

October 1988

Murphy's Caves #1 & #2

Then and Now

Murphy's Cave #1 and #2 although first surveyed by Gary Bush and Dennis Green in 1980 are still yeilding surprises and discoveries!! Before we even knew that Gary had mapped the entrance sections to these caves we had added an entrances to each one - sometimes as many as three!!

Gary and Co. surveyed roughly 1000 ft. in Murphy's #1 and 2000 ft. in Murphy's #2 in Nov. 80 to add to the mapped caves in the area for the N.S.S. convention. Named after the owner of these caves, they were rarely if ever visited after that.

Our involvment with these caves started 8 years later. The trip started as so many of ours do - Jacque had noticed a small hole and wanted to check it out. We plunged through deep water and wandered into virgin passage. After some tough chert crawls we hit some really deep water! Suddenly we popped into an area that had already been visited - and managed to find our way out (what was unknown to us at the time) Murphy's #1. We called this Surprise cave - due to our surprise at coming out another entrance (maybe we should have called it relief cave - I was sure happy I didn't have to go back through the deep water and

crawls agian) Going back into the cave that same day we soon found ourself back in virgin cave - crawling forever, and I had forgotten my kneepads.

Leaving the cave that day we ran into the Issaks, a family that lives above the cave, who have been very friendly to us. Mrs. Issaks told us of a second cave entrance close to the one we had just come out (this, of course, was Murphy's #2). She also told of relatives burning wood for

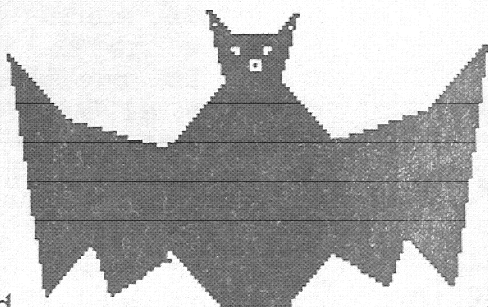
charcoal in a hollow about a mile away and the smoke coming out Murphy's #2

We later found the entrance in the hollow and have started mapping it, already yeilding 3 new entrances with little more

then 1000 ft surveyed. We call it Smokey Caverns and we are sure it will eventually connect with Murphy's #2.

Gary, you started somthing. And by one day connecting all 4; Smokey, Surprise, Murphy's #1 and #2 we hope to finish it.

HJ Kalnitz. NSSDDD 20678



**Couple's home
invaded by
2,000 bats**