



Horselick Cemetery is one of those caves that are beautiful to visit at least once, and, depending on your opinion on water, maybe only once. HCC is in a side valley off of Horselick creek that we lovingly call "Swiss Cheese" valley due to the high number of caves we have discovered in it in the last few years. GCG worked this area pretty heavily in 87-90 and is still doing some work in the area.

Ask at registration for the location of the road to the cave. Driving down the road you will cross over Horselick Creek, then over a small stream. Look to the left and you will notice the boils, a usually dry resurgence. In high water this can issue quite a lot of water. A little further on, if your window is open, you will notice a draft of cool air. Up on the left is one of the entrances to John Coffey cave, an old saltpeter cave. This is a nice side trip or can be a good shorter trip on its own. Continue on to a field in the valley bottom and park here. The entrance is on the right treeline about a third up the field.

Enter the cave in turn to the left. Drop through a hole and follow the stream, crawling all the while. After a few feet stand up in a cross joint and congratulate yourselves if you stayed dry. It won't last any longer. Straight ahead is the infamous 800ft water crawl. While at no time is it uncomfortable, it is long. There is always more than enough airspace to keep most of your head dry - keep to the right, however.

After the water level drops to a stream crawl over sand, look up for a hole in the ceiling. This leads to the dryer areas of the cave. Straight ahead stays wet and gets low, although it does connect to the rest of the main passage. Once up the hole - dry out! Continue crawling for a while and then STAND in what passes for trunk in this part of the country. Sand banks and large rocks characterize this part of the passage.

200 ft (or so) on the left is the Crystal passage, decorated in crystal rimstone dams - stay on the path here. This passage has a pit in the passage - it can be climbed, but a hand line may be appreciated

by many cavers. This passage terminates in breakdown and many small unpushed crawls as it reaches a valley wall.

Continuing on in the main passage you'll pass some domes and water passages, we tend to do some crawling here. Down the passage at the last fork shown on the map you can continue either way as they run parallel. They both come out near Wishers wallow. This is a low area with a low passage straight ahead and a crawl on the left across a large muddy puddle. We almost left John Wisher here after he got wrapped up in the survey tape in the mud puddle. The left crawl (the Ski Run) will lead to the z survey (not on the map) and a large dome complex (Pants Leg Dome). The low passage joins in in one of the domes. This low passage continues onward unfinished! We have crawled up it for at least 45 minutes with no change. It is a typical Jackson county crawl. Low, wet, wide, and full of cobbles.

Most tourist trips will use only polypro. Colder cavers may want wetsuits or carry clothes in - in buckets (P-11 style). The cave has some flooding potential - but the creek usually floods first!
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