15' up from the floor there is a ledge and a small alcove about 15' deep and 5' high. There are no formations. Fauna includes numerous cave crickets. It was explored and photographed by Bob Hudson and Gordon Darr in 1954.

Ref: Bob Hudson

MCCLARRIN FISSURE SYSTEM

San Saba County (# 64)

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Gorman Falls 7.5° Quadrangle

Description: This is a system of narrow fissures located within a 100'-150' radius. Most of the fissures obtain a depth of from 5'-25', several of which are fairly long. No cave as such was found extending from the system.

Ref: TSS files

The passage continues as a 8' high, 3' wide passage for an additional 10'-15' before branching. Straight ahead the passage ends after a few feet, while to the right a passage extends for 10' to a second entrance about 3' in diameter. The entire cave is formed by the travertine surrounding it; nowhere is there solid rock exposed. Small travertine dams cover the floor, many containing small cave pearls.

Ref: TSS files

GRAND CANYON CREVICE

San Saba County (# 49)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The entrance is an east-west trending crevice 60' long by 2' wide. Both ends terminate in breakdown. Although not explored, a weighted tape dropped into the center of the crevice measured a depth of 53'. Moss covers the sides of the drop, and very cool, moist air emerges from it. It was visited in June, 1962, by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GRASSHOPPER CAVE

San Saba County (# 23)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lindholm

Description: The entrance measures 3' wide, 8' long, and has a drop of 22' to a small breakdown slope. There is evidence of good solution along a fracture. The main passage continues down the slope on a 45 degree angle to a small low-ceilinged room. This room measures 10' in diameter. There are some ragged formations to the left. A small upper passage leads into a room where daylight can be seen filtering from a 6" crack in the ceiling. In this passage were many harvestmen and black beetles. Many land-type large green grasshoppers were observed in the cave below the entrance where they had apparently fallen in. It has been mapped by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto. (See map, page 7)

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.

Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

GREY ROCK CAVE

San Saba County (# 43)

Buffalo Knob 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: Located in a karst area, it is a crevice-type cave with a 25- to 30-foot entrance drop. The opening measures two by three feet with small crevices leading off in east-west directions. It has not been explored, but was visited by James Estes and Joel Tom Meador in June, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

Bend 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Mrs. Hancock

Description: The cave is entered by a stoopway located in the side of a bluff on the bank of a small creek. The entrance opens into the largest room in the cave, which is about 20' long, 10' wide, and 4' high. A crawlway leads to the west and must be crawled on the stomach for several hundred feet. After 300' of squirmway the cave appears to be the same and going slightly uphill so exploration was halted. At no time was the cave more than 12' below the surface. It was explored by Bob Hudson and Gordon Darr.

Ref: Bob Hudson

HARRELL'S CAVE (HARRELL CAVERNS)

San Saba County (# 60)

Bend 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Pete Sloan

Description: Entrance to the cave is by way of an 8' in diameter vertical shaft dropping 50' to the side of a large room floored with breakdown. Equipment is necessary for the drop. The room is about 170' long from north to south and about 150' from east to west. The roof is about 25'-35' high. It is noteworthy for its travertine dams, soda straws, and helictites. One large stalagmite is found near the center of the room and several more elsewhere in the room. The breakdown is about 15' thick with cracks in it going down to the true floor of the cave. Several 20'-40' pits have not been entered, so far as is known. An 18" hole on the left side of the room near the back leads to several nice formations while a four-foot flowstone slope leads up into a muddy crawl. After a short distance this crawl splits, one of the branches becoming an upper level passage which connects back into the crawl after a distance. A passage at the back of the room turns to the right and extends for 200'-300' of walking and crawling passage. This is an intermittent stream passage with standing pools of water being apparently permanent. So far as is known it is not fully explored. The cave has been visited by a large number of people and is one of the older known caves in the state. Early exploration by spelunkers included a trip by Bob Hudson and Roy Pietsch of the University of Texas Grotte. Total length is estimated to be about 500', with the total depth about 75'-100'. It is formed in the Marble Falls limestone. Dr. Bassett Maguire has collected ashipods from the cave, and a rattlesnake has been killed at the bottom of the entrance drop.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Trip to Harrell Cave." The Texas Caver, Vol. III, No. 1, p. 18. Jan.-Feb., 1958.

Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." The Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Ref: TSS files

HOOK-THE-VARMIT CAVE

San Saba County (# 8)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schmidig

Description: The entrance is a sink-fissure type and about 15' deep. It contains a variable amount of trash on the bottom. It is an unexplored cave that appears

MALONE'S CAVE

San Saba County (# 38)

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Tom Sloan

Description: The cave is reported to be a sink, but no further information is available.

Ref: Texas Cave Survey files

MINER'S KEYHOLE CAVE

San Saba County (# 79)

Band 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner:

Description: The entrance to the cave is 6' x 10' and may be climbed into without equipment. This leads into a oval-shaped entrance room with a four-foot deep pit near one end. At the opposite end from the pit a low, easy crawl extends to two small rooms. One room lies to the left and slightly above the other. A tight keyhole, negotiated by Miner Wilson, leads down into a small pretty formation room. Total length of the cave does not exceed 200'. It was explored March 18, 1962, by Miner Wilson, Arthur Simpson, and Russell Wheelock of the University of Texas Grotto.

Ref: TSS files

MOSS CAVE

San Saba County (# 40)

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The entrance is located in a solution area with bare grey limestone rock on the surface. The entrance is 6' wide and 10' long. Sunlight enters the whole entrance at times during the day, causing algae and moss to grow profusely on walls and small broken rocks on the floor. From the entrance drop the cave leads in a nearly easterly direction for about 45' to a circular room with high fissure-type ceiling. There is a small 10' pit in the floor. The walls of the cave are very wet, but there are no formations in it. It leads about 15' in a westerly direction. It is a very clean cave, with no fauna observed. It has been mapped by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto. (See map, page 28)

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

POOL TRASH SINK

San Saba County (# 39)

Brady Mountain 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Pool-Sloan Ranch

Description: The cave is a large fissure-type cave filled with trash, wire, and other debris. It measures 4' wide and is about 40' long and 30' deep. It extends no further.

to have passages going to either side. Two cave swallows were observed in this sink and may be of the Coahuilan species. The name of the cave originated because of the owner's son's fishing coons and ringtails from the entrance with a fishhook after shooting them.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

IRON CAVE

San Saba County (# 15)

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: The entrance is a small sink measuring 6⁰ in diameter. A sloping passage goes down a breakdown slope into a room some 20⁰ long and 15⁰ wide. A short passage to the right pinches out after only 25⁰ into fissure breakdown. To the left after going down a short breakdown slope, the cave continues for 60⁰ before the fissure-type passage pinches out. The floor is of dirt and old guano. The ceiling is at least 30⁰ high and the walls are a dark brown rust color. There seems to be some limonite in the limestone. The cave has been mapped by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto. (See map, page 28)

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.

Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

JOE'S CAVE

San Saba County (# 42)

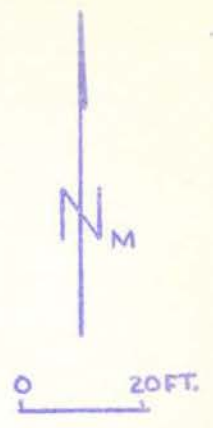
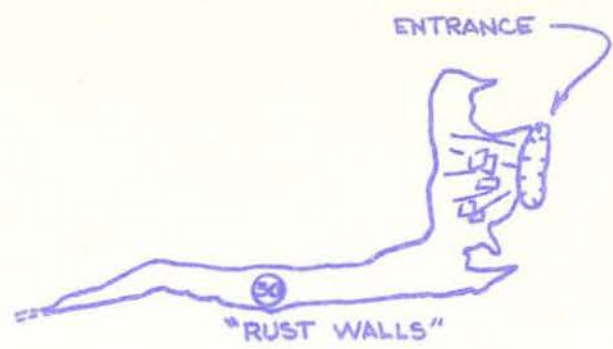
Buffalo Knob 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

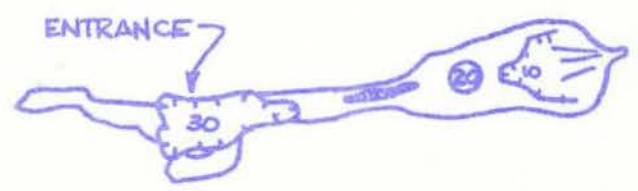
Description: The entrance is a funnel-shaped sink with algae covering it on the east side. The total drop to a breakdown floor is 46⁰, with 20⁰ of it negotiable without equipment. There are three passages leading off from the entrance room. The first passage leads downward for ten feet on breakdown opposite the entrance. It is about 80⁰ long with some flowstone in it. There is a small domed room at the end. The second passage is to the right of the entrance drop and leads down a breakdown slope for 20⁰ and into a long room with a very high ceiling. The room measures 60⁰ long, 35⁰ high, and 20⁰ wide. A small connecting passage leads to another 43⁰ long passage. Many cave rats were seen on the walls and ledges. From the entrance room another passage leads to the east, up a breakdown slope, and out a second entrance, easily negotiable but filled with thorn vines, spider webs, and loose, snaky-looking rocks. Total length of the cave is 432⁰ and total depth 62⁰. It has been mapped by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto. (See map, page 29)

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files



IRON CAVE
 SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY BY
 THE ABILENE GROTTO



MOSS CAVE
 SAN SABA CO., TEXAS
 BRUNTON AND TAPE SURVEY
 BY THE ABILENE GROTTO

Bibliography: Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba -- McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.
Ref: Abilene Grotto files

POSTOAK FALLS CAVE

San Saba County (# 80)

Tow 15^o Quadrangle

Owner: F.E. Edwards

Description: "On the top of the bluff a small opening a few yards across leads into a cave estimated to be about 75 feet deep and 50 feet in diameter. There are small side chambers, and the main cave opens out at the bottom on the valley side at about the level of the base of the cliff. There is a steep descent from its mouth to the river (Colorado). The cave had evidently been a refuge for goats and possibly other animals. The walls of the main cave and the principal side chambers were carefully examined with a flashlight, and small incrustations were observed here and there. These incrustations were mostly of calcium carbonate, but some were of other substances, and in one place there was a small accumulation of white crystalline salts about half an inch thick... These salts were not pure nitrates." (White, 1948)

Bibliography: Mansfield, G.R., and Leona Boardman. "Nitrate Deposits of the United States." United States Geological Survey Bulletin 838, pp. 91-93.
White, Patrick J. "The Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society, April, 1948.
Ref: TSS files

RED HANDKERCHIEF CAVE (DAOGAR CAVE)

San Saba County (# 21)

Brady Mountain 7.5^o Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linticum

Description: The entrance to the cave is 2^o in diameter, dropping 12^o to a small breakdown floor. In an easterly direction, the cave continues for 25^o. This passage contains one large column and a few dry stalactites. To the west, the cave makes a 25^o drop to a sloping floor going on down along the fissure. The passage average 3^o to 4^o in width. After another vertical descent of 20^o there is a drop of 8^o into a small room, oval in shape and six feet wide. A white flowstone waterfall, 2^o-3^o in width descends down the north wall for over 40^o. The ceiling height from the floor of this small room is about 60^o, or almost the distance to the surface. A slope descends for a short distance to a low-ceilinged room filled with many different types of speleothems. Small needlelike helictites grow on dry stalactites. A small crevice leads down 4^o to another level, a short passage about 25^o long which dead-ends. Total depth of the cave is about 80^o, but the actual horizontal distance is about 40^o.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.
Ref: Abilene Grotto files

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Miller

Description: The cave is reported to be a fairly beautiful one, with a number of beautiful stalactites adorning the ceiling. Five rooms, some fairly large are to be found in the cave, the length of which is reported to be better than 1,000'. An ex-commercial cave, its entrance was a concrete stairway in a clubhouse. Formed in the Upper Ellenburger formation, the floor of the cave is covered with a dark red clay, not characteristic of cave deposits in this area. This clay imparts traces of its color to some of the partially dissolved limestone. The color may be due to small deposits of iron in the limestone which passed its tint onto the subsoil; it also seems possible that some of it may have been washed in by ancient floods. The bones of a deer and a horse were found partially buried in the red clay flooring.

History: The entrance to the cave was discovered in 1937 by Mark Terru when he entered a small crack in the limestone, roped himself down 40' to the floor, and entered a large room, the first in a series of elliptical chambers connected by small passageways. The cavern was extensively developed as a commercial venture by its lessor, Lon Piper of San Antonio, who excavated and enlarged the passages and installed an elevator and electric lights; but the project was soon abandoned. Recent explorations of the cave have been made by members of the University of Texas and Athlens Grottoes. The owner, however, has refused entrance to anyone in the last few years.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Principal Caverns in Texas." The Texas Almanac and State Industrial Guide, p. 483. A.H. Belo Corp., 1936.

Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Cloud, Preston E., Jr., and Virgil E. Barnes. The Ellenburger Group of Central Texas, p. 51. The University of Texas Publication No. 4621; June 1, 1946. Issued December, 1948.

Graun, Victor S. "Commercial Caves of Texas." The Caves of Texas, pp. 43-44. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. April, 1948.

Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.

Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." The Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Morgan, Robert E. "Addition to 'Index of All the Known Caves of the World'". Bulletin No. Six of the National Speleological Society, p. 31. July, 1944.

National Speleological Society. Palaces Under the Earth, p. 18. 1951.

Nicholson, Frank E. "Caves of Texas." The Texas Almanac and State Industrial Guide, p. 192. A.H. Belo Corp., 1933.

Petrie, J.S. "Commercial Caves." Bulletin No. Four of the National Speleological Society, p. 63. Sept., 1942.

Walker, Jimmy. "Forgotten Caves." Houston Chronicle Rotogravure Magazine, August 21, 1955.

White, Patrick J. "Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 59. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. April, 1948.

Ref: TSS files

ROUNDTREE CAVE

San Saba County (# 2)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Gibbons Estate

Description: The cave is located in the bottom of a small flat draw that drains approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ square mile. It is in the Ellenburger formation and is a solution cave of some note. The entrance to the cave is in the west side of a small sink-hole, which has a tree growing from its middle. From the entrance, the cave slopes about 8' to a ledge 8' above the floor of the first room. This is a small breakdown room measuring 15' in diameter. Parts of an old windmill are found littered about the room. In the northwest side of the room is a stoopway that leads about 8' to the water passage, a low-ceilinged passage containing standing water up to 2.5' in depth. The ceiling is rough, but does not touch the water, coming to within 10" of it in places. After about 100' a gravel bar is reached, then 15' more of water, until the first large room is reached. This room, the first bat room, is some 45' long and contains many mud banks and much guano on the floor. A few stalactites hang from the ceiling, and at least one large stalagmite is situated in such a place as to afford an anchor for cable ladders to the lower levels of the cave. The drop from the first bat room to the lower bat room is 55' with two ledges on the way down, spaced approximately the same distance from one another. The lower bat room contains a few more mud-covered speleothems, some clean brown flowstone, and "washed" breakdown from the cascading waters in stormy weather. A small hole measuring 20" across at the bottom of the second bat room leads to a 6' drop to a lower level crawlway. The crawlway is about 80' long and leads to another 6' drop. Brush and debris were lodged on the roof of the crawlway. At the bottom of the last 6' drop there is a small room with another crawlway leading off, measuring about 3' high and 2' wide. After about 15' the floor drops out in a narrow fissure some 50 or 60 feet in depth to another room. The cave is not completely explored, but two names were seen near the end of the explored area. The cave is the home of an unnumbered colony of bats, as well as black beetles, millipeds, and spiders. A deposit of quartz crystals is to be found on the wall near the entrance room. The cave used to contain a windmill pipe to the water level and a home was nearby. A family of eight died in the cave when they sought shelter during a serious storm. The home is no longer standing, and the windmill is demolished, but a portion of the old pipe still runs along the water passage. The cave has been recently explored by Jim Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

SHAW'S LAST CAVE

San Saba County (# 11)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Schneider

Description: This cave, its entrance about 2' wide and 5' long, was the last cave said to have been entered by the fabulous cave explorer of that country,

a man by the name of Shaw. He was one of the first developers of Richland Springs Cavern. Mr. Shaw, now very old, lives in Colorado. The cave was not entered because of lack of time, but was visited by James Estes and others.
Ref: Abilene Grotto files

SEHLL CAVE

San Saba County (# 63)

Gorman Falls 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Charles McClarrin

Description: The cave is located in the side of a cliff upstream from Gorman Falls on the Colorado River. It consists of a low crawl extending for about 40' to a room large enough to turn around in. The skull of a large hog or javalina was found in the back of the cave.

Ref: TSS files

SPIDER CAVE

San Saba County (# 3)

Baker Spring 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Gibbons Estate

Description: The entrance measures about 2' x 3' and is a drop of 18' to a loose conglomerate floor that continues on down for another 18' on a 45⁰ slope. Here a more or less level passage extends for about 20' before coming to a dead-end. The cave has apparently been filled, probably when the land was chained, so that the west side of the entrance drop is made up of a loose gravel and conglomerate that flakes off at a touch. It contains many harvestmen and thousands of cave crickets as well as a number of black widow spiders. It was visited in June, 1962, by James Estes and Gerald Roberts.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "News: Abilene." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 71. May, 1962.

Anonymous. "Seven More Caves Found in San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 5, p. 67. May, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

STEWARDSON CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 56)

Bear Hollow 7.5⁰ Quadrangle

Owner: Stewardson Ranch

Description: The cave consists of a 10' in diameter vertical sink ending in two very narrow fissures 40' below the surface. Much water apparently washes into the cave. It was explored by Bob Hudson and Gordon Dams.

Ref: Bob Hudson

STEWARDSON CAVE NO. 2

San Saba County (# 57)

Bear Hollow 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Stewardson

Description: This small cave is so choked with brush that it can no longer be entered. It was examined by Bob Hudson and Gordon Dans.

Ref: Bob Hudson

STEWARDSON CAVE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 58)

Bear Hollow 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Stewardson

Description: This cave was filled with brush, so that it could not be entered. It was examined by Bob Hudson and Gordon Dans.

Ref: Bob Hudson

STEWARDSON CAVE NO. 4

San Saba County (# 59)

Bear Hollow 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Mr. Stewardson

Description: The owner of this cave reported that a calf fell into the cave some years ago, at which time the cave was known to be 20' deep, with a 10' in diameter room at the bottom. Exploration by Gordon Dans and Bob Hudson found the cave to filled within 10' of the surface with silt. The entrance is 1 1/2" in diameter.

Ref: Bob Hudson

TIN CAVE

San Saba County (# 7)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis

Description: The cave is in an area of mesh karst. It consists of a large fissure entrance filled with corrugated iron. It has not been explored, although visited by James Estes.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

TWIN ENTRANCE SINK

San Saba County (# 16)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lindholm

Description: A small sinkhole contains two 4' in diameter, oval-shaped entrances. Ivy vines and wandering jew grow in the entrance. It was visited by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

UNKNOWN CAVE (BOUNCING ROCK CAVE) (SNYDER CAVE)

San Saba County (# 6)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Joe Ellis (?)

Descriptions: The cave is reported to be a small opening in which rocks can be heard to bounce a great distance away when thrown into its entrance.

Bibliography: Estes, James. "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WHITEFACE CAVE (SANDROCK CAVE) (200-FOOT CAVE)

San Saba County (# 37)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthicum

Descriptions: The cave is located along the side of a hill near Deep Creek. It is entered by a round hole, 10' in diameter narrowing until it reaches a small breakdown floor some 20' down. To the left is a small passage that leads steeply down for another 20' to the sudden topside of a large, steep breakdown slide of clay and loose rock conglomerate. Huge boulders on the top side of the slope are perched on clay and smaller rocks. The slide is on a 45° angle. At a depth of about 50'-60' there is a thick deposit of guano and larger blocks of breakdown. At a depth of about 75', the guano stops and the cave goes under 5' and 6' overhanging ledges. At a depth of 100', there is a small passage which leads to a large flowstone area that descends the back of the cave and at a horizontal distance from the entrance of only 100' or so. There is a fast drop of water off of one of the overhanging ledges, which falls into a small pool with small white crystals in the bottom and around the edges. They resemble white rice and are about the same size. Below the flowstone, the cave continues for about 10' more in a small crawl passage with some cave coral and small stalactites, most of which are dead. To the left of the descending slide the cave extends to an unknown distance and depth. An estimate of the depth was soon 200' after one member of an exploring party reached a ledge 50' farther down and could see another 50'-75' down a fissure-type pit. The boulders in this part of the cave are very unstable. One was accidentally leaned against and it fell over the last drop into the pit. There are many of the large car-sized boulders with one end resting on clay or guano and the other end precariously balanced against the undercut cave wall. The cave is formed in the Ellenburger limestone and may be the deepest in San Saba County. Fauna includes harvestmen, small white spiders, cave crickets, cave beetles, surface-type beetles, and a large rattlesnake which was killed at the entrance on one trip to the cave. The cave is rumored to extend for many miles, but verification of this report must await full exploration of the pit to the left. The cave was named for a herd of Whiteface cattle grazing near the entrance. It was explored by James Estes, Bart Crisman, and other members of the Abilene Grotto in 1961. The explored part of the cave, excepting the pit to the left, has been surveyed by James Riddell and Terry Raines of the University of Texas Grotto. (See map, pages 39-40)

Bibliography: Anonymous, "News of the Grottos: Abilene." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 8. January, 1961.
 Anonymous, "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 6, p. 73. June, 1961.
 Anonymous, "Whiteface Cave, San Saba Co." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 1, p. 6. January, 1961.
 Estes, James, "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.
 Estes, James, "Noteworthy Caverns of Texas." Texas Almanac: 1961-1962, p. 63. A.H. Belo Corp., 1961.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WILD MAN CAVE NO. 1

San Saba County (# 24)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linticum

Description: The cave is located 20' up on a sheer bluff called Wild Man Bluff. It is 50' long and gradually becomes smaller until it is too small to negotiate. Explored by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WILD MAN CAVE NO. 2

San Saba County (# 25)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linticum

Description: The cave is located on Wild Man Bluff and is a companion cave to Wild Man Cave No. 1. To enter the cave it is necessary for one to toss a rope over the limb of a huge hackberry tree growing in front of the entrance and pull himself up the rock face. The cave contains some small formations covered with algae. The first room of the cave is about 8' wide and 7' high. After about 30', it turns left and continues for another 30', then narrows to a crawlway. The first part of the passage is covered with breakdown while the back portion is floored with a powdery grey dust. Small holes in the dirt and animal droppings led the explorers to believe this cave was occupied by a large cat. Total length of the cave is about 120'.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WILD MAN CAVE NO. 3

San Saba County (# 26)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Linticum

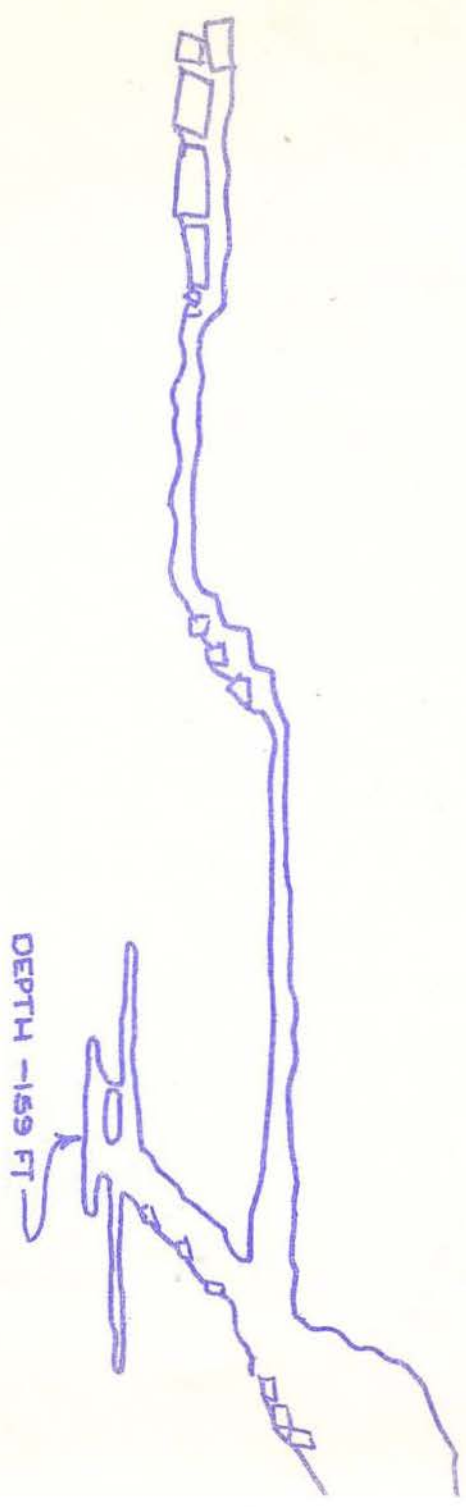
Description: The cave is located to the right of Wild Man Cave No. 2 and is somewhat higher on the cliff face. It has a total length of about 25' and has two entrances, one a 2' high x 5' wide entrance, the other a small hole to the right and five feet up. It contains no formations and no fauna was observed.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files



PLAN OF
WHITEFACE CAVE
 SAN SABA COUNTY, TEXAS
 BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY BY
 J. REDELL, STAL., UTS
 7-22-62

0 30 60 FT.



DEPTH - 159 FT

WILD MAN CAVE NO. 4

San Saba County (# 27)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthorn

Description: The cave is to the right of Wild Man Cave No. 3, but is located about halfway up the 90' cliff-face. It is impossible to enter without special equipment. It is reported to house a large number of bats which make a huge black cloud when they come out of the cave at dark. It appears to be a huge crack with two elongated openings.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WILDCAT CAVE

San Saba County (# 4)

Baker Spring 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Gibbons Estate

Description: A small fissure cave that has, to some extent, been filled with trash. The solution-widened fissure-type entrance is about 4' wide, 22' deep, and 30' long. It was visited by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Bibliography: Anonymous. "San Saba County Caves." The Texas Caver, Vol. VI, No. 5, p. 73. June, 1961.

Estes, James. "Crevice Caves of San Saba - McCulloch Counties, Texas." The Texas Caver, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 3. January, 1962.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

WINDMILL SINK

San Saba County (# 19)

Brady Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle

Owner: Edward Lanthorn

Description: The entrance is completely filled with parts of old windmills. A flashlight reveals the depth to exceed 20'. It was unexplored because of the time involved in removing the junk from the entrance. It was visited by James Estes and other members of the Abilene Grotto.

Ref: Abilene Grotto files

SHELTERS

GIBBONS SHELTER

San Saba County (# 1a)

Owner: Gibbons Estate (?)

Description: "The shelter is 15 x 6 feet, with stones piled in front, apparently to assist in leveling the floor, and thus affording more usable space. The wall is decorated with historic paintings of horses and white men." (White, 1948)

Bibliography: White, Patrick J. "Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. April, 1948.

Ref: TSS files

Owner: Lower Colorado River Authority

Description: The shelter is formed in the Ellenburger limestone and the entrance faces northwest. It measures 10 x 4 feet. "Its room was only $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the present floor level. The midden deposit had a depth of 30 inches, showing that a small shelter might be utilized extensively." (White, 1948)

Bibliography: Jackson, A. L. "The Fall Creek Sites." The University of Texas Publications No. 3802, pp. 28, 40, and 51-53. Austin, Jan. 8, 1938.
 White, Patrick J. "The Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. APRIL, 1948.
 Ref: TSS files

NITRATE CAVES

San Saba County (# 2a)

Owner: Unknown

Description: These small solution pockets are located in a travertine bluff. They contain small, non-commercial quantities of nitrate salts.

Bibliography: Hunsfield, G. R., and Leona Boardman. "Nitrate Deposits of the United States." United States Geological Survey Bulletin 838, pp. 86-88.
 White, Patrick J. "The Caves of Central Texas." The Caves of Texas, p. 60. Bulletin Ten of the National Speleological Society. APRIL, 1948.
 Ref: TSS files