

THE CAVES OF KIMBLE COUNTY

**Edited by A. Richard Smith
and James R. Reddell**

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TEXAS SPELEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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INTRODUCTION

Kimble County, in Central Texas, lies on the eastern Edwards Plateau, a highland supported by resistant Cretaceous age limestone and dolomite beds. A few through-flowing streams incise the plateau, and their tributary systems are marked by steep-walled canyons and gulleys. Where there has been no dissection, the upland surface is flat to very gently rolling.

Junction, the county seat, lies on the North Llano River, whose wide valley divides the county into northern and southern halves. The South Llano River flows from Edwards County on the southwest to join the North Llano in Junction. Several prominent creeks, such as Copperas, Bois d'Arc, Bear, and Johnson Fork, as well as the James River, drain the surrounding uplands to the Llano.

The county's principal economic support is from ranching, dictated largely by the relatively dry, warm climate. Average annual rainfall is about 24 inches.

Because of its nearness to centers of speleological activity, Kimble County has been frequently visited by cavers from Abilene, Austin, San Antonio, and elsewhere in the central part of the state. In September of 1967 the Texas Speleological Association held a Region Project in the county in an attempt to find, explore, and map as many of the county's caves as possible. Although several new caves were found, the county's speleologic potential was by no means exhausted since many ranches in the western part were never visited. Large caves are known or rumored to exist in the northwest and southwest corners of the county; these have still not been explored or located. In addition, an area of Ellenburger outcrop, not known at the time of the TSA Region Project, in the eastern part of the county, will probably yield several caves and fissures.

Maps bearing the initials C.K. were drawn by Carl Kunath; those with J.V., by Jon Vinson. The TSS especially appreciates the assistance of the many Texas cavers who provided cave reports and maps for this issue.

In addition we gratefully acknowledge the following biologists for their identification of material included in this report: Thomas C. Barr, Jr., carabid beetles; Nell B. Causey, millipeds; Kenneth Christiansen, collembolans; W.J. Gertsch, spiders and scorpions; Lee Herman, staphylinid beetles; Edward L. Mockford, psocids; Glen Kohls, ticks; T.J. Spilman, tenebrionid and alleculid beetles.

This issue was printed by Jon Everage.

SPELEOGEOLOGY OF KIMBLE COUNTY

by A. Richard Smith

The geology, especially the stratigraphy, of Kimble County has been investigated in considerable detail by Rose (1970), Rodda et al. (1966), and Alexander and Patman (1969). Their works serve as the basis for the following account of Kimble County geology as it relates to caves. The outcrops of the stratigraphic units described are shown on the geologic map (p. 5).

The oldest rocks cropping out in Kimble County are in the Ellenburger Group of Ordovician age. Two of the outcrop areas are in the lower part of the Llano Valley, and the third is in the valleys of the East and West Forks of the James River. These areas extend into Mason County, where they are known to be cavernous. Since these limestone outcrops have never been checked for caves, little is known of them. Alexander and Patman (1969, p. 12) state, "Water in the Ellenburger is contained in and transmitted through fracture and solution channels that vary considerably in size and distribution."

More than 200 feet of interbedded thin limestone, sandstone, and shale of Paleozoic age but younger than Ellenburger overlie the latter and crop out in the same areas. No caves are known from these rocks, but the limestone units might be cavernous if thick enough.

Rocks of Cretaceous age were deposited on the irregularly eroded surface of Paleozoic rocks in Kimble County. The basal unit of the Cretaceous is the Glen Rose-Hensel, consisting of gray, yellow, and pink calcareous siltstone and marly clay. The Glen Rose is easily recognized in the lower slopes at the base of the bluffs along the lower Llano River valley. No caves are known or expected in the Glen Rose.

The Edwards Formation, also known as the Edwards Limestone, overlies the Glen Rose and crops out over most of the upland surface and in the upper valley walls of the Llano and James Rivers (see p.5). All of the caves now known in the county occur in the Edwards. Because of its importance to speleogenesis, it will be discussed in some detail.

Rose (1970) has divided the Edwards into two named units: a lower Fort Terrett Member and an upper Segovia Member. These he further subdivided into informally named beds; those of speleologic interest are described below. All are illustrated in the measured section (p. 7-9).

The Fort Terrett Member ranges from 140 feet thick in the northern part of the county to 210 feet in the south. It is transitional to the Glen Rose below through the Basal Nodular Bed, a sandy recessive fossiliferous limestone up to 40 feet thick. Rose's Burrowed Bed is massive resistant limestone or dolomite, commonly rising vertically above the Glen Rose and Basal Nodular Bed along the valley walls. These units are very well displayed at Lovers Leap, just east of Junction on the south side of US 290. The massive Burrowed Bed is 70 to 90 feet thick, is very porous, and is the principal water-bearing unit of the county. It is usually marked by a band of vegetation at its base on the Basal Nodular Bed and by springs and seeps.

The Burrowed Bed also contains most caves in the county; its further examination will yield many more. Massive to thin-bedded dolomite separates the Burrowed Bed from the Kirschberg Evaporite unit.

When Cretaceous rocks were being deposited in this area, part of the shallow sea was a very restricted lagoon in which gypsum was deposited. Today, the only remaining gypsum is found (and quarried) north of Fredericksburg in Gillespie and Menard Counties, but where the gypsum was removed by solution either in Cretaceous time or more recently, the interval is marked by collapse breccias. Spectacular exposures of these breccias, now part of the Kirschberg Evaporite unit, may be seen in roadcuts along IH 10 a few miles east of Junction.

The Segovia Member, 210 to 260 feet thick, overlies the Kirschberg Evaporite, the highest unit of the Fort Terrett. The lower 50 to 80 feet of the Segovia is the marly fossiliferous Doctor Burt Bed. The remainder of the Segovia consists of thin- to medium-bedded cherty limestone, dolomite, and caliche. Not far above the Doctor Burt Bed the Allen Ranch Breccia probably marks another interval of solutionally-removed gypsum.

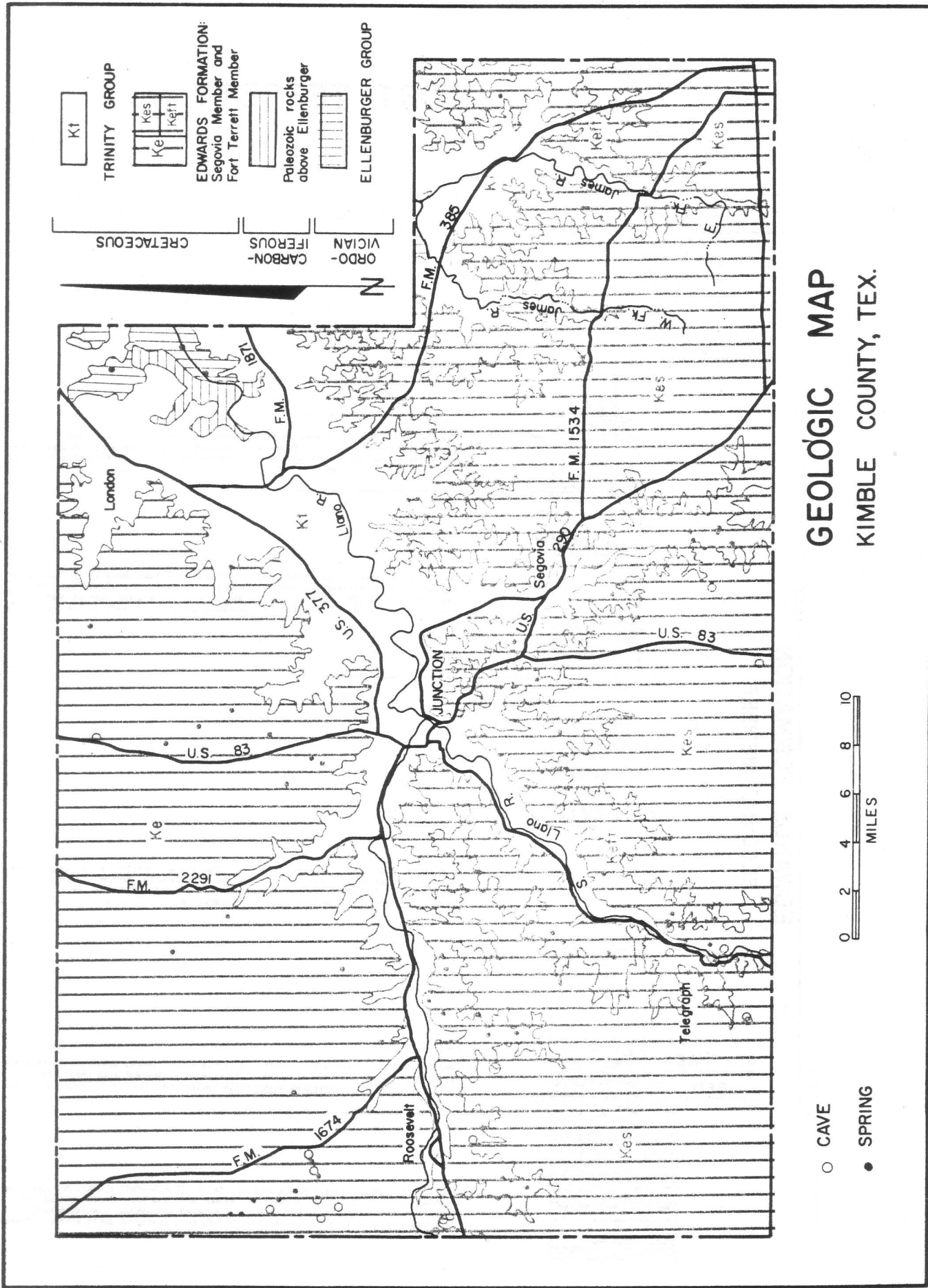
Del Rio clayey limestone, characterized by the fossil oyster, Exogyra arietina, occurs in scattered outcrops in the uplands, but is very thin.

No major structures are known in Kimble County, although Rose (1970) illustrates some very gentle, broad swells and swales. Jointing is not so prominent in guiding cave solution as in the Balcones fault zone to the south, and known systematic joints are probably related to stresses over the broad swells. So-called random joints are common in collapse areas and along valley sides where hard Edwards limestone fractures as soft Glen Rose-Hensel sediments are eroded at the toe of bluffs, clearly illustrated at Lovers Leap.

Stratigraphic control of solution is clear, as shown by the diagram on p. 11. This shows the vertical extent of located caves in Kimble County with respect to stratigraphic units in the Edwards. The Burrowed Bed contains at least 14 caves, with fewer caves at other levels. The structure maps showing the elevation of the base of the Edwards (p. 12) and of the Doctor Burt Bed (p. 13) should be used in conjunction with topographic maps to locate exposures of beds likely to contain caves in Kimble County.

References Cited

- Alexander, W.H., Jr., and J.H. Patman. 1969. "Ground-water resources of Kimble County, Texas." Tex. Water Development Board Rept., 95. 93 p.
- Rodda, P.U., W.L. Fisher, W.R. Payne, and D.A. Schofield. 1966. "Limestone and dolomite resources, Lower Cretaceous rocks, Texas." Bur. Econ. Geol., Rept. Inv., 56. 286 p.
- Rose, Peter. 1970. In press. Bur. Econ. Geol., Rept. Inv.



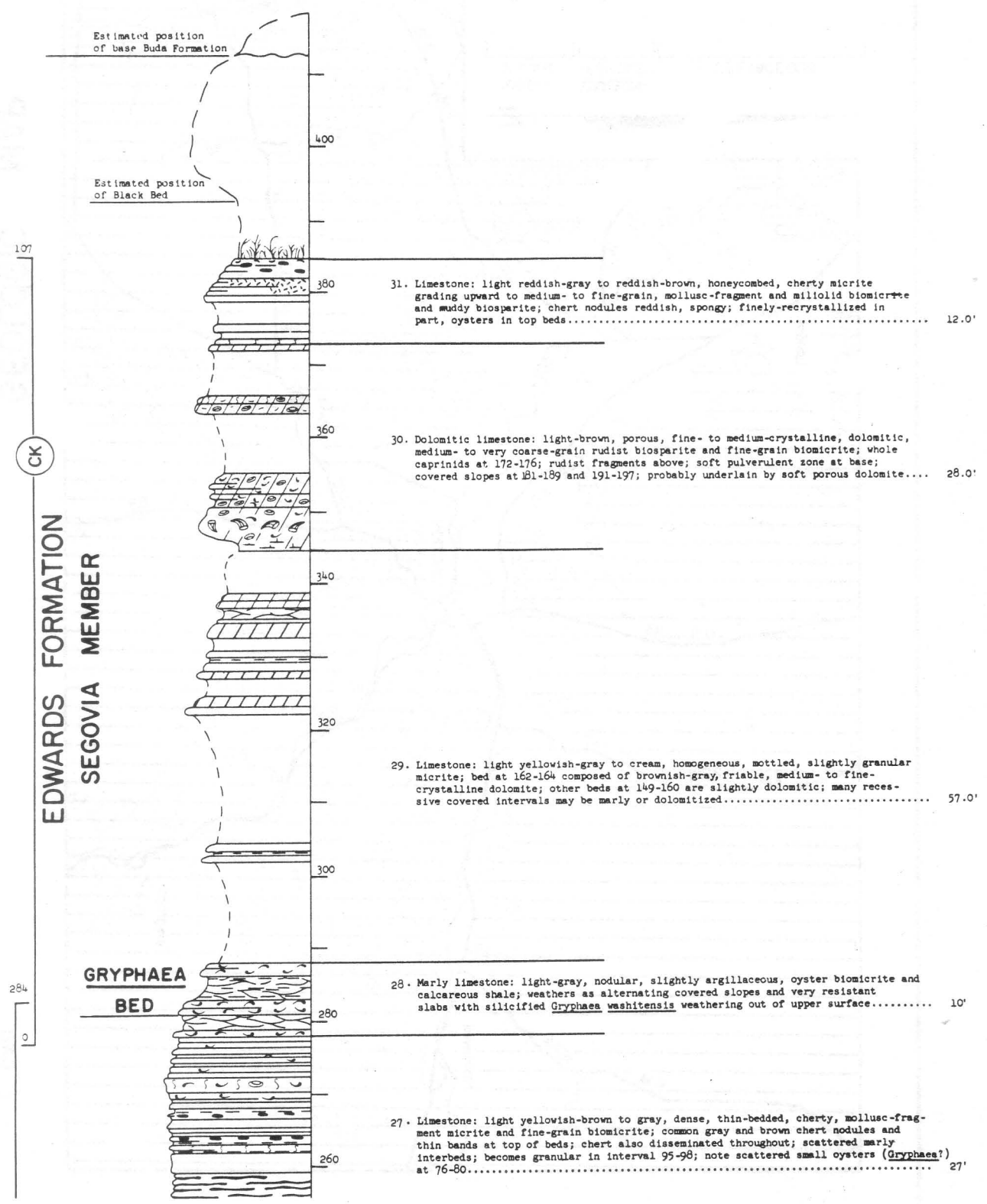
GEOLOGIC MAP

KIMBLE COUNTY, TEX.



- CAVE
- SPRING

FORT TERRETT



FORT TERRETT
(Continued)

FT₂

EDWARDS FORMATION

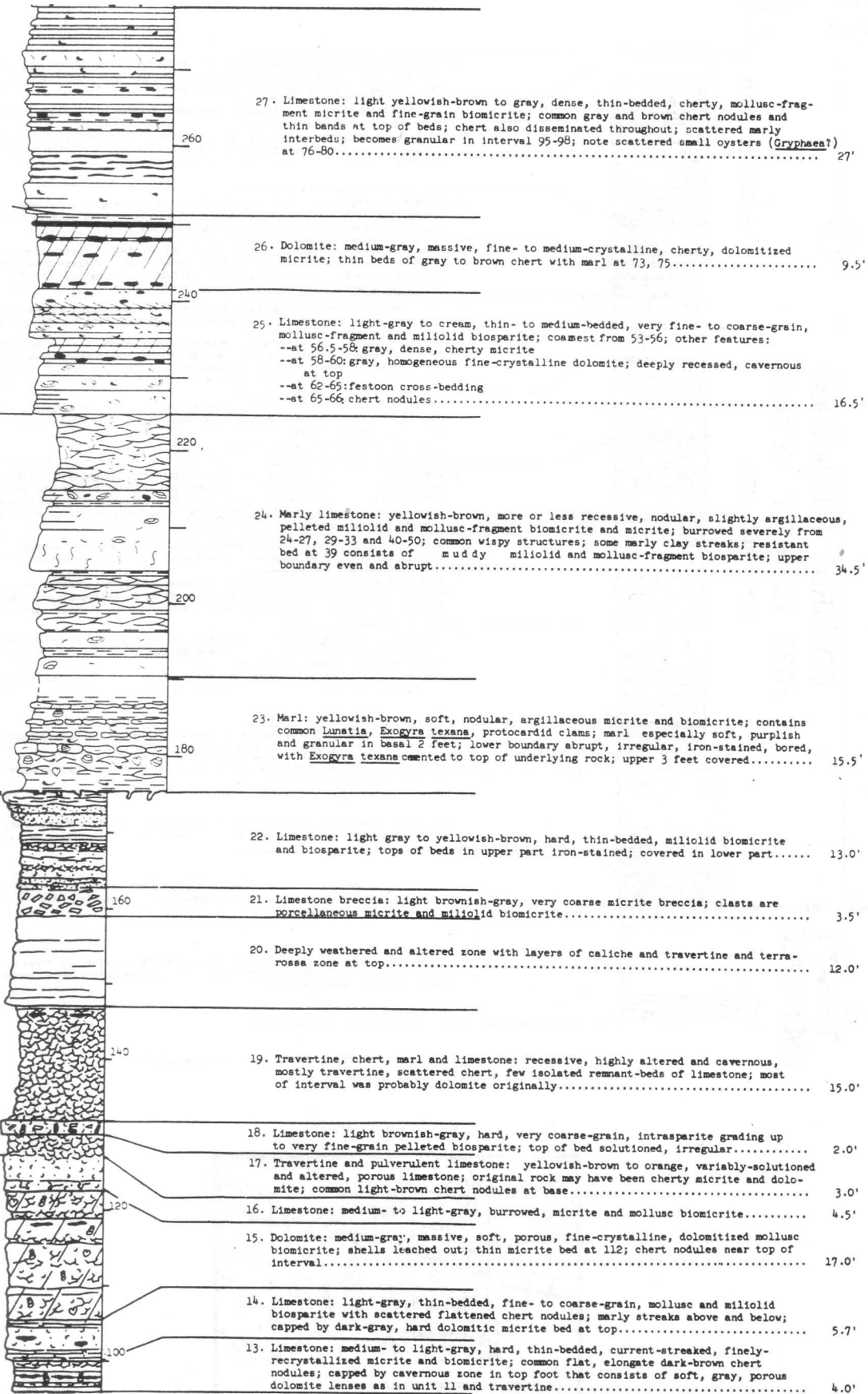
FORT TERRETT MEMBER

KIRSCHBERG EVAPORITE

DOLOMITIC BED

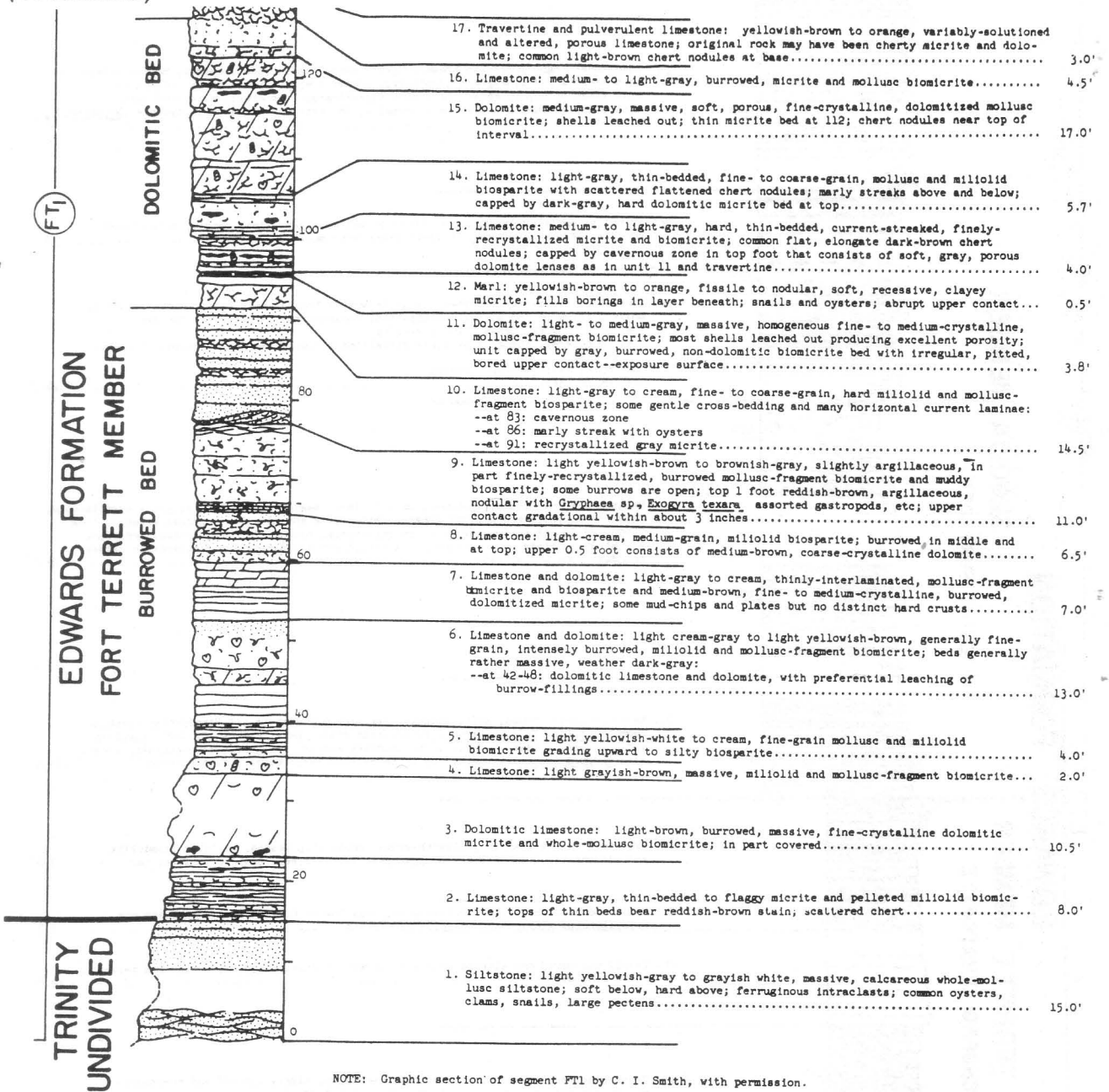
SEGOVIA MEMBER

DOCTOR BURT BED



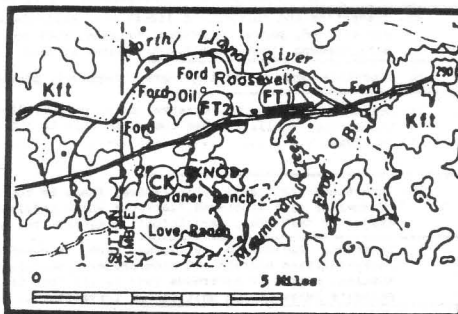
FT₁

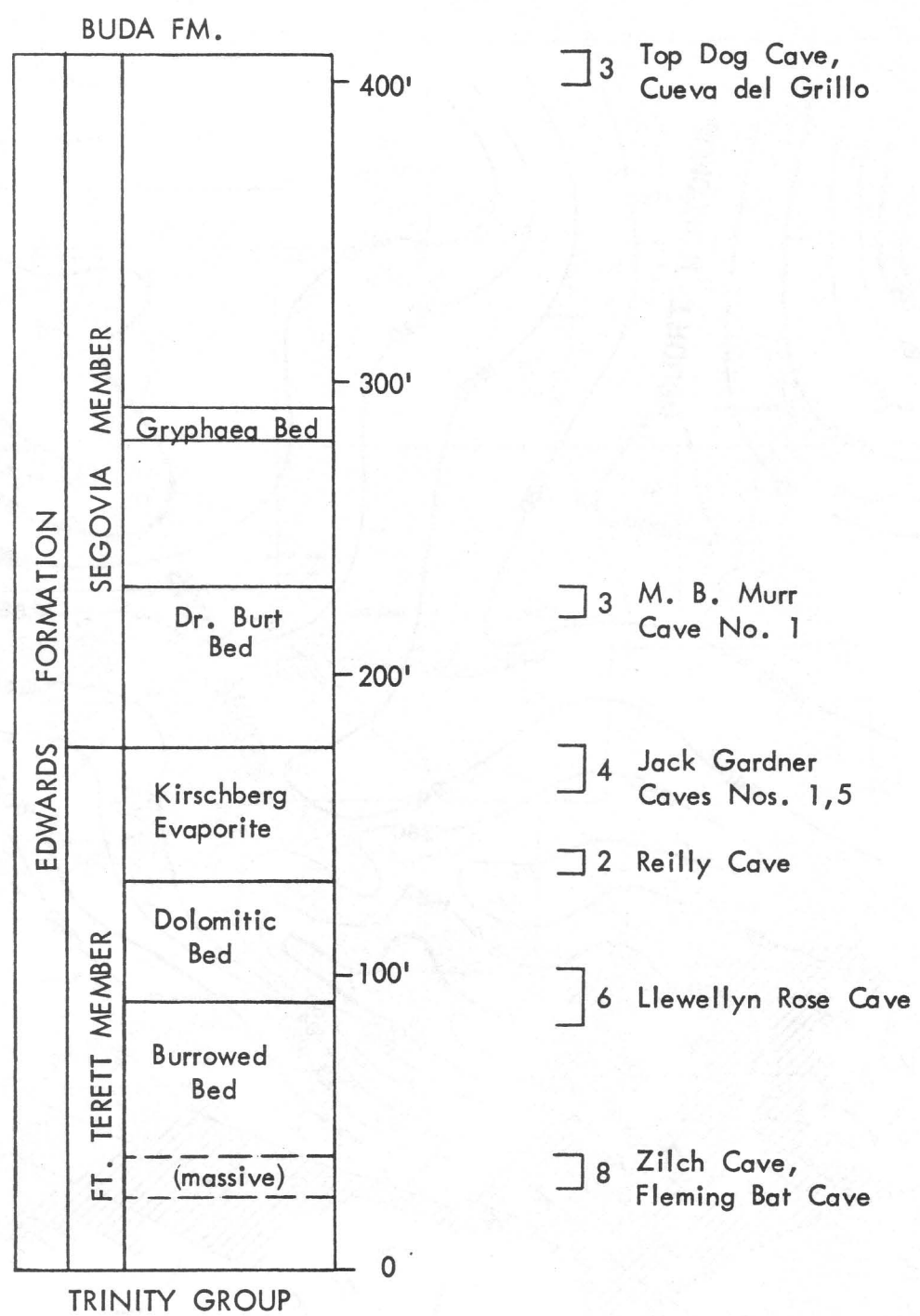
FORT TERRETT
(Continued)



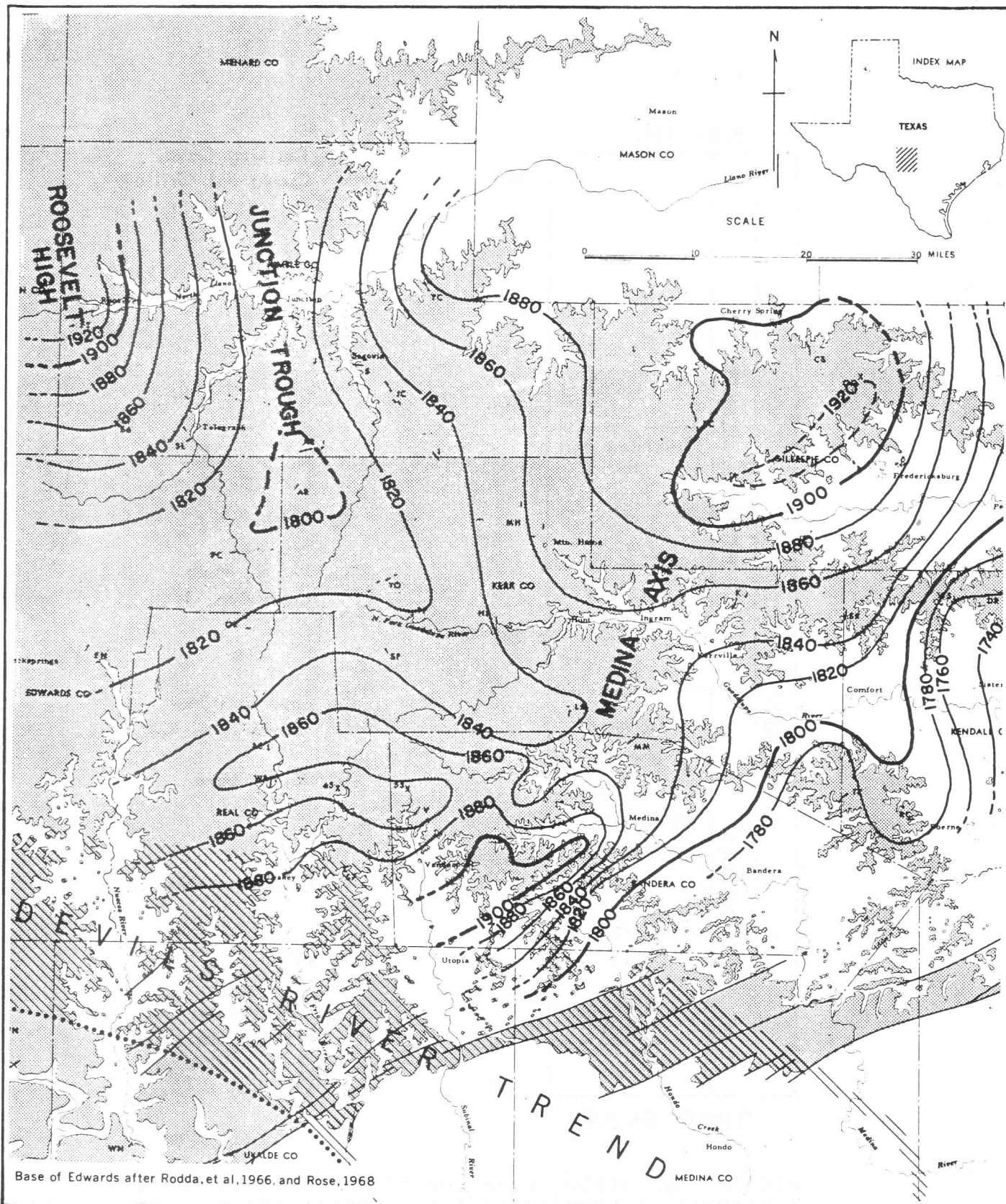
NOTE: Graphic section of segment FT1 by C. I. Smith, with permission.

LOCATION MAP

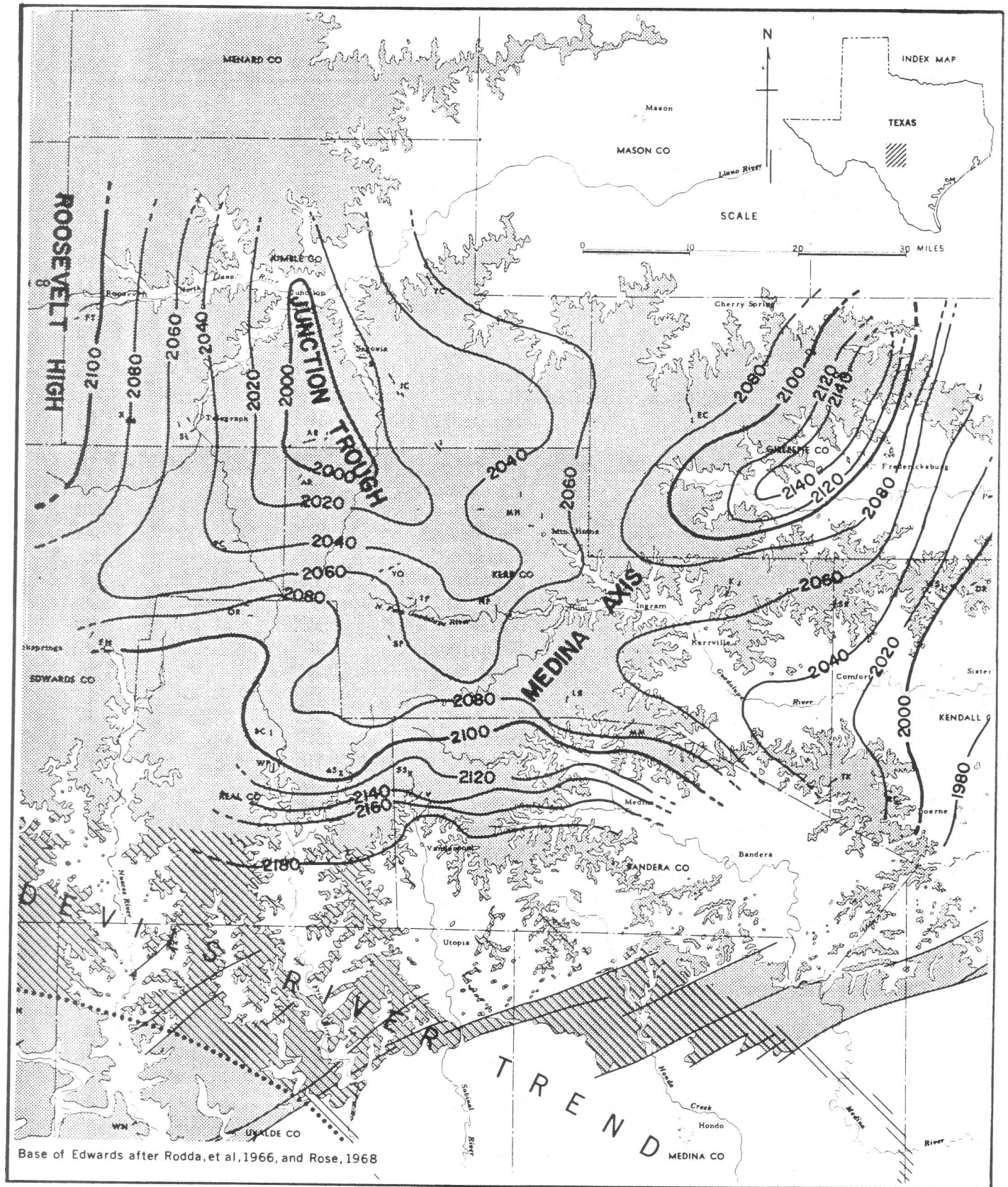




Accurately located caves occur in small vertical intervals at particular levels above the base of the Edwards Group and are closely related to more soluble stratigraphic units in the Edwards. The number of caves and names of prominent or typical caves are shown for each interval.



STRUCTURE ON BASE OF EDWARDS FORMATION
 CONTOUR INTERVAL = 20'
 ELEVATIONS MOSTLY FROM U.S.G.S. 7 1/2" TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS



Base of Edwards after Rodda, et al, 1966, and Rose, 1968

STRUCTURE ON BASE OF DOCTOR BURT BED
 CONTOUR INTERVAL = 20'
 ELEVATIONS MOSTLY FROM U.S.G.S. 7 1/2" TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

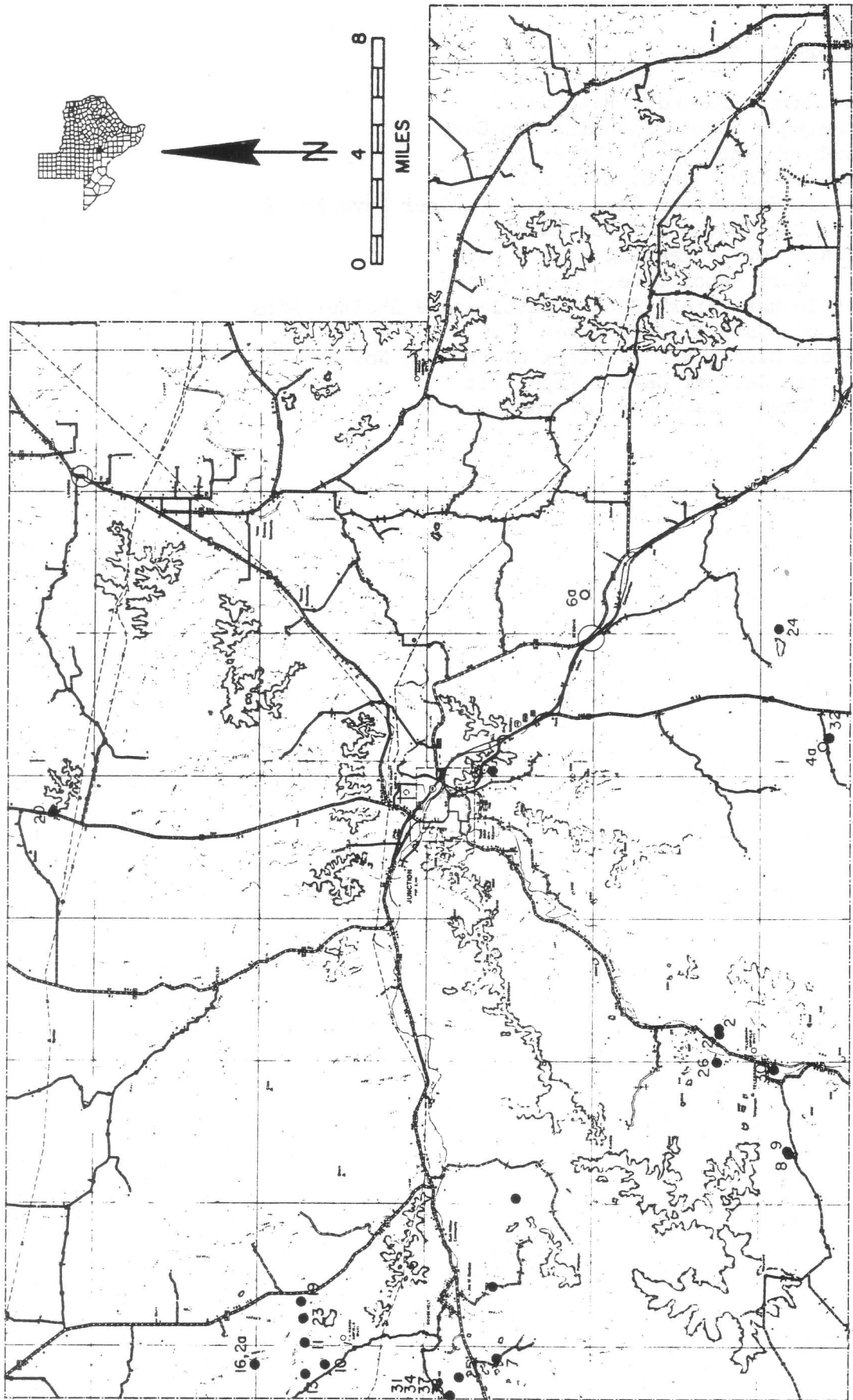
INDEX TO THE CAVES OF KIMBLE COUNTY

TSS NO.	NAME	LOCALITY	LENGTH	DEPTH	PAGE
*1.	Bannowsky Goat Cave	Cleo	250'	0'	17
2.	Flemming Bat Cave	Telegraph	1200'	30'	20
3.	Jack Gardner Cave No. 1	Roosevelt	50'	15'	26
4.	Jack Gardner Cave No. 2	Roosevelt	40'	10'	26
5.	Jack Gardner Cave No. 3	Roosevelt	30'	0'	28
6.	Jack Gardner Cave No. 4	Roosevelt	40'	0'	28
7.	Viper Pit	Roosevelt	135'	90'	42
8.	Garter Snake Cave	Telegraph	50'	35'	24
9.	Llewellyn Rose Cave	Telegraph	600'	100'	31
10.	M.B. Murr Sink No. 1	Roosevelt	10'	24'	33
11.	M.B. Murr Sink No. 2	Roosevelt	150'	15'	33
13.	Reilly Cave	Roosevelt	150'	15'	35
*14.	Taylor Cave	Roosevelt	65'	25'	39
*15.	200 Ft. Long Four Mile Cave	Cleo	200'	0'	41
16.	Apple Cave	Roosevelt	20'	10'	17
*17.	Beetle Cave	Cleo	100'	20'	17
*18.	Coleman's Indian Shelter	Junction	30'	0'	18
19.	Critter Cave	Roosevelt	150'	0'	19
20.	Cueva del Grillo	Menard	30'	2'	19
21.	Dirt Cave	Telegraph	30'	0'	20
22.	Gardner Cave	Roosevelt	35'	6'	22
23.	Goat Grotto	Roosevelt	30'	0'	24
24.	Hole	Segovia	8'	20'	25
25.	Joy Cave	Roosevelt	150'	35'	28
26.	Leaning Lizard Cave	Telegraph	70'	20'	29
27.	Racy View	Junction	100'	40'	35
*28.	Scorpion Cave	Cleo	75'	20'	37
*29.	Stapp Cave	?	50'	15'	37
30.	Stevenson Bluff Cave	Telegraph	60'	0'	39
31.	Thiers Bluff Cave No. 1	Roosevelt	70'	0'	40
32.	Top Dog Cave	Segovia	30'	3'	41
*33.	Wonder Blow-Hole	Cleo	15'	30'	42
34.	Zilch Cave	Roosevelt	840'	0'	44
*35.	-Peccary Sink	Roosevelt	35'	?	35
36.	Jack Gardner Cave No. 5	Roosevelt	150'	15'	28
37.	Thiers Bluff Cave No. 2	Roosevelt	35'	0'	40
38.	Thiers Bluff Cave No. 3	Roosevelt	60'	0'	40
*39.	Paint Creek Cave	Telegraph	?	?	33

Shelters and Doubtful Caves

*1a.	Copperas Creek Cave	Roosevelt	15'	8'	46
2a.	M.B. Murr Sink No. 3	Roosevelt	10'	10'	46
*3a.	Picket Fence Cave	Cleo	20'	0'	46
4a.	Rattlesnake Shelter Sink	Segovia	15'	4'	46
*5a.	Shucks	Cleo	12'	4'	47
6a.	2000 Goat Shelter	Segovia			47
*7a.	Unnamed hole	?			47

Caves marked by an asterisk are too poorly located to be shown on the location map.



KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS

NUMBERS ARE KEYED TO INDEX

- CAVES
- SHELTERS

Alternate Names

Bat Cave - Flemming Bat Cave
Fleming's Cave - Flemming Bat Cave
Gardner Ranch Cave - Viper Pit
Haschke Cave - M.B. Murr Sink No. 2
Hungry Salamander Cave - Jack Gardner Cave No. 2
Live Dog Cave - Top Dog Cave
Lizard Cave - Leaning Lizard Cave
M.B. Murr Ranch Cave - Reilly Cave
Rattlesnake Trash Sink - Rattlesnake Shelter Sink
Stepp's Cave - Stapp Cave
Thiers Bluff Cave - Thiers Bluff Cave No. 1
Wilbern Gardner Cave - Viper Pit
Wind Cave - Jack Gardner Cave No. 1

APPLE CAVE

Kimble County (KK16)

McKegan Draw 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: A 3' diameter solution sink drops into one side of a 20' diameter room with no leads. This small cave was dry. At the time of exploration it contained crickets and tumblebugs but none were collected. Total depth is about 10'. It was explored by Butch Summar and others during the 1967 TSA Region Project.

Ref: Butch Summar

BEETLE CAVE

Kimble County (KK17)

No quadrangle

Owner: Molesworth

Description: A 5' deep sink entrance slopes into the north side of an irregularly shaped room from which small extensions lead a few feet before dead-ending. A 10' deep pit lies at the end of a 5' long passage to the west near the entrance. The cave was explored by Pat Wertheim and others on 3 September 1967. The cave was dry.

Biology: A spider, Psilochorus sp., and a tenebrionid beetle, Embaphion muricatum muricatum (Say) have been identified from the cave. Other fauna includes "bloodsuckers" and other insects.

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.

Ref: Pat Wertheim

BANNOWSKY GOAT CAVE

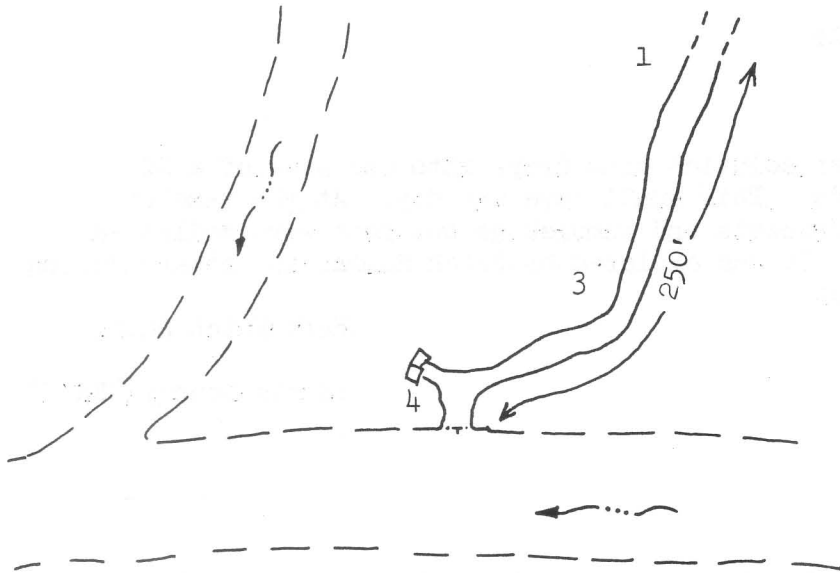
Kimble County (KK1)

No quadrangle

Owner: W.A. Bannowsky Estate

Description: The cave is very small but about 250' long. Most of this distance can be crawled, but the last 50' is very low. The entrance is located below a large tree trunk and measures 10' wide by 4' high. A small passage to the left is blocked by huge loose rocks and is very dirty. The right-hand passage is the main passage and curves to the left after about 50', becoming gradually lower and wider. The cave is very dirty and is at times inhabited by goats. There are no speleothems, but many thin slabs of rock have "peeled" from the ceiling. Small red ticks, fleas, and mites were observed. The cave was explored by members of the Abilene Grotto. (See sketch map, p. 18)

Bibliography: Anonymous. 1961. "Rocks and rams--." Texas Caver, 6(3):33-34.
Ref: Abilene Grotto



BANNOWSKY GOAT CAVE
No North Arrow

COLEMAN'S INDIAN SHELTER

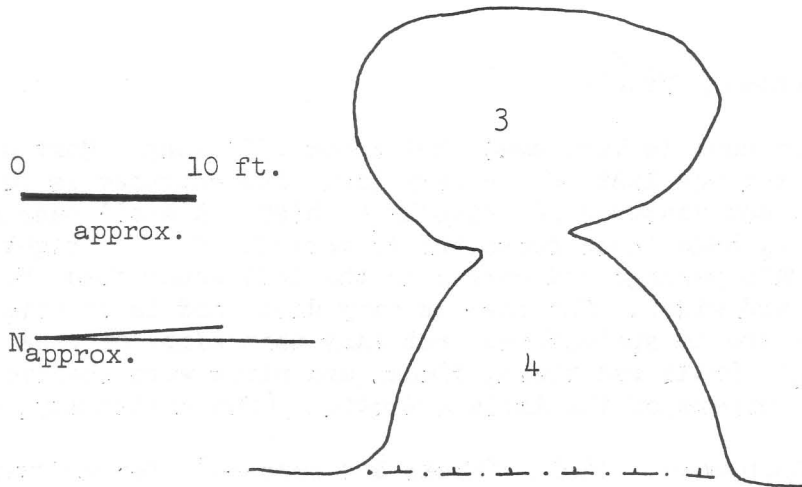
Kimble County (KK 18)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: Fred Coleman

Description: The shelter-like entrance in the side of a draw is 15' wide and 4' high. The cave narrows to about 8' about 15' inside, then opens out into a 15' diameter room, 3' high. The cave was explored by David Meredith, Sharon Smith, Eugene Haydon, Mike Moody, and Jon Vinson, 2 September 1967.

Ref: David Meredith.



CRITTER CAVE

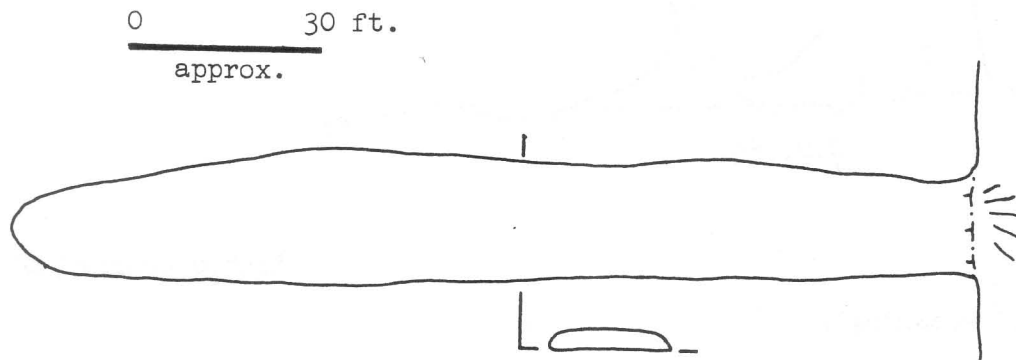
Kimble County (KK 19)

McKegan Draw 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: Asa Murr

Description: The shelter-opening 25' up a 40'-high bluff is 15' wide and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' high from which the cave extends back into the hill 150' essentially the same size, narrowing some toward the read. Goats and other "critters" live in the cave. It was explored by Dick Goss, Bob Dunn, and Jim Halpin 3 September 1967 during the TSA Region Project.

Ref: Dick Goss



CUEVA DEL GRILLO

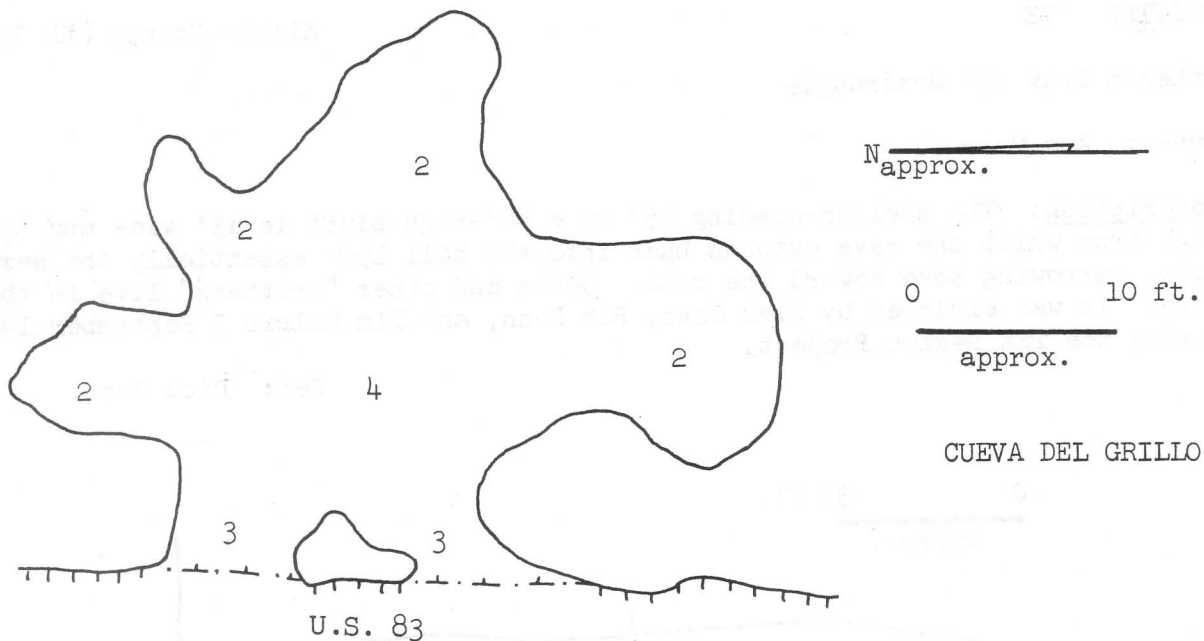
Kimble County (KK 20)

No quadrangle

Owner: State of Texas

Description: The cave has two entrances 3' high and 5' wide separated by 5' of the pink nodular limestone in which the cave is formed. Both entrances are at highway level in the east side of a roadcut. They slope slightly down to a 2'-4' high amoeboid room, 30' from entrance to back and 40' maximum width. The cave was dry and contained harvestmen and crickets when explored by Ruben M. (Bud) Frank, 17 March 1966. (See sketch map, p. 20)

Ref: Bud Frank



DIRT CAVE

Kimble County (KK 21)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: Allison

Description: A 12' wide by 4½' high shelter-like entrance narrows to a low crawl extending to the right about 30' before becoming too low. Digging might yield further passage. Dirt Cave was explored by A.R. Smith and Carol Russell, 2 September 1967. The cave is located near the top of a bluff.

Ref: TSS files

FLEMMING BAT CAVE (BAT CAVE) (FLEMINGS CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 2)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: Allison

Description: The main entrance is 6' wide by 5' high, barely large enough for a jeep. The entrance passage slopes down 15 to 20 degrees for about 30', becoming at that point 15' to 25' wide and 6' to 12' high. Two small leads along the left wall of this guano-floored passage end shortly. About 240' from the entrance is a junction. Straight ahead, the ceiling drops to 3' to 4', and the crawl meanders 250' to a 10' wide, 3' to 5' high room ending in breakdown, probably very near the surface. A very low crawl to the left at the beginning of the room leads 15' into a subparallel passage. To the right it goes 30' before becoming too small; to the left, it is a 4' to 7' high passage a few feet wide which, after 320', opens near the bottom of the cliff above Flemming Creek. Back at the first junction (240' from the main entrance) the left-hand passage opens up almost immediately to become a 30'

high, 10' to 20' wide passage known as the Bat Rooms. This large passage goes 200' before narrowing to 4' wide and lowering to 12' high over guano-covered breakdown. From here the passage is a very irregular and difficult stoop-crawl, 2' to 6' high, finally ending in a 15' diameter dome room. (See map, p. 23.)

Biology: The fauna of Flemming Bat Cave is typically that of a large bat cave, but it also has one blind species of spider (Cicurina sp.) and several non-bat-related troglaphiles. The first known collection in the cave was made 11-12 July 1954 by Raymond E. Ryckman, Dean Spencer, and C.P. Christianson (Ryckman, 1956). At that time they collected bats, flies, fleas, cave crickets, mites, ticks, and spiders. A second collection was made by James Reddell during the TSA Region Project, September 1967. The following is a complete faunal list of material identified from the cave:

Scorpions

Vejovis sp. - troglaphile; females with young were collected

Spiders

Cicurina sp. -- troglaphite; found under rocks

Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik--troglaphile; found under rocks

Eperigone antraea (Crosby) -- troglaxene

Gaucelmus augustinus Keyserling -- troglaphile; found hanging from walls

Achaearanea porteri (Banks) -- troglaphile; found hanging from walls

Mites

Spinturnix carloshoffmanni Hoffman -- troglaxene

Ticks

Antricola coprophila (McIntosh) -- troglaphile; found on guano

Ornithodoros yumatensis Cooley and Kohls -- troglaxene or troglaphile

Collembola

Pseudosinella violenta (Folsom) -- troglaphile; abundant

Fleas

Myodopsylla sp. -- associated with bats

Crickets

Ceuthophilus cunicularis Hubbell -- troglaxene

Flies

Phyllomyzidae

Leptometopa n.sp., nr latipes (Meigen) -- troglaphile; abundant on guano

Streblidae

Trichobius major Coq. -- troglaphile; found on bats and guano

Beetles

Carabidae

Rhadine howdeni (Barr and Lawrence) -- troglaphile

Staphylinidae

Belonuchus sp., nr. moquinus Casey -- troglaphile

Bats

Myotis velifer incautus (Allen) -- troglaxene

Tadarida brasiliensis mexicana (Saussure) -- troglaxene

Ringtails

Bassariscus astutus (Lichtenstein) -- troglaxene

History: Although Flemming Bat Cave has been mined for guano at various times, nothing is known to the editors as to the exact time or extent of mining activity. The cave was reported by White (1948) to be a "series of tunnels

and tubes extending some distance into the side of a limestone hill." The next recorded trip to the cave was that of Ryckman, Spencer, and Christianson on 11-12 July 1954. Bob Hudson, George Gray, and other members of the Abilene Grotto explored the cave on 2 January 1960 but failed to make the connection between the cliff entrance passage and the main cave. The cave was revisited by the Abilene Grotto on 12 February 1964 when James Estes, Dewayne Dickey, and George Gray continued explorations in it. Orion Knox and several Bexar Grotto cavers visited it during the summer of 1965. The cave was mapped on 22 February 1966 by Bill Russell, Terry Raines, Bud Stewart, and John Walker of the University of Texas Grotto. It was frequently visited during the TSA Region Project on Labor Day Weekend of 1967.

- Bibliography: Anonymous. 1964. "Abilene Grotto News." *Texas Caver*, 9(3):47.
_____. 1964a. "University of Texas Grotto News." *Texas Caver*, 9(3):48-49.
_____. 1965. "University of Texas Grotto News." *Texas Caver*, 10(9):185.
Eads, R.B., G.C. Menzies, and B.G. Hightower. 1956. "The ticks of Texas, with notes on their medical significance." *Texas J. Sci.*, 8(1):7-24.
Estes, James. 1961. "Noteworthy caverns of Texas." *Texas Almanac*, 1961-1962:60-63.
Hudson, Bob. 1955. "Caves of Big Bend, Texas." *Natl. Speleol. Soc. News*, 13(7):5, 8.
Reddell, James, ed. 1964. "A guide to the caves of Texas." *Natl. Speleol. Soc. Convention Guidebook*. 63 pp.
_____. 1965. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. I. The Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." *Texas J. Sci.*, 17(2):143-187.
_____. 1966. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. II. Insecta." *Texas J. Sci.*, 18(1):25-56.
_____. 1967. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. III. Vertebrata." *Texas J. Sci.*, 19(2):184-226.
_____. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." *Texas J. Sci.*, 21(4):389-415.
_____. 1970a. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. V. Additional records of Insecta." *Texas J. Sci.*, 22(1):47-65.
Ryckman, R.E. 1956. "Parasitic and some nonparasitic arthropods from bat caves in Texas and Mexico." *Amer. Midl. Nat.*, 56(1):186-190.

Ref: Abilene Grotto
TSS files

GARDNER CAVE

Kimble County (KK 22)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Jack Gardner

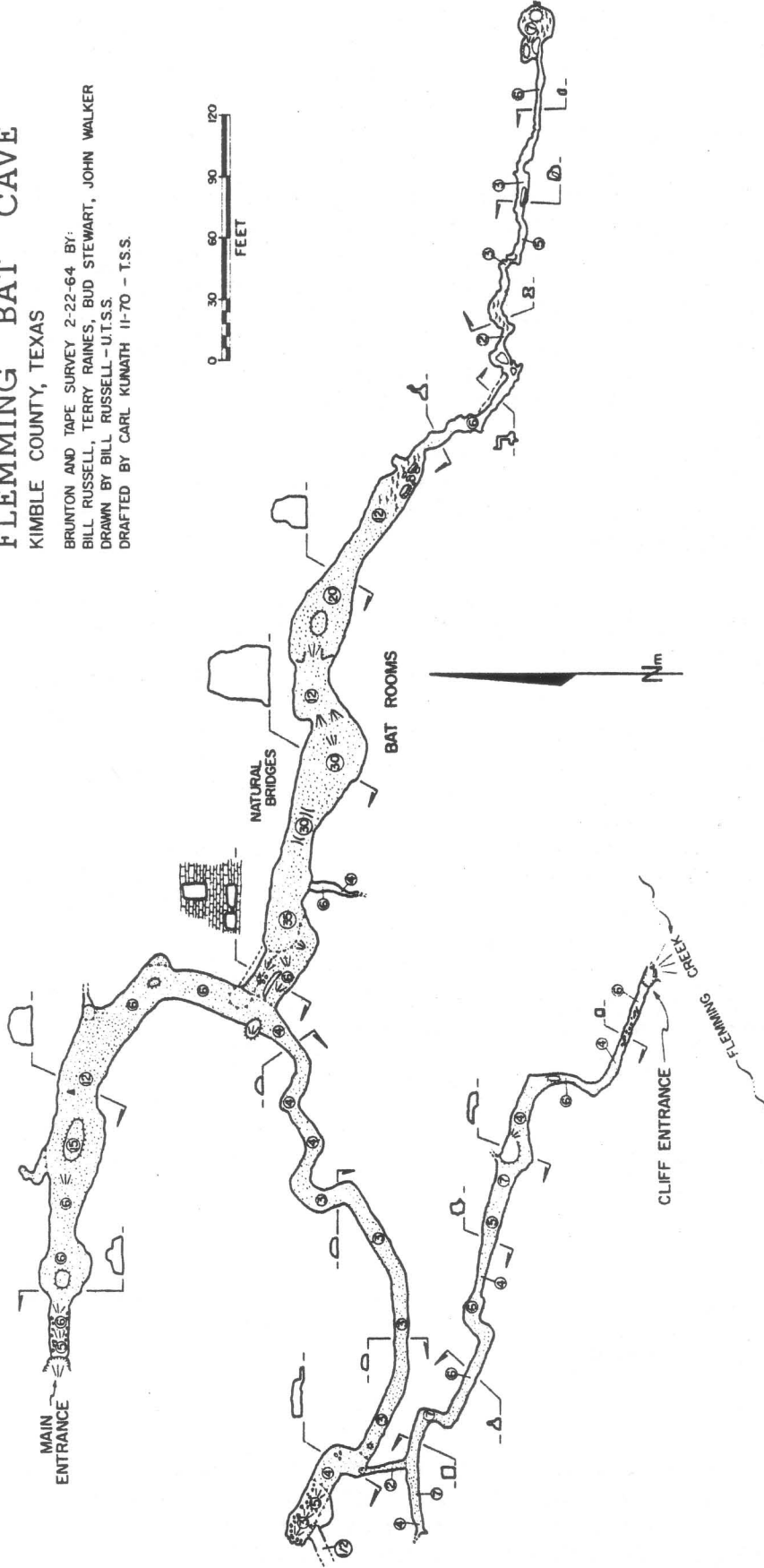
Description: A 6' drop leads into a room 10' wide, 35' long, and 2' high. Gardner Cave was explored by Jim McLane, Bill Campbell, and Charles Fromen, 3 September 1967, during the TSA Region Project.

Ref: Jim McLane

FLEMING BAT CAVE

KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS

BRUNTON AND TAPE SURVEY 2-22-64 BY:
BILL RUSSELL, TERRY RAINES, BUD STEWART, JOHN WALKER
DRAWN BY BILL RUSSELL - U.T.S.S.
DRAFTED BY CARL KUNATH 11-70 - T.S.S.



GARTER SNAKE CAVE

Kimble County (KK 8)

No quadrangle

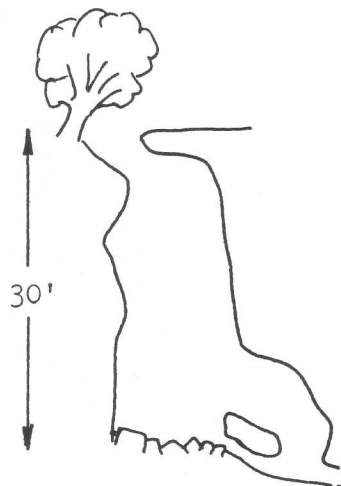
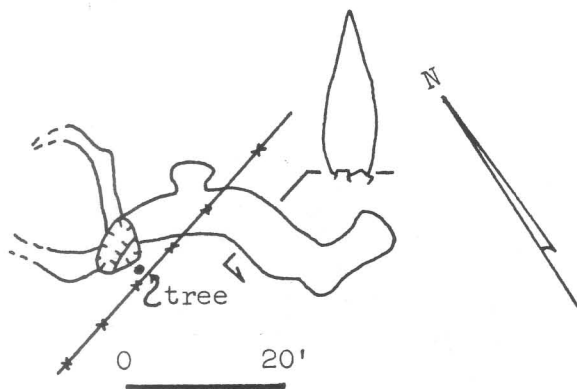
Owner: Llewellyn Rose

Description: A 30' vertical drop by a large tree leads into a 20'-25' high passage to the southeast. This passage is really only an elongated dome, 5' wide and 40' long. A small passage going north from the entrance room becomes too small after 10'. Another small passage going northwest from the entrance room was not explored because it contained several rattlesnakes when the cave was sketch-mapped by David Jackson on 3 September 1967. The cave was explored previously by David McKenzie and other members of the University of Texas Grotto in the mid-1960's.

Biology: A small collection of spiders was made by David McKenzie. Three species have been identified: Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik (troglophile), Achaearanea porteri (Banks) (troglophile), and Drassyllus devexus Chamberlin (troglaxene or accidental).

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.

Ref: David McKenzie
David Jackson



GOAT GROTTTO

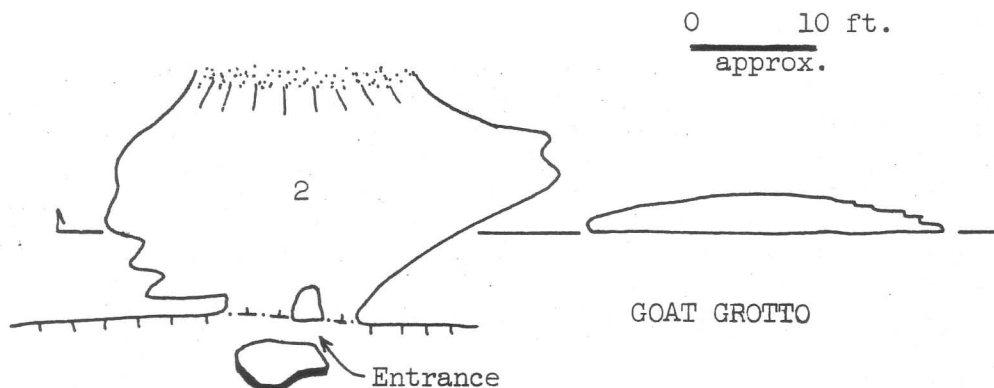
Kimble County (KK 23)

McKegan Draw 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Asa Murr

Description: A 4' wide hole behind a large broken-off slab leads into a room 30' wide extending back into the bluff for 20'. The ceiling is 1'-3' above the floor. Goats occupy the cave at times. The entrance is in a 15' vertical bluff. Goat Grotto was explored by Dick Goss and Jim Halpin, 3 September 1967. (See sketch map, p. 25.)

Ref: Dick Goss



HOLE

Kimble County (KK 24)

No quadrangle

Owner: Ed Allen

Description: A 2½' diameter pit drops 20' to the floor of a 4' by 8' room, 6' high with a drain to the east that is too small. The entrance is located 6' above the bottom of a 30' wide gully, and the cave floods during heavy rains. Hole was explored by James Reddell 3 September 1967.

Biology: A small collection of invertebrates was made in the cave by James Reddell. A faunal list follows:

Spiders

Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik -- troglophile; under rocks.

Achaearanea porteri (Banks) -- troglophile; hanging from webs on walls

Beetles

Staphylinidae

Belonuchus sp., nr. moquinus Casey -- troglophile

Tenebrionidae

Embaphion muricatum n.subsp. -- troglaxene

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.

_____. 1970a. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. V. Additional records of Insecta." Texas J. Sci., 22(1):47-65.

Ref: TSS files

JACK GARDNER CAVE NO. 1 (WIND CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 3)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Jack Gardner

Description: Two small pit entrances drop 7' into a room about 10' in diameter. A 4' wide, 2' high passage leads 10' to a junction; the right-hand tight crawl slopes down 30 degrees. Air blows strongly out of this 18" diameter crawl, but it was not pushed at the time because of its size and steep angle. To the left, the main crawl opens into a 25' diameter room, 2' high. The cave was first visited by George Gray, Jim Estes, and Bryant Lilly of the Abilene Grotto on 20 April 1963. It was revisited and sketch-mapped by Jim McLane, Bill Campbell, and Charles Fromen, 3 September 1967. The cave is reported to be a rattlesnake den. (See map, p. 27.)

Ref: Abilene Grotto
Jim McLane

JACK GARDNER CAVE NO. 2 (HUNGRY SALAMANDER CAVE)

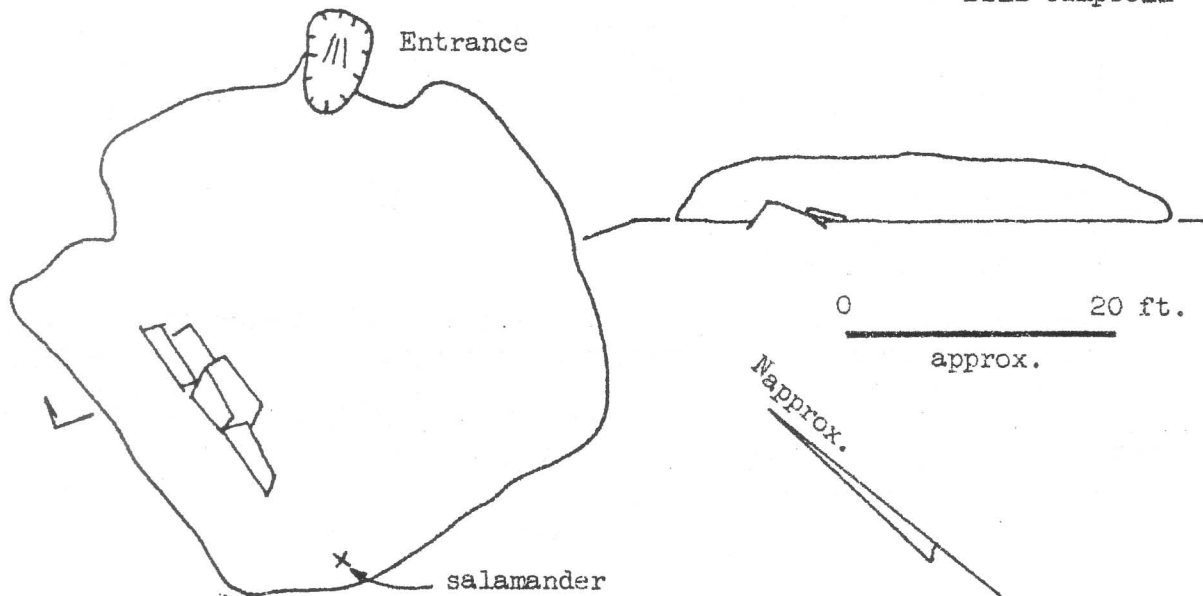
Kimble County (KK 4)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Jack Gardner

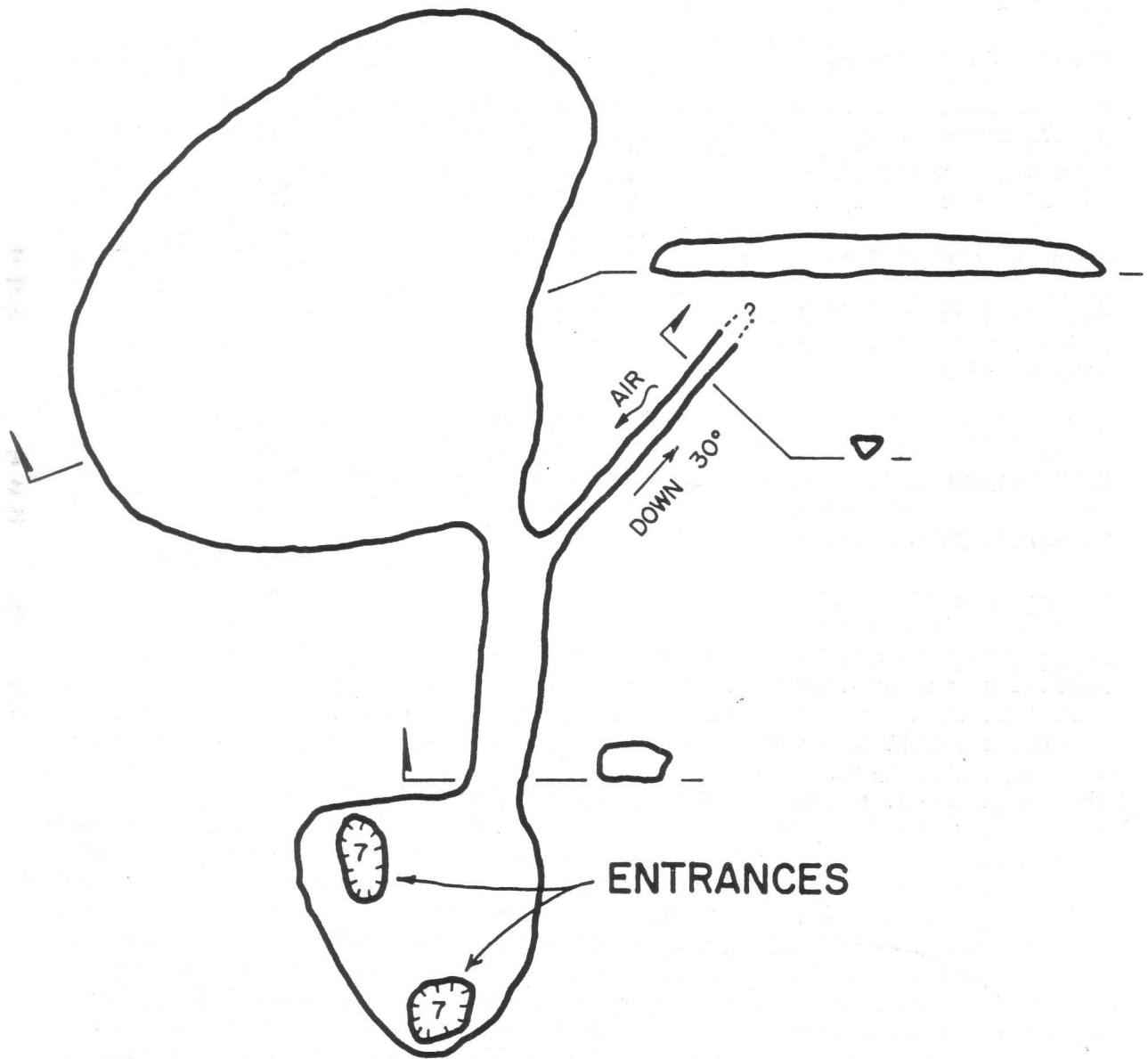
Description: A crawl-in entrance at the base of a low hill leads into the northeast side of a 35' diameter room, 2½' high. The cave is dry and has breakdown along the northwest side. An 8½" long salamander was observed by Jim McLane, Bill Campbell, and Charles Fromen when they explored the cave on 3 September 1967. The cave was first reported and explored by George Gray, Jim Estes, and Bryant Lilly, 20 April 1963.

Ref: Abilene Grotto
Bill Campbell



JACK GARDNER CAVE # 1

KIMBLE CO., TEXAS



ENTRANCES



SKETCH MAP 9-3-67
J. McLANE, B. CAMBELL, C. FROMÉN
DRAFTED 4-71 BY C. KUNATH
T.S.S.

NO NORTH ARROW

JACK GARDNER CAVE NO. 3

Kimble County (KK 5)

Roosevelt 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: Jack Gardner

Description: This small cave, averaging about 3' high, runs northeast into a bluff about 30' before becoming too small. Several cracks lead off but are too small to explore. Goats and small animals use the cave for shelter. It was explored by George Gray, Jim Estes, and Bryant Lilly of the Abilene Grotto, 20 April 1963.

Ref: Abilene Grotto

JACK GARDNER CAVE NO. 4

Kimble County (KK 6)

Roosevelt 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: Jack Gardner

Description: From a 3' high entrance at the head of a small draw, the cave leads more or less southwest for 40' gradually becoming too low to explore. It is commonly used by goats. A small lead at the end continues but is too small. The cave was explored by George Gray, Jim Estes, and Bryant Lilly, 20 April 1963.

Ref: Abilene Grotto

JACK GARDNER CAVE NO. 5

Kimble County (KK 36)

Roosevelt 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: Rufe Holland (?)

Description: The present entrance to the cave is a large rubbly hole 6' deep. At the bottom is a bedding-plane crawl 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' high by 4'-5' wide which goes about 30' to a 120 degree right turn. Prior to exploration, breakdown blocked the crawl just beyond the turn, but it now continues, becoming gradually higher, to a 4'-8' high, 10' wide, 35' long room partly floored with flowstone. It contains many stalactites and roots. On the far wall is a 4' deep fissure with a low unexplored crawl leading from the bottom. At the end opposite the entrance crawl is another fissure, 7' deep, lined with attractive popcorn. Two ringtails were seen in the cave near the former breakdown plug. The entrance was originally a 3" diameter hole blowing large quantities of air and was blasted open by Jack Gardner. The cave was first explored by Charles Fromen, Jim McLane, and Mike Connolly in October 1967.

Ref: Jim McLane

JOY CAVE

Kimble County (KK 25)

Roosevelt 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: H.O. (Dutch) Joy

Description: A 3' by 5' free drop of 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' leads into a cave 150' long. The entrance is located in a dry draw. At the bottom of the drop is a room 22'

by 100'; the floor is partly covered with guano but no bats were seen during exploration. There is a slight amount of air flow out of a small crawl at one end of the main room. Total depth of the cave is 35'. Two 3'-long rattlesnakes, a skink, and a mouse were seen when the cave was explored by Pete Lindsley, Jack Burch, Jim Goodbar, and Jim Morriss of the Dallas-Fort Worth Grotto, 2 September 1967.

Ref: Pete Lindsley

LEANING LIZARD CAVE (LIZARD CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 26)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: S.G. Nelson

Description: The cave is entered by a 4' by 2' sink, 4' deep, from which a passage slopes down to the west. The passage is 5' high near the entrance but becomes 10' high at the base of the entrance slope. About 45' from the entrance the main passage constricts to 4' wide and abruptly lowers to 3'; it immediately enlarges to become a 7' long, 5' wide room, 7' high with a small dome at the rear. A low side passage to the right near the entrance rapidly becomes too small. Another side passage about 30' from the entrance is a 1½' high crawl that leads into a small maze before becoming too small. Leaning Lizard Cave was explored and mapped by Orion Knox, James Reddell, William and Carol Russell, and A. Richard Smith, 3 September 1967. (See map, p. 30.)

Biology: A small collection was made in the cave on the above date. A faunal list follows:

Spiders

- Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik -- troglophile; found under rocks
- Achaeearanea porteri (Banks) -- troglophile; found hanging from walls

Psocids

- Psyllipsocus ramburii Selys-Longchamps -- troglophile; found on decaying wood

Beetles

Alleculidae

- Hymenorus prolixus Casey -- troglophile or troglaxene

Skink

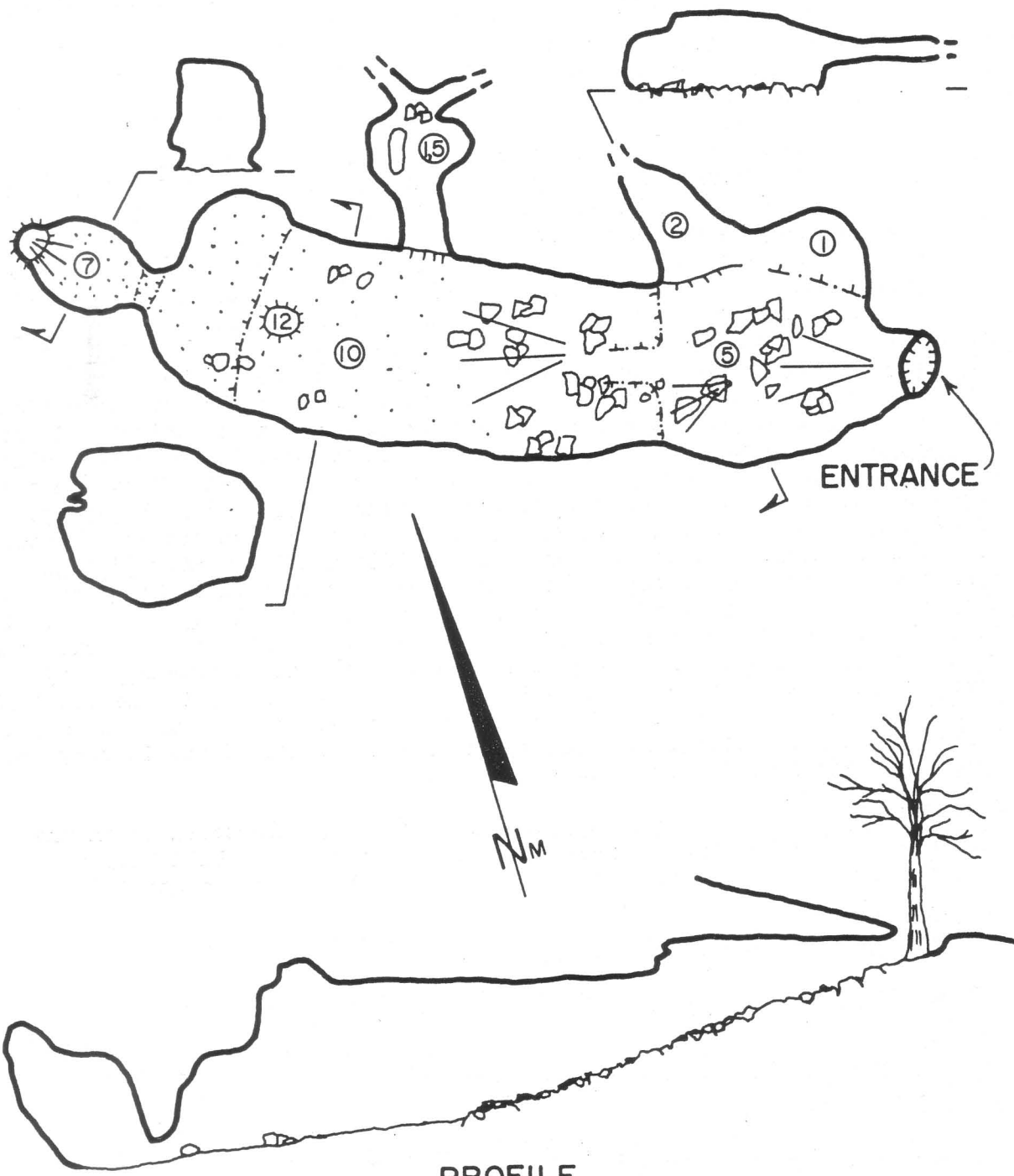
- Eumeces obsoletus (Baird and Girard) -- found in entrance area

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.

_____. 1970a. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. V. Additional records of Insecta." Texas J. Sci., 22(1):47-65.

_____. 1971. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. VI. Additional records of Vertebrata." Texas J. Sci., 22. In Press.

Ref: TSS files



LEANING LIZARD CAVE
KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS

BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY BY UTG, 1967
DRAWN BY A. RICHARD SMITH
DRAFTED BY C. KUNATH 6-70

LLEWELLYN ROSE CAVE

Kimble County (KK 9)

No quadrangle

Owner: Llewellyn Rose

Description: Entrance to Llewellyn Rose Cave is obtained through an 89' deep shaft in the bottom of a long draw. At the bottom is a 5' high room-like passage extending 25' to the northwest where it dead-ends in a 10' high dome. To the southeast, it narrows slightly, becoming 8' high before it constricts for 10'. Here it opens into a 10' high, 20' diameter room. On the opposite side a 3' high crawl leads 30' into a slightly smaller 8' high room. Up a short slope the passage continues into an irregular 5'-6' high room with small alcoves and a crawl to the right that is too small. At the far end a 1½' high crawl goes north 15' into another east-west room 40' long and 15' wide floored with mud and breakdown. Passages developed along north-south joints lead both directions from the far end of this final room. To the south the crawl becomes too small; to the north, it leads into a low maze area which has never been completely explored and is not shown on the map (p. 32). From the south side of the entrance room a 4' high passage divided by breakdown and stone pillars leads into the westward continuation of the main passage. This section is about 200' long, becoming 3' high near the end, and terminating in a 6' high small room with a short crawl to the south. Total length of the cave is about 600'; total depth is probably about 100'. The floor of much of the cave is covered with organic-rich mud; breakdown is also abundant. The cave was explored and sketch-mapped by David McKenzie and others of the University of Texas Grotto in the mid-1960's. When the cave was explored again on 3 September 1967 by Joe Sumbera, David Jackson, and Bill Miller, Joe Sumbera sketch-mapped it. There is very good agreement between the two maps.

Biology: David McKenzie made a small collection of invertebrates in the cave when he visited it. Joe Sumbera, David Jackson, and Bill Miller reported a rattlesnake and a toad in the cave. A list of identified material follows:

Millipeds

Cambala speobia (Chamberlin) -- troglobite

Spiders

Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik -- troglophile

Collembola

Pseudosinella violenta (Folsom) -- troglophile

Beetles

Carabidae

Tachys (Tachyura) ferrugineus Dej. -- troglophile

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.
 _____. 1970a. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. V. Additional records of Insecta." Texas J. Sci., 22(1):47-65.

Ref: David McKenzie
 Joe Sumbera

M. B. MURR SINK NO. 1

Kimble County (KK 10)

No quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: A vertical sink 2' in diameter drops about 20' to a small room 10' long and 4' wide. The cave is dry. Crickets were observed by Jack and Gloria Burch and Blair and Katherine Goodbar of the Dallas-Fort Worth Grotto on 30 December 1961, and again by Butch Summar, James Jasek, and others on 2 September 1967.

Ref: D-FWG files
Butch Summar

M. B. MURR SINK NO. 2

Kimble County (KK 11)

No quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: The entrance is a slit 3' wide and 12' long in loose rock. It drops climbably 12' to a level clay-floored passage 3'-5' high and 15' wide. This passage goes east 25' to an 8' high, 3' wide constriction that opens directly into a 4' high, slightly elongated, 13' wide room with a large mound of flowstone at the far end. West from the entrance the main passage continues 60' where it passes through breakdown and turns southwest into a 30' diameter room, 6' high in the middle and 3'-4' high along the breakdown at the perimeter. There are a few dead stalactites near the entrance and in the eastern room. The cave takes water during wet weather. Jack and Gloria Burch, and Blair and Katherine Goodbar saw four bats, a raccoon, and cave crickets when they first explored the cave 30 December 1961. The cave was mapped by James Jasek, Butch Summar, L. Cantile, and Mike Bales, 3 September 1967. (See map, p. 34)

Ref: D-FWG files
James Jasek

PAINT CREEK CAVE

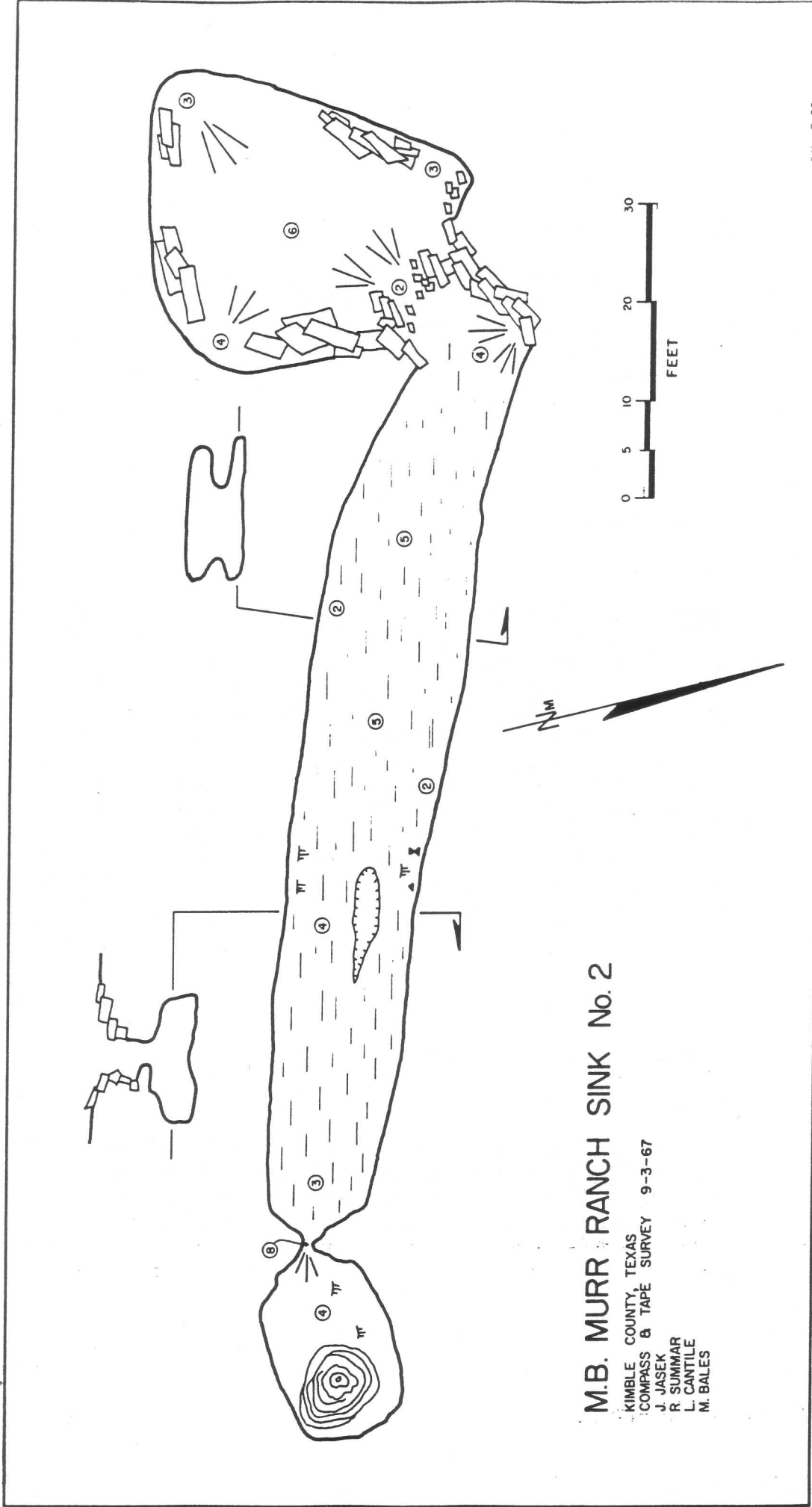
Kimble County (KK 39)

Junction 15' Quadrangle (?)

Owner:

Description: This cave has not been visited by cavers but is locally quite well-known. A group from the Witte Memorial Museum in San Antonio explored the cave partially. They reported it to be a large walking passage for several hundred feet, but they did not reach the end.

Ref: TSS files



M.B. MURR RANCH SINK No. 2

KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS
 COMPASS & TAPE SURVEY 9-3-67
 J. JASEK
 R. SUMMAR
 L. CANTILE
 M. BALES

PECCARY SINK

Kimble County (KK 35)

McKegan Draw 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: H.O. Joy

Description: The cave is entered by a 10' by 15' collapse sink that leads into the west side of a room 25' long and about 10' wide. The room narrows to the north to a 6' "dome-pit". Pig bones were found in the southeast corner of the room. In addition, many recent bones were found in the entrance, where abundant ferns and moss grow. This sink apparently drains several acres. Mice were seen during exploration by Ollie Joy, Mike Hughes, Norman and Jacklyn Robinson, 2 September 1967.

Ref: Norman Robinson

RACY VIEW

Kimble County (KK 27)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: State of Texas (?)

Description: A 3' wide, 10' long fissure drops about 13' to a breakdown mass wedged in the fissure. At the bottom the fissure continues to an exit on the cliff face to the west and, to the east, to a 9' drop to a passage leading back under the breakdown to the cliff 15' away where there is a spectacular view of a race track far below. South from the drop, the fissure opens into at least two levels, the upper of which was mapped. The lower level is small and very torturous and was thus not explored. The upper level trends mostly southeast, with several openings to the cliff a few feet away in the first part and an opening above (12' climb) over about 16' of the last part. Total length of the cave is more than 100' with a total depth of about 40' below the upper entrance. A few bats and some guano were noted when the cave was explored and partially mapped by James Reddell and A. Richard Smith, 3 September 1967. The cave is formed in the Burrowed Bed of the Fort Terret Member and has resulted from gravity sliding of heavily jointed massive limestone downslope on Lovers Leap. It is not of solutional origin except perhaps slightly in the lower level. The cave and other nearby caves are dangerous because of the large amount of loose rock barely wedged in the fissures. (See map, p. 36).

Ref: TSS files

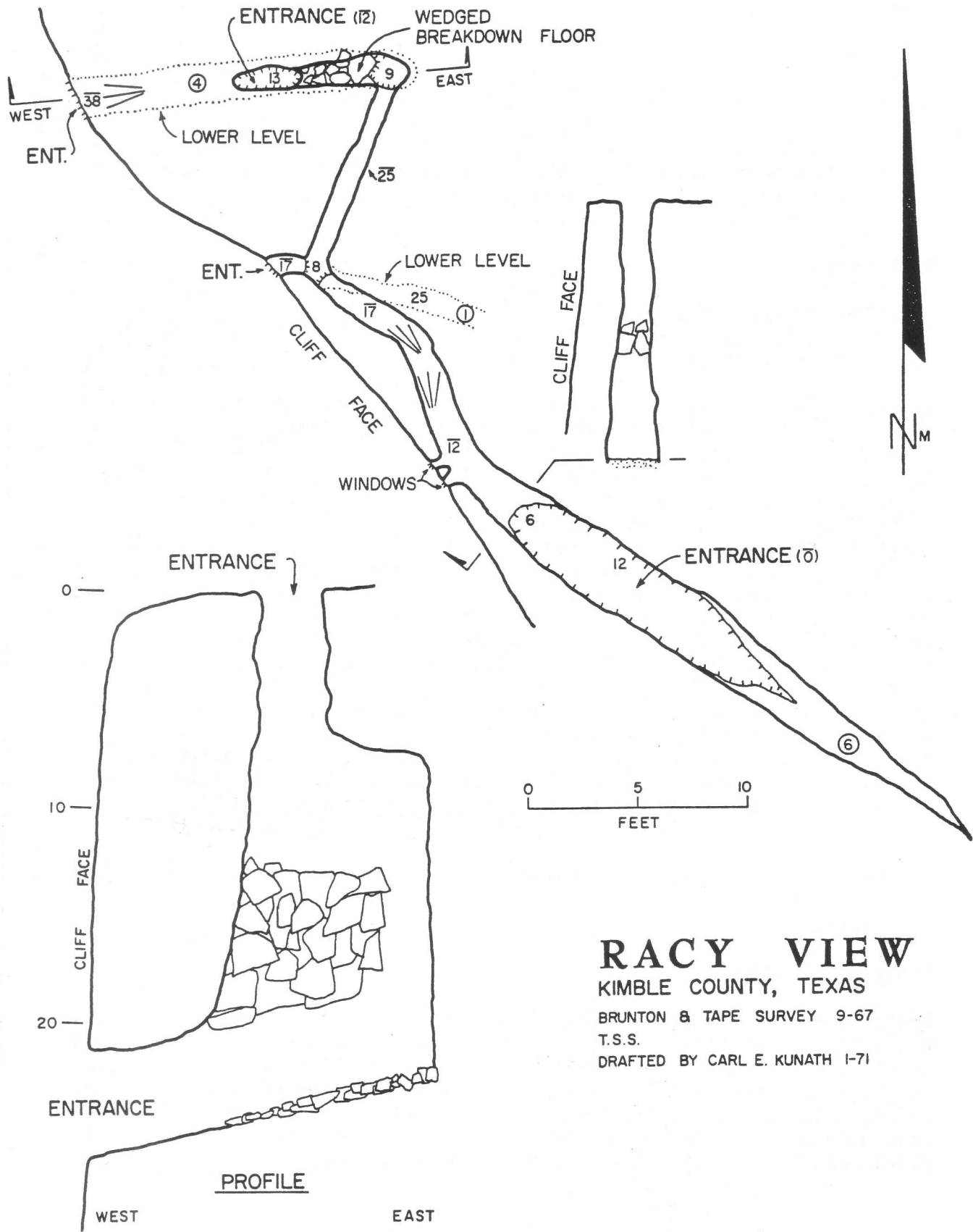
REILLY CAVE (M. B. MURR RANCH CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 13)

No quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: Entrance to Reilly Cave is a 3'-7' high, 30' wide opening 20' above Epps Creek in a 35' high bluff. Flowstone partly divides the entrance into three openings. The entrance room is about 35' square with an alcove at the right rear partially separated by breakdown and flowstone. Ceiling height ranges from 3' near the right wall to 10' in the middle. There are some dead stalactites. From the northeast corner of this room, a 2' high crawl goes 3' into the second room, which is 40' long north-south and 20'



RACY VIEW

KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS

BRUNTON & TAPE SURVEY 9-67

T.S.S.

DRAFTED BY CARL E. KUNATH 1-71

wide. Large flowstone masses in the center of the room hide a low crawl to the southeast that shortly becomes too small to explore. Breakdown, dead stalactites, and flowstone are abundant in this low room. A short step up into a 1' high crawl leads 20' to a third room, 25' long and 20' wide, floored with guano and large breakdown. A fourth room, 15' square, may be entered by a short 1' high crawl from the northeast wall of the third room and through a small pit along the south wall of the second room. The fourth room is also floored with guano and breakdown. Crickets were reported in this dry cave when it was explored by Jack and Gloria Burch, Blair and Katherine Goodbar, and Noel and Lauren Roebuck, members of the Dallas-Fort Worth Grotto on 30 December 1962. The cave was mapped by James Jasek, K. Haschke, L. Cantile, and Butch Summar, 3 October 1967. (See map, p. 38).

Ref: D-FWG files
James Jasek

SCORPION CAVE

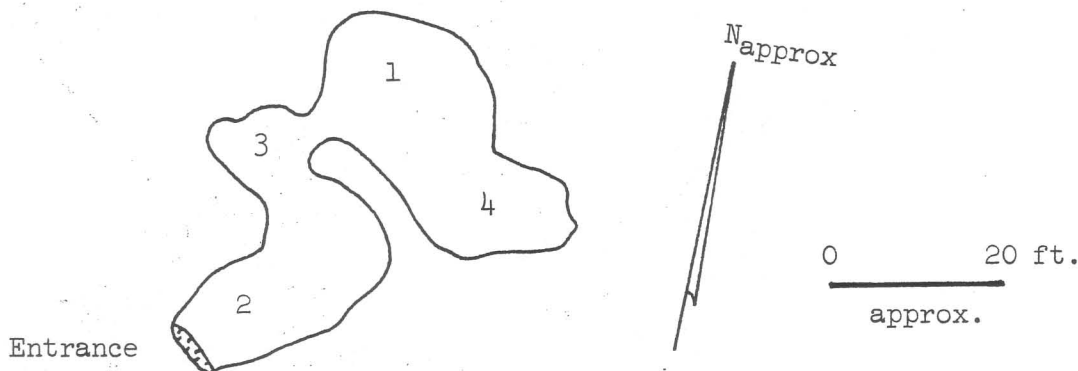
Kimble County (KK 28)

No quadrangle

Owner: Molesworth

Description: A 10' long crack 2' high leads into an irregularly shaped pair of rooms a few feet wide and 1'-4' high. Total length of the cave is about 75'; total depth is about 20'. Dead goats, scorpions, harvestmen, crickets, and spiders were seen in the cave. It was explored by Pat Wertheim and Doug Koepke, 3 September 1967 at which time it was very dry.

Ref: Pat Wertheim



STAPP CAVE (STEPP'S CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 29)

No quadrangle

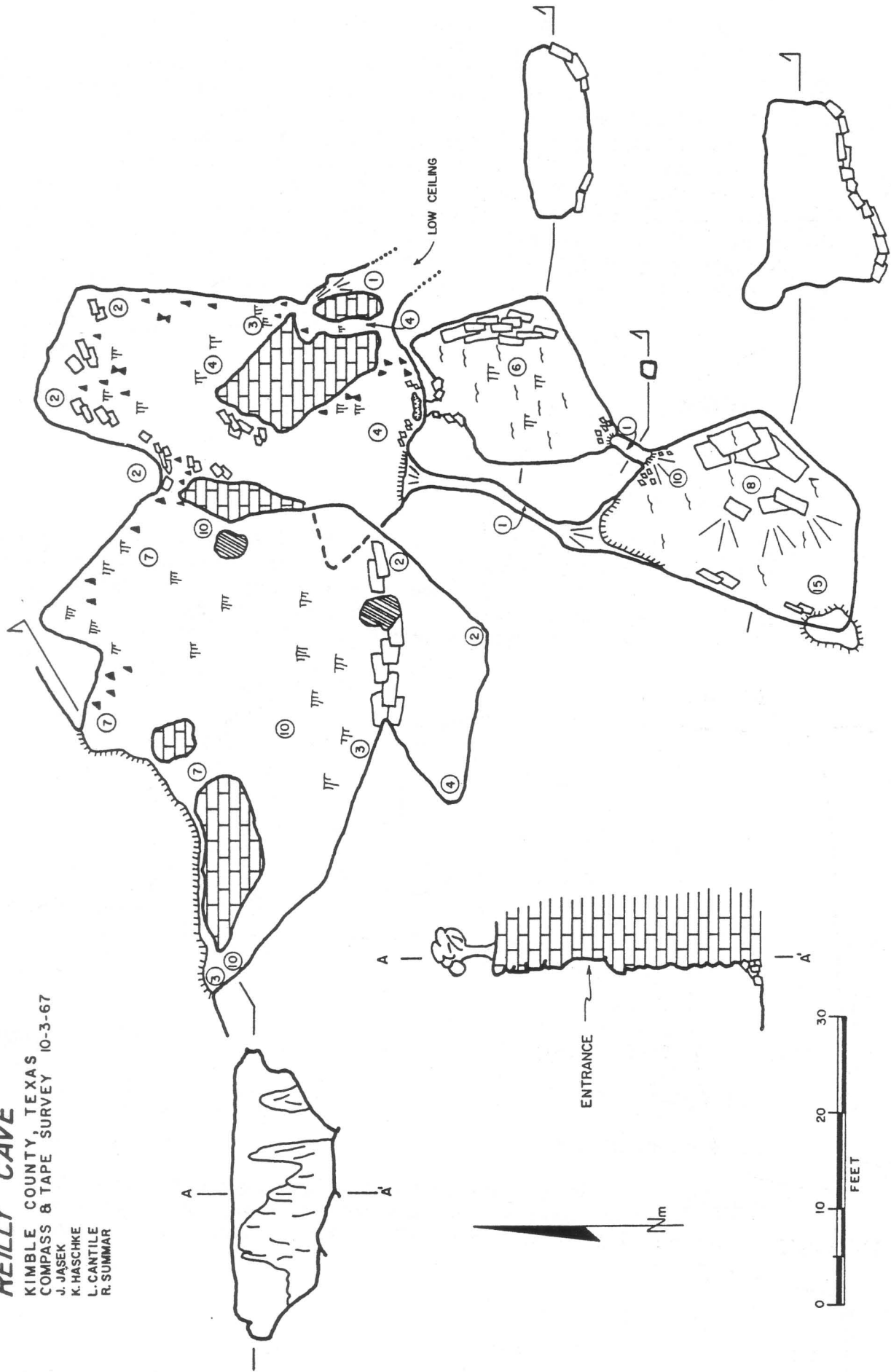
Owner: Mrs. Dillard Stapp

Description: A 4' by 6' sink drops about 10' into one side of a 50' diameter room, for which no light sources are needed to explore. Total depth is 15'. Tom Meador and Gill Ediger reported the presence of crickets, harvestmen,

REILLY CAVE

KIMBLE COUNTY, TEXAS
COMPASS & TAPE SURVEY 10-3-67

J. JASEK
K. HASCHKE
L. CANTILE
R. SUMMAR



beetles, bats, and a toad when they explored the cave on 4 September 1967. A tenebrionid beetle, Embaphion muricatum n.subsp., has been identified from material collected then.

Ref: Tom Meador

STEVENSON BLUFF CAVE

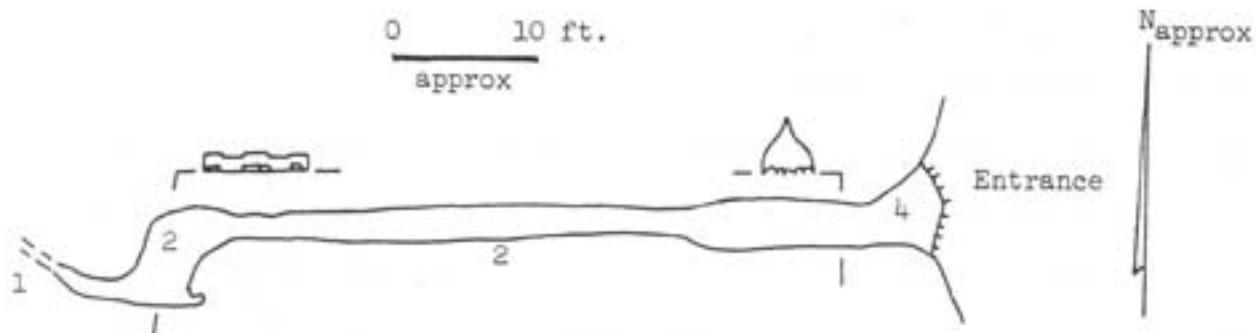
Kimble County (KK 30)

Junction 15' Quadrangle

Owner: Coke Stevenson

Description: The cave entrance is a hole 4' wide and 3½' high located a few feet above the base of a bluff along the South Llano River. From the entrance the cave is a crawl extending at least 60' west into the bluff, finally becoming too small to explore. The owner reports that substantial amounts of water issue from the entrance after heavy rains. The cave contains moths and harvestmen. Air was blowing out when it was explored and sketch-mapped by Joe Sumbera, David Jackson, Dwain Faith, and Bill Miller, 2 September 1967.

Ref: Joe Sumbera



TAYLOR CAVE

Kimble County (KK 14)

No quadrangle

Owner: J.D. Joy

Description: A 25' deep sink drops into a single room 65' long and 3'-6' high. Rope is needed for the entrance. A large hill of trash fills the entire center of this otherwise very pretty cave which contains abundant speleothems. The floor is of damp silt and breakdown. Crickets were noted in the cave when it was explored by Dallas-Fort Worth Grotto members Jack and Gloria Burch, Blair and Katherine Goodbar, and Noel and Lauren Roebuck, 30 December 1961.

Ref: D-FWG files

THIERS BLUFF CAVE NO. 1 (THIERS BLUFF CAVE) Kimble County (KK 31)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Alfred Thiers Estate

Description: The entrance is 7' high and wide and is located 15' above the North Llano River on the fact of a bluff and about 100 yards upstream from Zilch Cave. Immediately inside, the floor rises 2', the ceiling lowers to 2½' high, and the passage narrows to 4'. After 30', the crawl becomes 3' wide and high, and turns left. The cave extends 20' further before lowering to a 1½' high squeeze that goes 10' to a 5' diameter dome 4' high. A small hole extends at least 10' unexplored. The floor throughout is covered with fine dry silt and small rubble. Harvestmen, crickets, and flies were found by James Reddell when he explored the cave 5 July 1970. The cave was previously reported by James Jasek, Butch Summar, Lee Cantile, and Mike Bales, 2 September 1967, as a 25' long crawl to a deadend.

Ref: James Jasek
TSS files

THIERS BLUFF CAVE NO. 2

Kimble County (KK 37)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Alfred Thiers Estate

Description: Located more or less under the same overhang as Thiers Bluff Cave No. 1, the entrance proper is about 10' wide and 7' high, but the floor immediately rises to within 3' of the ceiling, which drops slightly. Massive breakdown blocks floor the center area of the passage, which is covered with dry silt and small rubble. The passage extends as a 2' high, 5'-7' wide crawl for at least 35' from the entrance but was not explored beyond that point. Explored by James Reddell, 5 July 1970.

Ref: TSS files

THIERS BLUFF CAVE NO. 3

Kimble County (KK 38)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

Owner: Alfred Thiers Estate

Description: The 15' wide and high entrance is located on the bluff about 50' upstream from Zilch Cave. Inside, a dry, dusty, rubble and silt-floored crawl 2'-3' high by 10'-15' wide goes at least 60', where it narrows somewhat but continues 2' high beyond this point unexplored. The cave may connect or be a former entrance to Zilch Cave. Wasps were abundant in the entrance alcove. Harvestmen and crickets were observed by James Reddell when he explored the cave 5 July 1970. This cave was previously reported by James Jasek as a 10' long dead-end hole, 2 September 1967.

Ref: James Jasek
TSS files

TOP DOG CAVE (LIVE DOG CAVE)

Kimble County (KK 32)

No quadrangle

Owner: W.R. Allen

Description: A 3' square sink on a gentle hillslope drops 2' into a very low room about 30' long, 15'-20' wide, and 1'-1½' high. Total length of the cave is 30'; total depth, 3'. It was explored by James Reddell, 3 September 1967.

Biology: A small collection of invertebrates was made in the cave on the above date. Two troglophile spiders, Cicurina varians Gertsch and Mulaik and Achaearanea porteri (Banks), and a tenebrionid beetle, Embaphion muricatum n.subsp., have been identified.

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1970. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. IV. Additional records of Invertebrata (exclusive of Insecta)." Texas J. Sci., 21(4):389-415.

Ref: TSS files

200-FT. LONG FOUR MILE CAVE

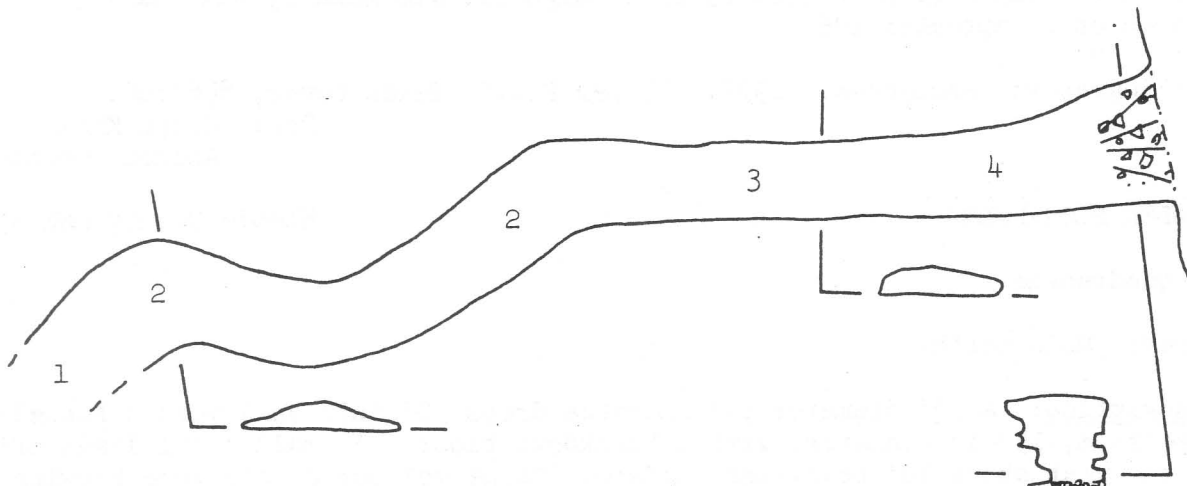
Kimble County (KK 15)

No quadrangle

Owner: PorkChop Ranch

Description: A breakdown-talus slope rises from a dry creek bed to the 4' high shelter entrance. From here the cave continues as a slightly sinuous dusty crawl, gradually becoming too low to explore about 200' inside. A ringtail cat was reported living in the cave when it was explored by George Gray, James Estes, and Dewayne Dickey, 22 February 1964.

Ref: Abilene Grotto



VIPER PIT (WILBERN GARDNER CAVE) (GARDNER RANCH CAVE) Kimble County (KK 7)

Roosevelt 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle

Owner: Wilbern Gardner

Description: The pit entrance is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' in diameter and located beside a small draw. The entrance drop continues approximately the same size irregularly for about 20' to a small ledge about a foot wide and a small constriction before opening out to about 10' wide for the remainder of the 90' drop. Active flowstone covers about half the circumference of the pit from about 25' down to the bottom. The drop ends in an elongate room about 135' long, 30'-45' wide, and 4'-8' high. At one end of the room is a 50' dome. Guano-covered breakdown occupies most of the floor except under the entrance drop where water falling has created a small depression with travertine-coated logs. Chert layers are prominent in the walls of the room. The map of Viper Pit is a composite of sketches by the three separate exploration groups; none included a north arrow (see map, p. 43).

History: The cave was probably explored by Joe Gardner about 1914. Prior to exploration by organized groups, the cave was occasionally entered by local people to obtain guano. Mr. Allison had entered the cave about 1953 for that purpose, but apparently no one had entered the pit between that time and 1961. On 20 August 1961, a group of St. Mary's Speleological Society cavers, including Orion Knox, Preston Knodell, his girl Mary, Gabby, and Barbara Madden located the cave. Barbara entered the cave but was frightened by a snake at the bottom. Orion Knox entered and found a striped snake and a coachwhip. The entrance was visited by George Gray, James Estes, and Bryant Lilly of the Abilene Grotto on 20 April 1963, but they had insufficient equipment for the drop. Gray, Estes, and Bart Crisman returned May 11 to explore the cave. Crisman and Estes killed a 6' long snake resembling a copperhead. They also reported crickets, scorpions, a large green frog, and thysanurans. The pit was again explored and sketch-mapped during the TSA Region Project by Bill Campbell, Jim McLane, and Charles Fromen on 2 September 1967.

Bibliography: Anonymous. 1963. "Viper Pit." Texas Caver, 8(6):60.
Ref: Orion Knox
Abilene Grotto

WONDER BLOW-HOLE

Kimble County (KK 33)

No quadrangle

Owner: Molesworth

Description: A 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' diameter pit entrance drops 30' into an inverted funnel-like room, 15' in diameter, with a breakdown floor. A small crawl leads off to the west about 10' below the surface. Large volumes of air were blowing from the cave, but the origin could not be determined. The walls of this dry cave are covered by clear flowstone. It was explored by Pat Wertheim and Doug Koepke on 3 September 1967. (See sketch map, p. 44.)

Ref: Pat Wertheim

VIPER PIT

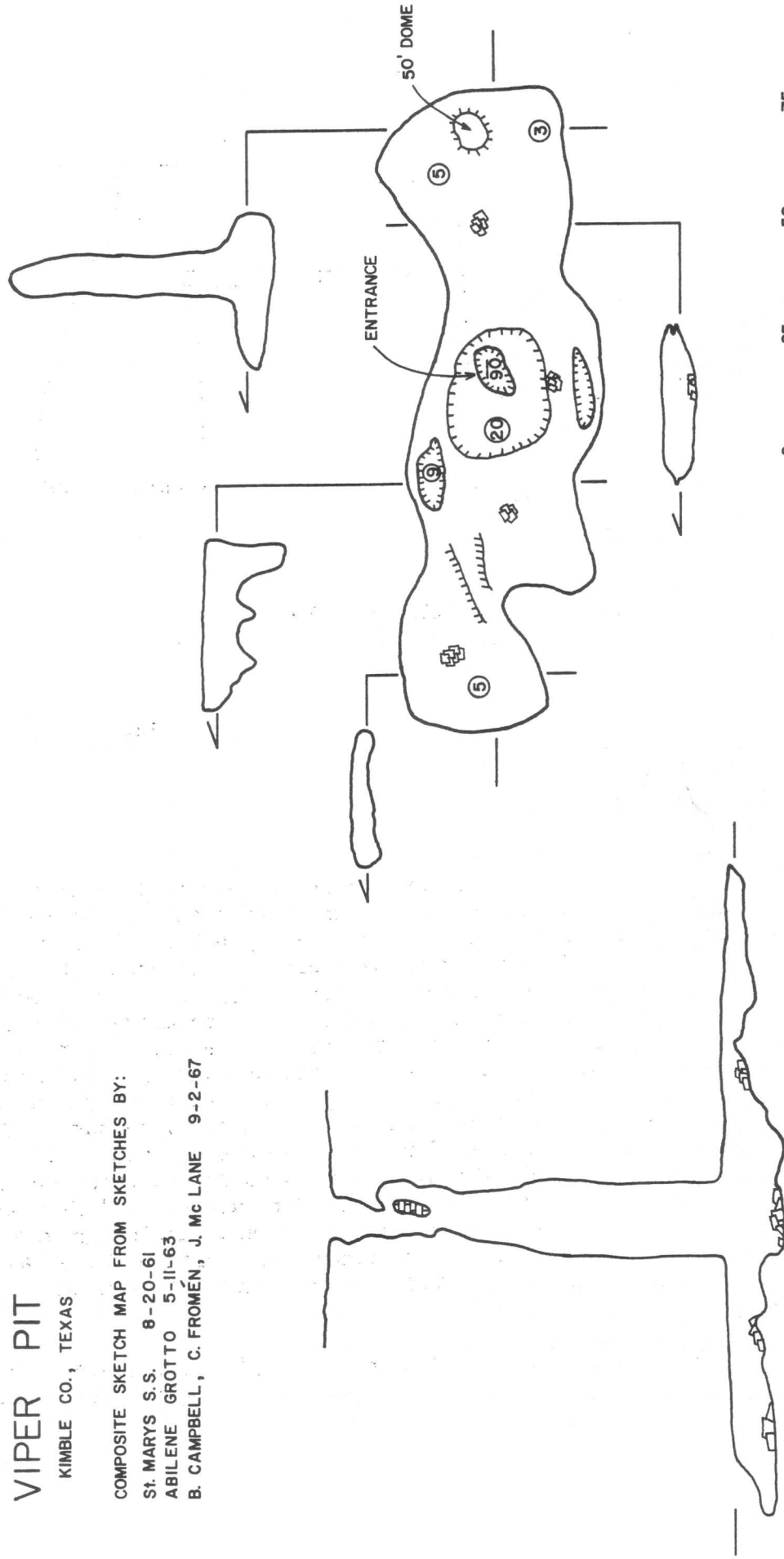
KIMBLE CO., TEXAS

COMPOSITE SKETCH MAP FROM SKETCHES BY:

St. MARYS S.S. 8-20-61

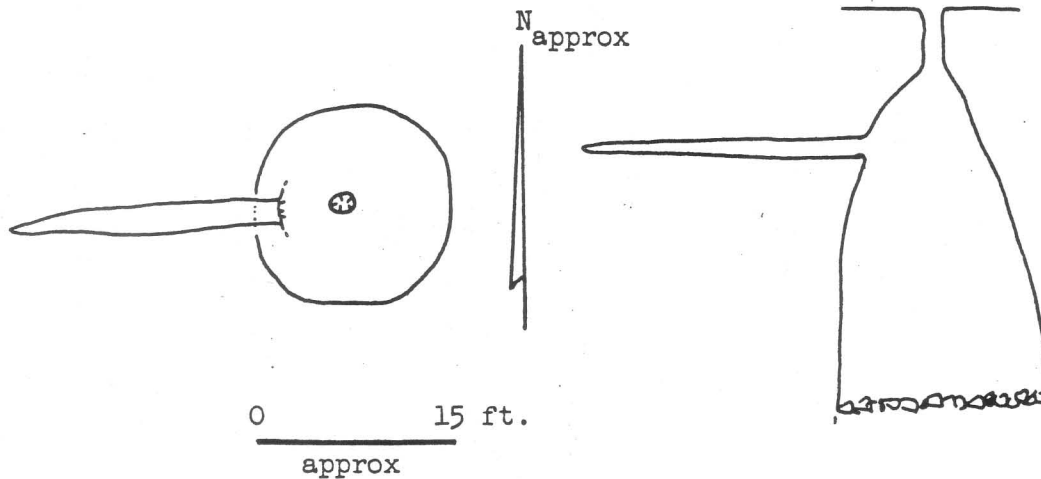
ABILENE GROTTTO 5-11-63

B. CAMPBELL, C. FROMÉN, J. Mc LANE 9-2-67



NO NORTH ARROW

J.V. 11-68



WONDER BLOW-HOLE

ZILCH CAVE

Kimble County (KK 34)

Roosevelt 7½' Quadrangle

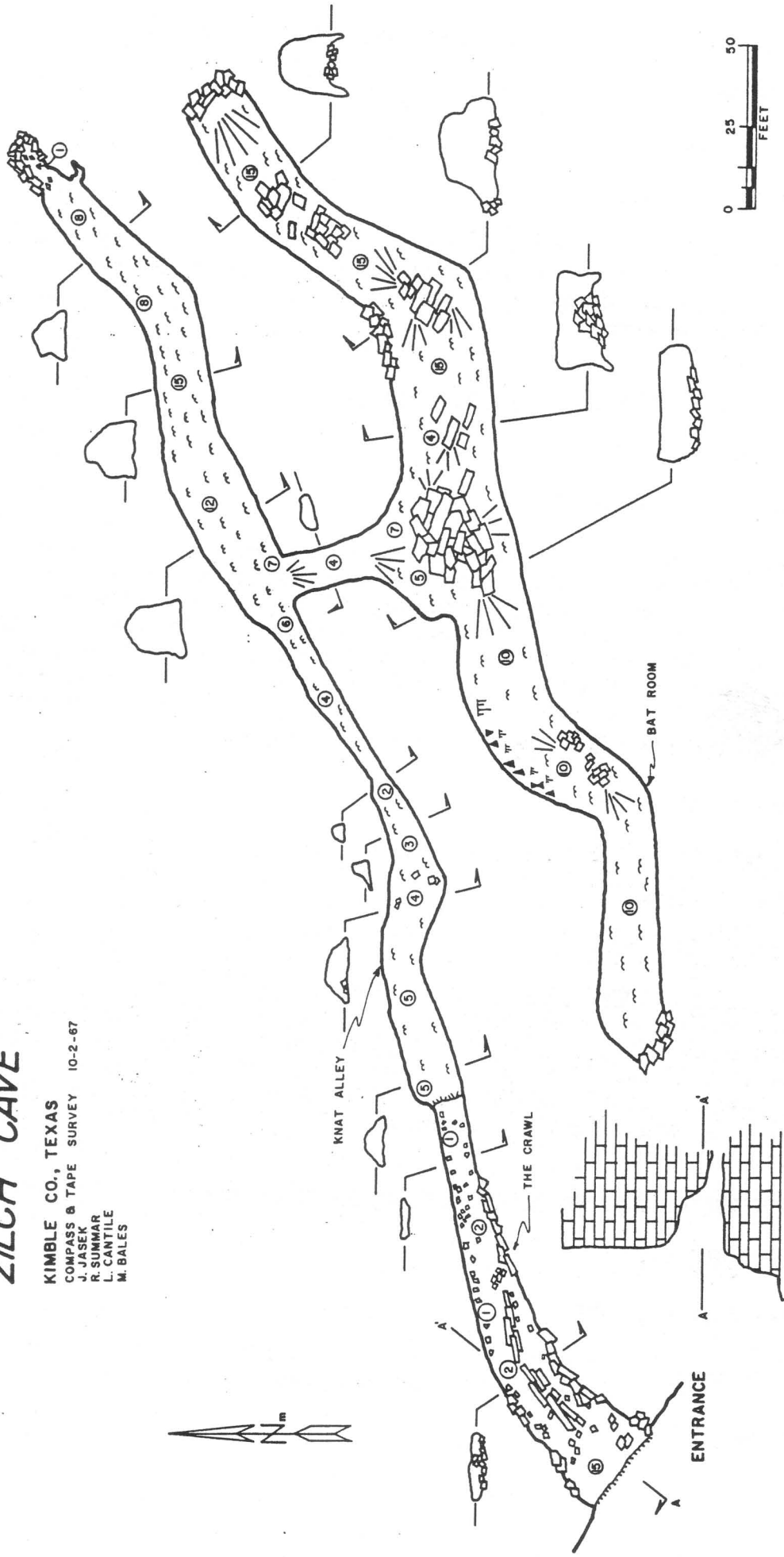
Owner: Alfred Thiers

Description: The entrance to Zilch Cave is an obvious shelter entrance 15' high by 35' wide, located about 20' up a high bluff along the North Llano River. The initial portion of the cave immediately behind the large entrance is a 1'-2' high breakdown-floored crawl narrowing to 10' about 125' from the entrance. At this point the floor drops 4' into a 5'-10' wide guano-floored passage 5' high at the beginning, lowering to 2' in the middle portion but rising to 15' at its highest point near the rear. The first portion of this 320' long passage is known as Knat Alley for the abundant gnats. About halfway along this guano passage a short slope leads to the right down into a 25' long, 4' high stoop that gives access to a parallel passage. The parallel passage, blocked with breakdown at both ends, is about 320' long, also. The ceiling is about 10'-15' high above a guano and breakdown floor. Indian artifacts were observed in the cave as far back as 200' from the entrance. Bats, crickets, beetles, flies, gnats, and tumblebugs were seen in the cave during exploration by Butch Summar, Lee Cantile, Mike Bales, and James Jasek, 3 September 1967. This group returned to map the cave on 2 October 1967. (See map, p. 45.)

Bibliography: Smith, A.R. 1967. "Kimble results." *Texas Caver*, 12(10):136.
 Ref: James Jasek

ZILCH CAVE

KIMBLE CO., TEXAS
COMPASS & TAPE SURVEY 10-2-67
J. JASEK
R. SUMMAR
L. CANTILE
M. BALES



NOV 11-68

SHELTERS AND DOUBTFUL CAVES

COPPERAS CREEK CAVE

Kimble County (KK 1a)

No quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: An 18" wide solution crevice in the middle of a stream bed drops 8' into a 12'-15' long small passage with a wet silty floor. The cave takes abundant water and might be extended by digging. It was explored by Butch Summar, 3 September 1967.

Ref: Butch Summar

M. B. MURR SINK NO. 3 (RATTLESNAKE PIT)

Kimble County (KK 2a)

No quadrangle

Owner: M.B. Murr

Description: A 3' diameter solution sink leads to a 6' diameter room. At one end there is a very short dead-end crawl; at the other end is another crawl that was not explored because of the presence of a rattlesnake but which probably becomes too small very shortly. The cave was also inhabited by many black widow spiders and was very dry. Total length and depth was about 10'. Jack and Gloria Burch, and Blair and Katherine Goodbar of the Dallas-Fort Worth Grotto initially explored the sink in December 1961. It was visited again by Butch Summar in September 1967.

Ref: D-FWG files
Butch Summar

PICKET FENCE CAVE

Kimble County (KK 3a)

No quadrangle

Owner: Molesworth

Description: The cave has a 4' high, 6' wide entrance on a low bluff a few feet above a dry creek bed. A picket fence in the entrance makes exploration somewhat difficult; it was placed there by the owner to keep sick goats out of the cave. The cave extends north into the bluff 20' before becoming too small. Cave crickets and spiders were seen in the cave by Pat Wertheim and Doug Koepke during exploration 3 September 1967.

Ref: Pat Wertheim

RATTLESNAKE SHELTER SINK (RATTLESNAKE TRASH SINK)

Kimble County (KK 4a)

No quadrangle (?)

Owner: W.R. Allen

Description: A shallow, elongate sink about 30' long and 15'-20' wide has a 3'-4' high, vertical south and southeast wall. There is a very low bedding

plane "cave" that goes back under it for 10' to 15' before becoming too small. Trash has been dumped in the west end of the sink. Rudistids are very abundant in the cave limestone. A 3½' diamondback rattlesnake, Crotalus atrox Baird and Girard, was observed by James Reddell when he visited the cave on 3 September 1967.

Bibliography: Reddell, J.R. 1971. "A checklist of the cave fauna of Texas. VI. Additional records of Vertebrata." Texas J. Sci. In press.

Ref: TSS files

SHUCKS

Kimble County (KK 5a)

No quadrangle

Owner: Molesworth

Description: An 18" diameter sink drops 4' into a 12' long elliptical room containing crickets and spiders. It was explored by Pat Wertheim, 3 September 1967.

Ref: Pat Wertheim

2000 GOAT SHELTER

Kimble County (KK 6a)

No quadrangle (?)

Owner: (H.D. Jobs, lessee)

Description: The named portion of this long overhanging 80' high bluff is a 7' high, 150' long alcove at the base where soft marly limestone has been removed by erosion and solution. A portion of this alcove is fenced as a pen. This shelter was reported by Wolfgang Lehnhardt in early 1967 and visited by Carl and Glenda Kunath, Luther Bundrant, and Bill Greene on 2 September 1967.

Ref: Carl Kunath

UNNAMED HOLE

Kimble County (KK 7a)

No quadrangle

Owner: Charlie Murr

Description: This is an opening 2' wide and 3" high under a rock ledge. It blows large quantities of air. At the time of observation by Charlie Murr, Jacklyn and Norman Robinson, and Mike Hughes, 2 September 1967, it contained a rattlesnake.

Ref: Norman Robinson