

THE ELECTRIC CAVER

ROLLER COASTER CAVE

Rockcastle Co., KY

Roller Coaster Cave is fairly well known, judging from the trash and graffiti, but is often overlooked by people visiting Sinks of the Roundstone. Overall it is a fairly easy cave, but offers just enough challenge to make it a fun cave to check out. It may have been surveyed before by Jack Hissong during the "Sinks" period, but I've never seen a map.

Upon entering the cave, one immediately encounters a short crawl. Descending from here, one must straddle a winding canyon passage for 50-60 feet before negotiating a tricky climb down into a larger walking passage. Long legs are helpful on this climb.

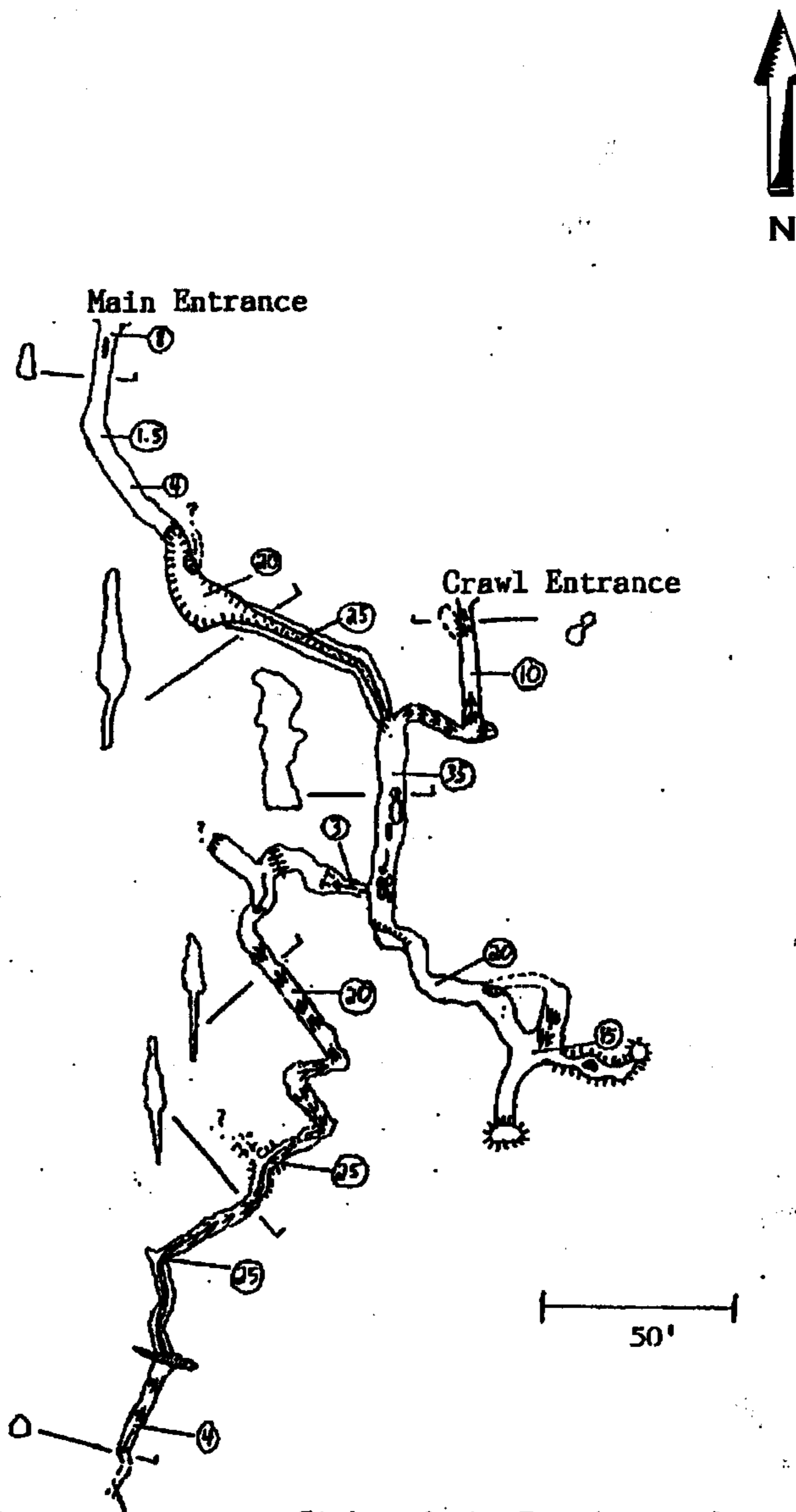
From here the cave splits; going left takes you to the Crawl Entrance, which is often full of railroad gravel and loose fill. Back at the junction, going to the right, you follow nice walking passage that ends in some small domes. As you walk this passage, you will notice a small trickle of water that disappears into a small crawl. This crawl is short, and when you get out, you find yourself in another canyon passage. This is where the fun starts!

The canyon follows the stream, but is not always negotiable at stream level, so you have to climb and chimney up and down several times, hence the name. None of these are really difficult but they warm you up in hurry.

The water finally goes into a subhuman crawl that blows a lot of air. This is a voice connection to Sinks of the Roundstone Cave. A couple of times, I've heard people shouting or laughing from S.O.R., but I've never checked to see where it comes out. I do know that it would be a really good place to get stuck!

With only 635 surveyed feet, Roller Coaster Cave is a nice, short trip with just enough spice to make it fun, so go check it out!

Mark Swelstad
GCG



voice connection to Sinks of the Roundstone Cave

Surveyors

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Total Survey Length: 635.10 feet

Surveyed 3/18/96-4/6/96