



Cave Echoes

OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE OF OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT
Volume 22 The Centennial Edition

Over 100 Years of discovery and adventure

The First Trails to Oregon Caves

For almost fifty years of Oregon Cave's history, 1874 to 1922, the only way to visit this natural wonder was by traveling on one of three trails. When the Oregon Caves Highway was constructed in 1922 from the Illinois Valley, these trails fell into disrepair except for a few segments that are still in use today. These fragments give us an opportunity to hike and see the area as the very first visitors to the caves may have seen it.

Clapboard-Grayback Boundary Trail

The first trail used by visitors to get to the caves was probably the same route that Elijah Davidson used when he came to this area on a hunting trip and found Oregon Caves in 1874. This route likely included well traveled pack trails that miners used to bring supplies from the town of Williams to mining camps on Sucker Creek, about a mile south of the caves.

The trail was notoriously difficult because of the steep climb of almost 4000 feet from Williams to Windy Gap, a pass near Grayback Peak, located about five miles north of the caves. The trail then followed a fairly level route to Mount Elijah overlooking the Bigelow Lakes basin before descending down a ridge toward Oregon Caves. Visitors who hike to see the Big Tree and continue up to Mount Elijah are hiking along the general route of this trail, the oldest trail to Oregon Caves.

The Caves Creek Trail

Was constructed in 1885 and used until 1922. Walter Burch was the first person to make a serious effort to promote Oregon Caves as a tourist attraction. He placed a claim on the caves in 1884 and built a trail along Caves Creek to the caves. At that time, a wagon road from Kerbyville ended in the vicinity of present-day Grayback

Campground. From there it took about six hours to make the trip. Visitors who hike the two mile long Caves Creek Trail from the Oregon Caves lodge down to Caves Creek Campground are hiking along the general route of this historic trail.

The Oregon-Caves-to-Williams Trail

In the spring of 1886, Walter Burch worked on a trail from Oregon Caves to the community of Williams. This would later become the primary route that people took to visit Oregon Caves until 1922. The trail roughly paralleled the older route traversing Windy Gap and Bigelow Lakes but did not have the steep climb that travelers faced on the Clapboard-Greyback Pack Trail. Visitors who hike on the trail to the Big Tree follow this historic trail for about half a mile.

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Oregon Caves National Monument is happy to be celebrating 2009 with:



WWW.OREGON150.ORG

## Welcome from the Superintendent

The season to enjoy Oregon Caves National Monument's many natural and cultural resources is here again. As our Centennial year progresses we have some very exciting activities planned. This summer we will continue our Introduction to Caving tours for those inspired to challenge all their senses, including their sense of adventure.

Our park rangers have designed their tours and ranger programs to provide educational and enjoyable experiences for visitors, keeping in mind the National Park Service mission to preserve our natural and cultural resources for this and future generations.

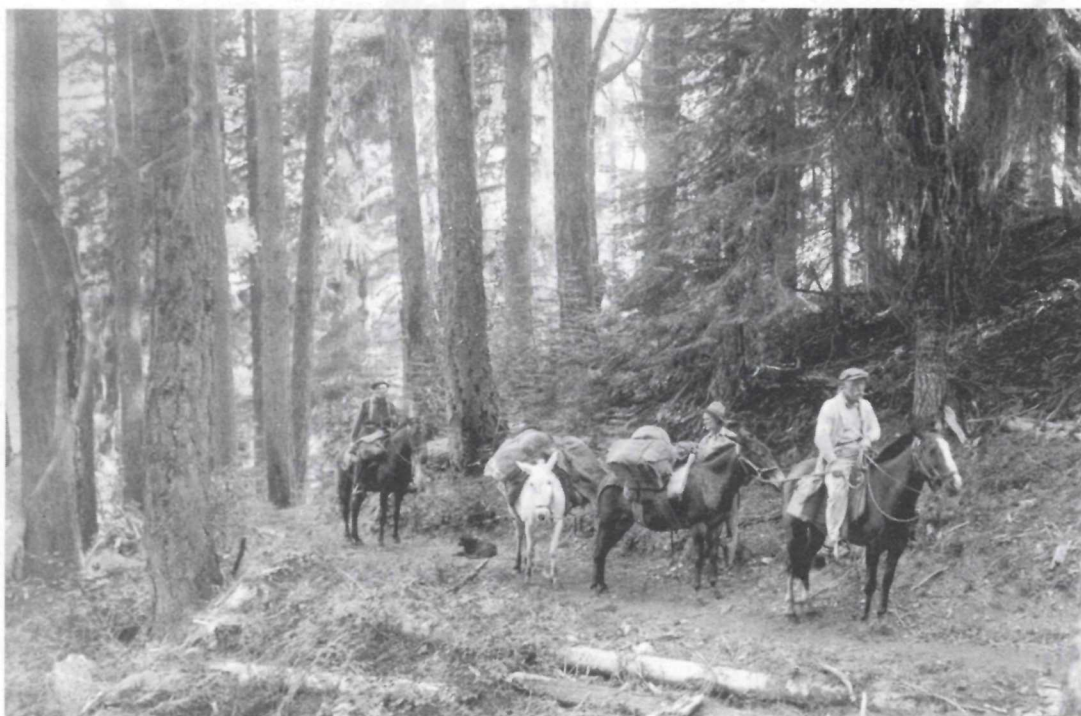
I hope that your experience here at Oregon Caves inspires you to get involved. Participate in conservation issues and share your thoughts about how best to protect our public lands. We look forward to your ideas.



Thank you for coming to visit,

*Vicki J. Snitzler*

Vicki J. Snitzler



Horse and mule pack train on the Oregon-Caves-to-Williams Trail (US Forest Service)





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Oregon Caves National Monument

Elijah Davidson is credited by many for first entering the cave. He came upon it in November of 1874 while hunting with his dog Bruno. As word spread about its beauty, damage to the cave and its delicate formations caused great concern.

On July 12, 1909, President Taft signed a proclamation establishing Oregon Caves National Monument in order to protect it for future generations. First managed by the Forest Service, it was transferred to the National Park Service in 1933.

**Superintendent**  
Vicki Snitzler

**Chief of Administration**  
Jean Corrigan

**Chief of Maintenance**  
John Cavin

**Chief of Resource Management**  
John Roth

**Chief of Interpretation**  
George Herring

## In an Emergency Dial 9 1 1

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address  
Oregon Caves  
National Monument  
19000 Caves Highway  
Cave Junction, OR 97523

Park Website  
[www.nps.gov/orca](http://www.nps.gov/orca)

Information  
Park Headquarters  
541-592-2100

Fax Number  
541-592-3981

*Publication of this paper was made possible by a grant from the Oregon Caves Natural History Association.*

## Park Regulations

- \* DO NOT feed wildlife
- \* Stay on marked trails.
- \* Pets are not permitted on unpaved trails. Pets must be attended and kept on a leash at all times.
- \* Camping or campfires are not permitted in the Monument.
- \* Due to high fire danger, smoking is not permitted on any of the trails.
- \* Hunting and trapping are prohibited.

# Preparing for a Cave Tour

## Ticket Sales

Tour tickets are sold on a first-come first-served basis for any available tour scheduled for that day. *Please arrive a few minutes early for your assigned tour time.*

Arriving early in the day during July and August will help you avoid long waits for a cave tour.

You can only purchase tour tickets at the Monument's Visitor Center, which opens 30 minutes prior to the first cave tour of the day and closes when the last regular cave tour of the day departs. The Visitor Center also has lockers available for storing personal items.

\$8.50 for Adults  
\$6.00 for Youths (16 & under)

We honor the America the Beautiful, Senior, Access, and Volunteer Passes; you may also purchase these in our Visitor Center.

### Accessibility

Cave guides can provide a complimentary wheelchair tour into the caves' first room. For details, ask at the Visitor Center.

## Cave Tours

Tours last approximately 90 minutes and the average temperature in the cave remains 44°F (7°C) year round. Trail surfaces inside the cave are uneven and wet. We recommend you wear warm clothing and hiking-style shoes.

Due to the low ceilings and narrow passageways in the cave, carrying children or wearing backpacks are not allowed. Cameras with flash units are welcome, but please do not bring tripods or personal flashlights.

### The Tour Route

The cave tour is considered **moderately strenuous** and not recommended for people with heart, breathing, walking, or bending problems. The 0.6 mile (1 km) route includes more than 500 stairs, most of which are steep, uneven, and wet. Low passageways require bending and twisting.

In order to participate in the cave tour, children must stand at least **42 inches tall** and able to demonstrate their ability to climb a set of test stairs. The Monument provides no child care services.

## Tour Schedule

### Spring

Late March to  
Memorial Day Weekend  
10:00AM to 4:00PM  
Tours on the hour

Memorial Day  
Weekend to Late June  
9:00AM to 5:00PM  
Tours on the hour

### Summer

Late June to  
Labor Day Weekend  
9:00AM to 6:00 PM  
Tours every 30 mins.

*Candlelight Tours*  
Fri. & Sat. at 6:30PM

### Fall

After Labor Day to  
Columbus Day Weekend  
9:00AM to 5:00PM  
Tours on the hour

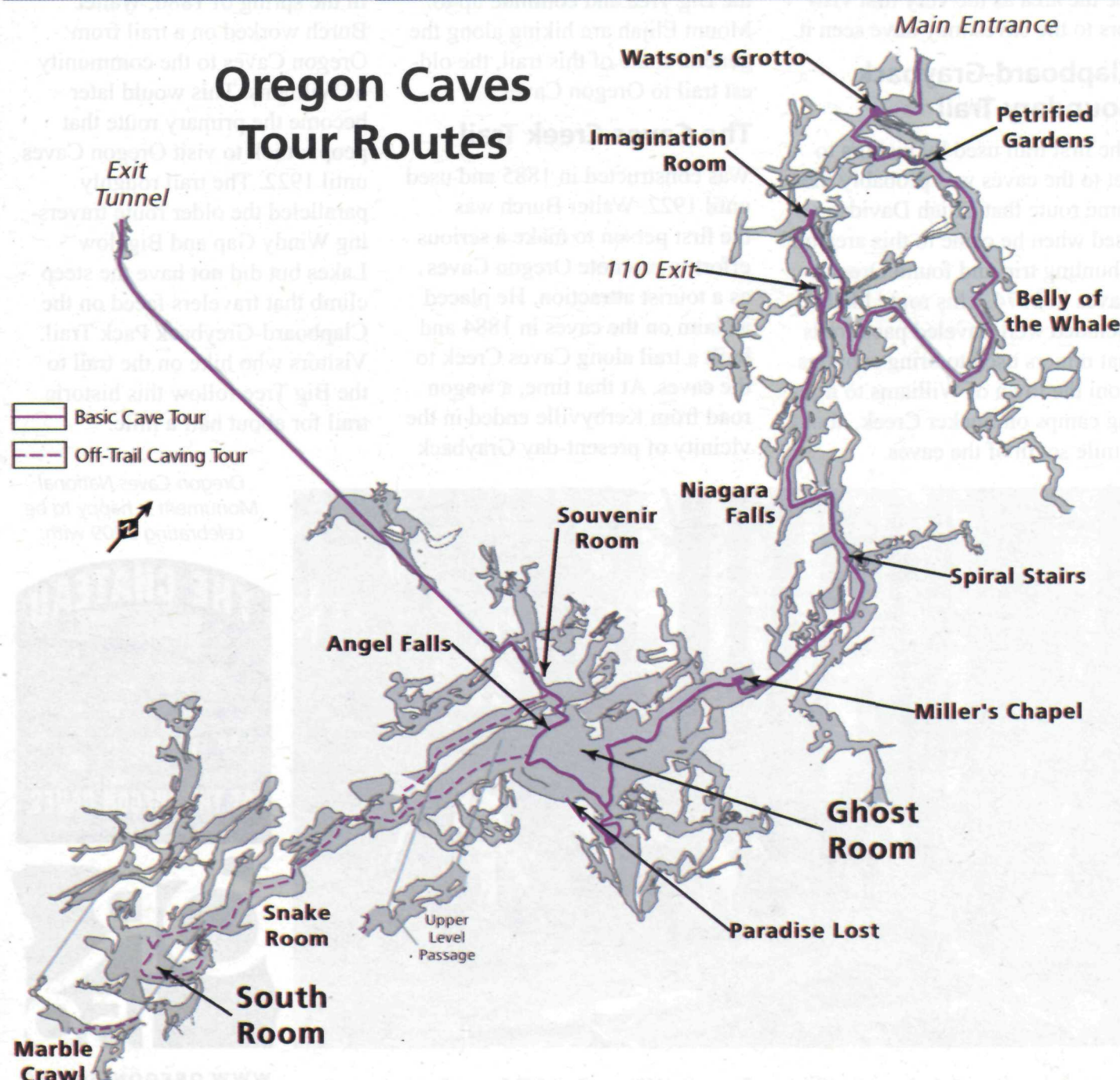
After Columbus Day

For tour times please  
check our website:  
[www.nps.gov/orca](http://www.nps.gov/orca)  
or call:  
(541) 592-2100

### Winter

**Cave Tours Closed**

## Oregon Caves Tour Routes





# Oregon Caves NM: from past to present

## Regional History of the Illinois River Valley and the Siskiyou Mountains

Long before the establishment of Oregon Caves National Monument in 1909, various people occupied, settled and developed the lands of southwestern Oregon. History records events and changes over time. Today is tomorrow's history.



**Pre 1820s:** The native Takelma Indians lived for thousands of years along the rich Applegate and Rogue River valleys in what we now know as southwestern Oregon. No current evidence indicates native use of the cave.



Takelma Indians

**1820s:** Hudson Bay Company fur trappers explored the Siskiyou Mountains and traveled through the Rogue River valley.

**1830s:** Settlers and gold seekers followed the path of the fur trappers on their way to California.



Miner and Pack Mules

**1840s:** Lindsey Applegate and others surveyed and opened up the Applegate Trail, a new route for emigrants entering Oregon that traveled into the Rogue and Applegate drainages.

**1850s:** In 1851, prospectors discovered gold on Josephine Creek, named after Floyd Rollins daughter, in the Illinois River valley. The signing of the 1853 treaty with the Takelma Indians opened the southwestern Oregon Territory to farmers, ranchers and loggers. February 14, 1859, Oregon admitted to the Union.

**1870s:** While on a hunting trip in the fall of 1874, Elijah Davidson found a cave and is credited with the discovery of Josephine County Caves, now called Oregon Caves. Elijah returned in 1877 with his brother Carter, and possibly John H. Kincaid,

Frank M. Nickerson, John M. Chapman and W.W. Fidler, and discovered what is now known as the 110 Exit.

**1880s:** In 1884, Walter C. Burch first heard of the cave from Elijah Davidson. Burch and his brother-in-laws, Homer and Ernest Harkness, staked a squatter's claim at the lower cave entrance. They charged one dollar per person for a guided cave trip, camping, good pasture and "medicinal" cave waters, as advertised in the Grants Pass Courier newspaper. They tried to acquire title to the land but the land was unsurveyed so after a few years they abandoned the idea of development.

**1890s:** "Captain" A. J. Smith of San Diego, California, along with locals W. J. Henderson and F. M. Nickerson held a mineral claim on the cave as the Oregon Caves Improvement Company. The San Francisco Examiner newspaper sponsored a well-publicized expedition to assist with full-scale development. After four years and financial difficulties the "Captain" disappeared.



Government Camp of Oregon Caves

**1900s:** In 1903, President Roosevelt withdrew millions of acres of forest lands from the public domain including the proposed Southern Oregon Forest Reserve which included the cave. Two years later the U.S. Forest Service was created to administer the forest reserves followed by the establishment of the Siskiyou Forest Reserve, now known as the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest.

On June 8, 1906, Congress passed the Antiquities Act. This allows the President to set aside as National Monuments "...historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon lands owned or controlled by the Government of the US."

Below is Proclamation No. 876 When signed by President William Howard Taft on July 12, 1909, it established Oregon Caves National Monument

OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT  
OREGON

By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, certain natural caves, known as the OREGON CAVES, which are situated upon unsurveyed land within the Siskiyou National Forest in the State of Oregon, are of unusual scientific interest and importance, and it appears that the public interests will be promoted by reserving these caves with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof, as a National Monument;

Now, therefore, I, WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section two of the Act of Congress, approved June eighth, nineteen hundred and six, entitled, "An Act For the preservation of American antiquities," do proclaim that there are hereby reserved from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, subject to all prior valid adverse claims, and set apart as a National Monument, all the tracts of land in the State of Oregon shown as the OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT on the diagram forming a part hereof.

The reservation made by this proclamation is not intended to prevent the use of the lands for National Forest purposes under the proclamations and Executive Order establishing the Siskiyou National Forest, but the two reservations shall both be effective on the land withdrawn, but the National Monument hereby established shall be the dominant reservation, and any use of the land which interferes with its preservation or protection as a National Monument is hereby forbidden.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, remove, or destroy any feature of this National Monument, or to locate or settle on any of the lands reserved by this proclamation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE At the City of Washington this 12th day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nine, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty-fourth.

[SEAL.]

WM H TAFT

By the President:  
P C KNOX  
Secretary of State.

[No. 876.]

**July 12, 1909:** President Taft signed Presidential Proclamation No. 876 that established the 480 acre Oregon Caves National Monument. Taft's proclamation states "any use of the land which interferes with its preservation or protection as a National Monument is hereby forbidden". The Monument was administered by the U.S. Forest Service. The cave drew 360 visitors that year. An article by Joaquin Miller in Southern Pacific Railroad's magazine *Sunset* and Chandler B. Watson's book *Prehistoric Siskiyou Island and the Marble Halls of Oregon* gave the monument wide publicity on the west coast and helped to boost its visitation and its significance.

Continued on next page



# Oregon Caves NM Centennial: from past to present History of the Illinois River Valley & the Siskiyou Mountains

Continued from previous page

**1910s:** In 1910, the Forest Service began employing men to guard the cave and give free tours during the summer. On August 25, 1916 Congress created the National Park Service "...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

**1920s:** During 1920, 1,800 visitors visited the Monument. They traveled 10 miles by one trail from the Williams Valley via Steven's ranch or 8 miles by trail from the Holland Valley via Grimmitt's ranch. Surveys were begun for a new road to the cave in connection with a survey of the proposed Redwood Highway. The road officially opened on June 27, 1922 with the last 13 miles taking over two hours to travel.

On April 11, 1923 the Forest Service granted a 20-year contract to Oregon Caves Company, a private concessionaire headed by George Sabin and other Grants Pass businessmen, to provide guide service and build a hotel. Arthur Peck, a landscape engineering professor, recommended an alpine style building with siding of Port Orford-cedar bark to blend with the surroundings. Gust Lium, a contractor from Grants Pass, designed the building to accommodate a kitchen, dining room, gift shop and ticket sales area on the first floor and dormitory for female employees on the second floor. By the end of June the chalet was completed at a cost of \$5,000.

In 1926, Oregon Caves Company built seven two-bedroom cabins in the ravine above the Chalet, and a two story dormitory nearby for male employees. Also in 1926, the town of Cave Junction was established. Elijah Davidson died in 1927 and was buried in Williams, OR.

**1930s:** During the 1930s, men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) from Camp Oregon Caves near the present day Grayback campground assisted in many development projects at the monument. They built



Morrison Family in Millers Chapel with candle lanterns and carbide light, cir. 1900



Government Camp with a new road from Illinois Valley, 1923 (US Forest Service)



US Forest Service staff at cave entrance, early 1930s (US Forest Service)



Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees on the Exit Trail, 1935 (George F. Whitworth)

a waterline to the monument, picnic areas and trails, installed miles of telephone lines and enhanced landscaping by planting trees and building ponds and rock walls.

In 1930, electric lights were put into the cave with power generated on site, and work on the new exit tunnel was started. Caves Highway was widened and paved in 1931, the same year construction began on the Chateau.

The National Park Service took over administration of the monument from the Forest Service in 1933. In 1934, the six story Chateau was completed at a cost of \$50,000. Today it still offers 23 overnight rooms, a coffee shop and fine dining, with the creek from the cave running through the dining room.



Concession employees dressed in leaves

**1940s:** In 1941, the CCC built an information and comfort station in the lower parking lot. By 1942, the Chalet was rebuilt and enlarged with a third floor added. The Chateau closed for four years during World War II, but the guide service through the cave continued.

**1950s:** Refrigeration was installed in the Chateau. Previous to this, milk, butter and other perishables were carried into the cave during hot weather. In 1959, gates were installed on all cave entrances. By 1957, the cave tour route was completely paved with asphalt.

**1960s:** In 1962, an earthquake centered off the coast near Crescent City was felt at the monument but not felt in the cave. During the winter of 1964, after much snowfall followed by warm rain, a 17 foot wall of water flowed from the ravine behind the Chalet, through the archway and slammed into the Chateau causing \$100,000 in damage.

In 1968, the millionth visitor went through the cave. This is also the first year a female tour guide begins to work.

**1970s:** In 1976, Oregon Caves Company sells its interest in the concession to Canteen Corporation of Oregon.

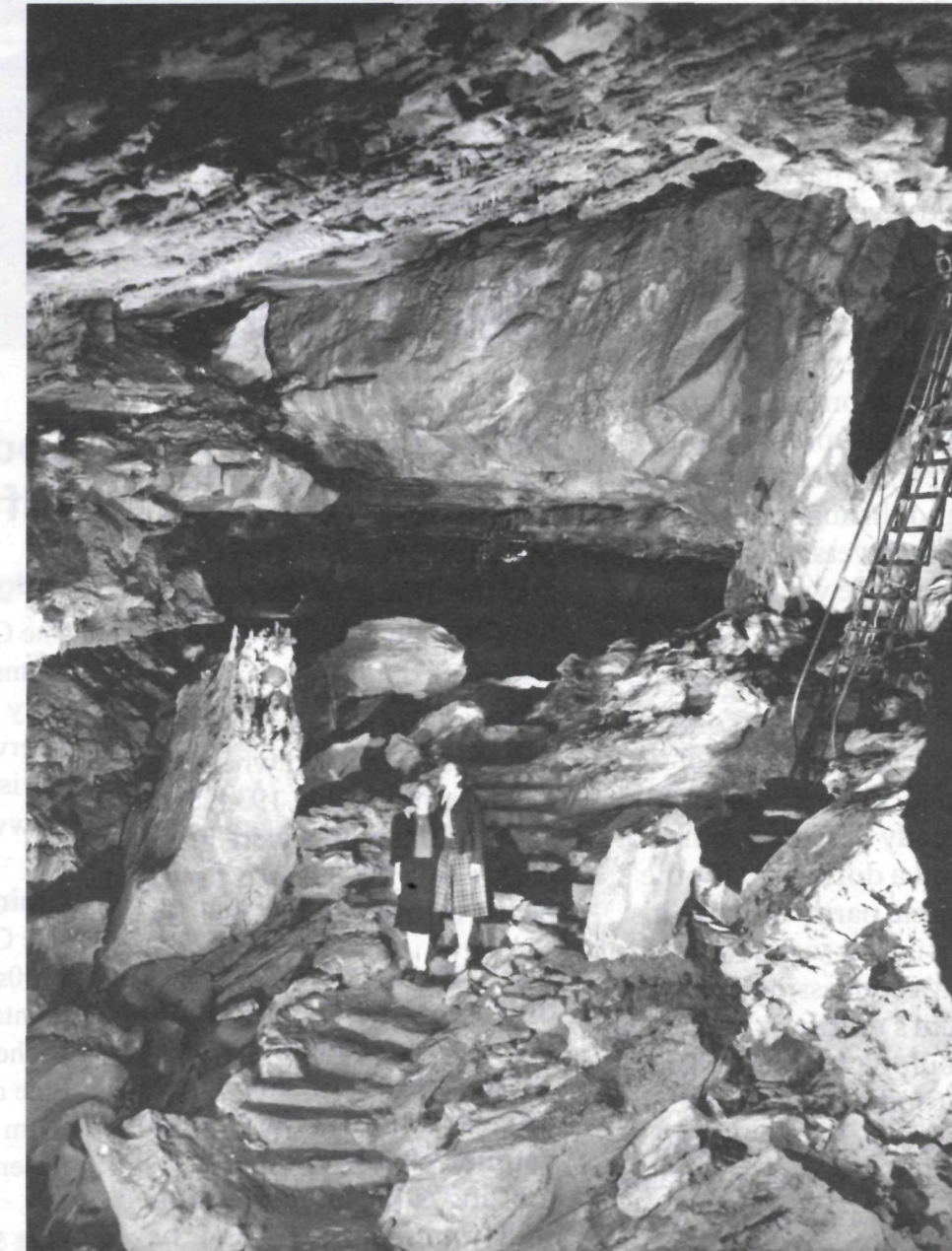
**1980s:** In 1986, restoration projects began in the cave including removal of rubble from tunnel construction.

October of 1987, the Secretary of the Interior declared the Chateau to be a National Historic Landmark.

In 1988, the guest cabins were removed because of the potential for impact on the caves below.

**1990s:** During the summer of 1990, two airlock doors were installed in the blasted tunnels. Over 1400 tons of rubble were removed from cave passages where the rubble was originally put after the tunnels were blasted.

By 1992, the asphalt trail was removed. In September of 1994, work began on the new cave trail which is a combination of



Visitors in the Ghost Room, 1945 (Ralph Gifford)

cement and extruded fiberglass. Lighting systems were also redesigned.

In 1995, Jaguar bones were discovered that were later dated as 38,600 years old. Grizzly bear bones were also discovered and dated at over 50,000 years old.

**2000s:** In 2001, National Park Service tour guides began leading the cave tours. As of 2003, all the structures first built by private concessionaires became the property of the American public and are managed by the National Park Service. In 2004, a long term (10 year) contract was issued to the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization, a non-profit from Cave Junction that hires local, shops local and stocks the gift shop with quality local made arts and crafts.

In 2009, Oregon Caves National Monument celebrates its centennial along with the Chateau's 75th anniversary and Oregon's 150th (sesquicentennial).

## For Hester Mallonée, Caves Inspire Art and Stewardship

For Hester Mallonée, caves not only hold her curiosity and respect, but they also inspire her. They have inspired her to learn and teach cave rescue and they have motivated her to donate countless hours restoring rimstone dams in Oregon Caves. As an artist, they have held her fascinated for hours as she paints some of their wondrous formations, either carved or deposited by water.

She has been through Oregon Caves hundreds of times, yet each time she goes through she says she sees something new.

In 2009 the monument is exhibiting over ten of her works at our visitor center; paintings that were inspired during her seven plus years spent as a volunteer here at the monument. She says, "Oregon Caves may not be the largest cave in the National Park system, but it is the most geologically complex. This complexity means the visitor will encounter many different kinds of beauty, wildy stacked in with each other."



Angels Falls by Hester Mallonée

As far as her painting style, "When I paint, I remember far more than if I merely looked at an object. Painting becomes a way of seeing; seeing becomes a way of life.

I've been intrigued by the low-light landscape, places where the temporal becomes spiritual. In moonlight, the land loses contour and color, but gains radiance and resonance: a sense of magic. In a cave, formations and life-forms protected for aeons by profound darkness are made visible, and therefore vulnerable, by our human act of lighting the cave."

Her paintings will be on display through the Fall of 2009 at the monument. You may also view her artwork online at: [www.caves.org/cavestartart](http://www.caves.org/cavestartart)

And on a tour of the cave, you may even see her volunteering on the rimstone dam restoration project, with her helmet, headlamp and muddy gloves.

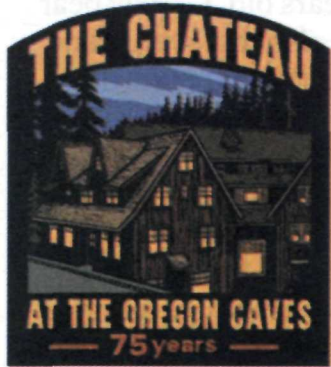
Hester Mallonée lives in Northwest Washington State.



# The Chateau: 1934-2009

## 75 years of serving the caves' guests

Glancing at the Chateau when you first arrive, you see what appears to be a three-story building set in this remote National Monument. Look closer, and you will discover there are actually six stories to this Chateau, and that it is one of the most architecturally stirring lodges in the entire parks system.



Spanning a small woodland ravine, the Chateau makes exceptional use of the land's natural contours, and a stream runs through its dining room. The lodge was designed and built by local folks, with an emphasis on natural materials. Much of the building's original siding of shaggy Port Orford cedar bark is still intact after 75 years.

This remarkable structure owes its existence to a group of business leaders from a nearby town, which formed the Oregon Caves Company to stimulate the region's depressed economy.

**Construction:** There were a few existing structures near the caves when plans to build the Chateau were announced in 1929. The Depression put a temporary stop to the project, but work finally got underway in the fall of 1931. Construction took three years, partly due to

cash flow problems, the remote site and a small crew (never more than 20 men).

Workers began with a reinforced concrete foundation, followed by post and beam interior supports. Locally harvested timbers included several different tree species. The bark siding was a byproduct of a nearby railroad-tie operation. Material for the stone fireplace was taken from the bedrock on site, quarried as part of the site preparations. Small details of craftsmanship are found throughout such as lapped & dovetailed blind joints and decorative wooden plugs.

**The Architect:** Most of the great lodges were designed by "name" architects. In contrast, the Chateau is the work of Gust Lium, a local area builder. Lium had already designed some cottages and a dormitory for the Caves area, partly because his brother-in-law was a founder of the area's concession company. But Lium's creativity and expertise shouldn't be overlooked. A jagged roofline and asymmetrical features echo the rugged setting. Interior spaces parallel the natural forms of the Caves; public rooms are long and intimate.

Lium also used Cave Creek in his design, taking water from a pond above the lodge, and guiding its flow through the dining room before allowing the stream to continue its fall down the ravine. A man of small acclaim in his own time, today Gust Lium is called a genius of environmental architecture.



Oregon Caves Chalet cir. 1938

**Visitors:** The Chateau experience has changed little over the past 70 years. Occasional coats of paint have been removed, and the beauty of the original hand-finished woodwork shines again.

Much of the furniture stands exactly where it did when the Chateau opened in 1934. Sadly, some of the pieces were lost in a frightening 1963 debris flow that nearly destroyed the Chateau.

There are no phones or TVs in the rooms, but the hotel lobby offers picturesque views. In the 1930s-style coffee shop guests can take a stool at the wooden counter, chat with other visitors and enjoy an old-fashioned soda-fountain treat. All of the hiking trails begin within several hundred feet of the Chateau.

Some aspects of the Chateau can seem basic or plain. Fire-retardant Firtexon lines guest room walls, and the exposed sprinkler system hangs overhead. Though anyone willing to seek out this remote little jewel will be rewarded with the charm and ambiance of a bygone era.

## Lodging, Dining & Gifts at the Chateau

### Lodging

The Chateau has a range of rustic rooms available. It is open from early May to mid-October. Make reservations at (541) 592-3400 or visit their web site at:

[www.oregoncaveschateau.com](http://www.oregoncaveschateau.com)

### Dining

The Chateau offers lunch in the 1930s-style coffee shop and soda fountain, which serves soups, sandwiches, salads, and milk shakes. Fine dining is offered in the dining room during summer months. Reservations are recommended.

### Gift Store

Sales items include crafts and artwork made by local artisans. The shop also has a deli with pre-made sandwiches, salads and locally-baked pastries. Items such as snacks and beverages suitable for taking on a hike are also available.

## The View Master: A Toy with Roots at Oregon Caves

The small toy called the View Master is familiar to many people. Some may even still have the round, cardboard photo reels that were given to them in their early childhood. The toy had an astounding impact nationally as well as globally, and it is estimated that over 65 percent of the world's population recognizes the name View Master. It is surprising that a toy destined to rise to global significance began its journey here at Oregon Caves N.M.

The View Master story started in 1938 when the inventor, William Gruber, of Portland, met Harold Grimes, the president of Sawyers, Inc., an Oregon postcard manufacturing company. They had just finished a tour of Oregon Caves and began talking about the pair of identical cameras that Gru-

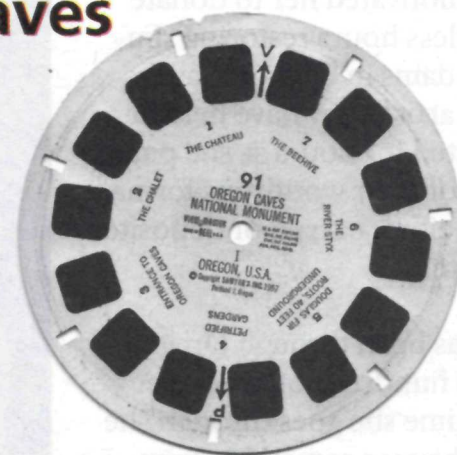
ber had mounted on his tripod. Gruber's idea was when two cameras simultaneously took photos of the same object from two different angles, they could later be viewed through a special device and be seen as a three-dimensional picture.

Grimes was interested in hearing more, so they decided to meet for dinner in the Oregon Caves Chateau to talk about the idea. That evening they drew up the preliminary plans and agreements for putting Gruber's idea into production. The product would become known as the View Master. Since then, Oregon Caves National Monument has been recognized as the home of the View Master. The first View Master reels went on sale in December of 1939 and enjoyed instant popularity. However, it is

ironic that the reels for Oregon Caves National Monument, the place where the View Master story began, were not produced until 1956.

Nevertheless, this delay is what makes the Oregon Caves reels perhaps the most unique set ever produced for the View Master. To understand this, you'd need to know a small detail about the first building constructed at Oregon Caves, the Chalet. This building was originally a two-story structure constructed in 1922. In 1940, two years after Gruber and Grimes met at Oregon Caves, the Chalet was torn down and a three-story structure, the building present today, was constructed.

The Oregon Caves reels produced in 1956 have photos of



The Oregon Caves View Master disks were made in 1956.

the Chalet when it was a two-story building. These photos had to be taken before 1940, and it is likely that the ones used in the Oregon Caves reels are the original photos that Gruber took on the same day he met Grimes. Therefore, the Oregon Caves reels would be the only ones ever produced with pictures taken on the day that the View Master idea was born.



# Join us for an *Introduction to Caving* tour!

Get off the beaten path and learn about caving techniques, etiquette, and conservation. You will encounter a variety of caving challenges, including climbing and descending over rocky slopes and boulders, crawling on hands and knees, crossing uneven surfaces, and belly sliding.

Due to the strenuous nature of the tour, participants must be in good physical condition and must be able to support their body weight with their arms. This tour is not recommended if you have

a history of heart or respiratory problems, back, shoulder, or joint problems, if you are prone to panic attacks or claustrophobia, or if you have recently sustained whiplash. Participants must be at least five feet tall and not exceed a maximum size requirement.

Participants must wear clothes that allow a free range of movement and boots with traction and ankle support. Long sleeves and long pants are required. Do not wear watches, jewelry, or other valuables on the tour. Safety equipment and caving gear will be provided, including helmet, headlamp, kneepads, and gloves. Bring a change of clothes; you will get muddy!

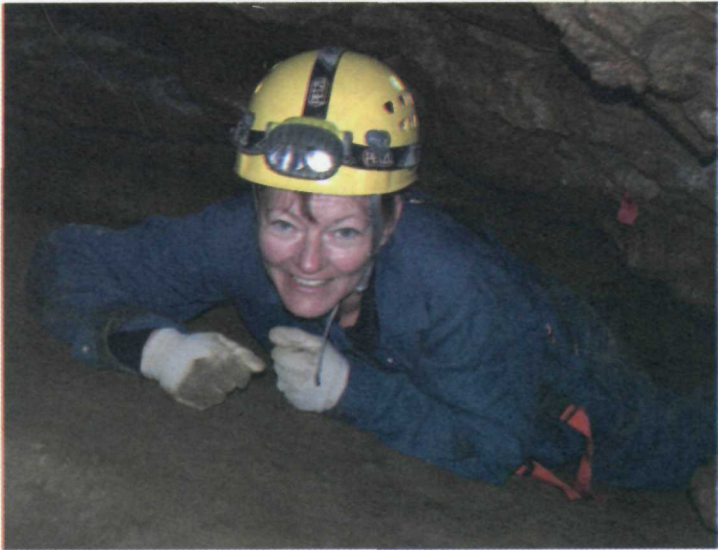
**Tours are offered Saturdays at 12:30PM, July 11 – Sept 5. Allow approximately 4 hours.**

**Tours are booked on a first-come, first-served basis. Make reservations by calling (541) 592-2100 ext. 262. Tour space is limited to 6 participants.**

**Minimum age: 15 years**

**For more information visit: [www.nps.gov/orca](http://www.nps.gov/orca)**

Some passages require participants to crawl on their belly. The height of the smallest spot is slightly greater than one foot.



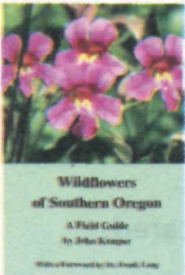
## OREGON CAVES NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

**The Oregon Caves Natural History Association** (NHA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing educational and scientific activities within Oregon Caves National Monument. The Oregon Caves NHA is a branch of the Crater Lake NHA.

The NHA invests funds generated from sales of items purchased at our park visitor center directly back into the park, providing services such as publishing park-related books and maps, printing this park newspaper, and purchasing equipment and materials for educational and scientific research programs.

Become a member of the Oregon Caves Natural History Association and learn more about the monument's natural and cultural resources. Yearly memberships can be purchased at the park visitor center or by mailing in the form below. Members of the association receive benefits including:

- A 15% discount on purchases of books, videos, maps, and other sales items.
- Discounts from most park associations including those at Crater Lake, Redwood, Lassen Volcanic, Whiskeytown, Lava Beds, Mt. Rainier, Yosemite, and other national park sites.
- The satisfaction of assisting the important educational and scientific programs of Oregon Caves National Monument.



Books recommended by the Oregon Caves Natural History Association:

### Children's Books and Games

- Into the Forest (game) \$16.95
- Zippping, Zapping, Zooming Bats \$ 4.95
- Cave Mysteries Beneath Our Feet \$15.95

### Hiking

- Hiking Oregon \$15.95
- Hot Springs in the P.N.W. \$16.95
- Waterfall Lover's Guide - P.N.W. \$19.95
- How to Rent a Fire Lookout P.N.W. \$14.95
- P.N.W. is the Pacific Northwest

### Guides

- Pacific States Wildflowers \$19.00
- Trees to Know in Oregon \$12.00
- Plants of the Pacific Northwest \$22.95
- Wildflowers of Southern Oregon \$18.95

### General Reading

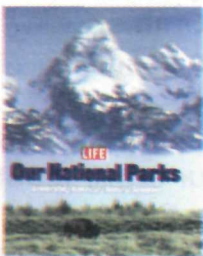
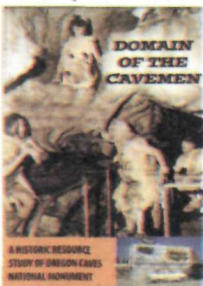
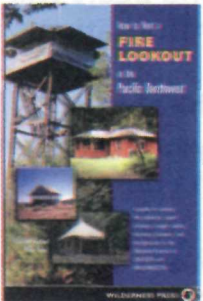
- Caves: Exploring Hidden Realms \$35.00
- Exploring Southern Oregon's Beautiful Places \$16.95
- Indian Tribes of the P.N.W. \$24.95
- Spirit of the Sikiyous \$21.95

### Maps

- Red Buttes Wilderness \$ 3.95
- Kalmiopsis Wilderness \$ 6.95
- Siskiyou National Forest \$ 9.00

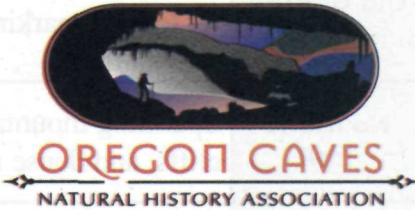
### History

- Domain of the Cavemen \$ 9.95
- Great Lodges of the Nat'l Parks \$35.00
- Our National Parks \$19.95
- Coyote Was Going There \$22.50
- Indian Literature of the Oregon Country



**Oregon Caves Natural History Association**  
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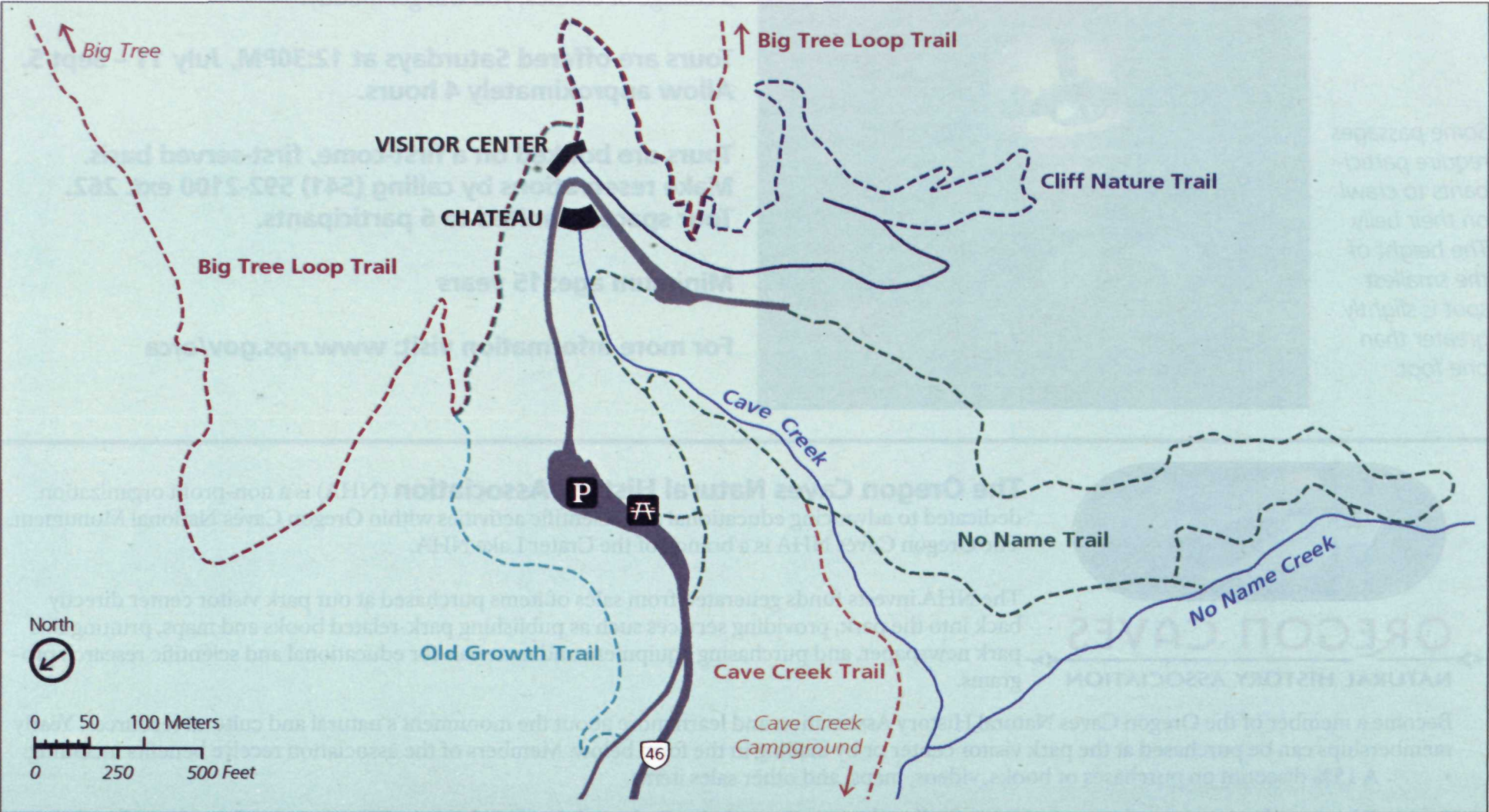
Hiking Oregon Caves

Miles of trails meander through Oregon Caves National Monument and into the Siskiyou Wilderness beyond. If you are unprepared, even a short hike can be dangerous. Talk with a Ranger about trail conditions, carry *and* drink plenty of water, and be sure someone knows your itinerary. Practice "Leave No Trace" ethics to minimize your impact on the land, and ....enjoy the views!

Exploring Safely

Follow these simple guidelines to ensure that all the plants, animals, and natural beauty will be here for generations to come.

- \* Enjoy walking on the trails to view the natural beauty...  
...and please stay on the pathways to minimize the impact to the forest and wildlife.
- \* Enjoy the vast array of native plants and animals here within the Siskiyou Mountains...  
...and please do not remove anything from its natural habitat.  
*Do not feed the wild animals or birds as feeding both degrades both the health and habits of these creatures. It is also prohibited by law.*
- \* Enjoy Picnicking at the picnic area next to the No Name Trail...  
...and please dispose of all litter in proper receptacles including recyclables.



|                          |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cliff Nature Trail       | Spectacular panoramic views of the Illinois Valley                                                                                 | From cave exit, 0.7 miles. From Visitor Center, 1.0 mile loop with a 370 feet (113 m) gain in elevation.                                                                                       | Allow 40 minutes from Cave exit, or 1 hour for entire loop. |
| Old Growth Trail         | Historic trail leads from Visitor Center to main parking lot. Beautiful old growth trees                                           | Total loop distance is 0.8miles (1.3 km) with 200 feet (60 m) gain in elevation to highest point.                                                                                              | Allow 30- 40 minutes                                        |
| No Name Trail            | Sparkling mountain streams, mossy cliffs, and dense mixed forests                                                                  | Total loop distance 1.3 miles (2.1 km) with 250 feet (75 m) gain in elevation.                                                                                                                 | Allow 1 hour                                                |
| Big Tree Trail           | Trail climbs through ancient forest and meadows to the largest-diameter Douglas Fir known in Oregon                                | Total loop distance is 3.3 miles (5.3 km). This is a strenuous hike with 1,100 feet (335 m) gain in elevation                                                                                  | Allow 2-3 hours                                             |
| Cave Creek Trail         | Trail follows Caves Creek from the monument to the Forest Service campground through a forest of oaks and conifers.                | Distance one way is 1.5 miles (2.4 km), 1000 feet (305 m) change in elevation.                                                                                                                 | Allow 1 hour +                                              |
| Bigelow Lakes Loop Trail | Follows the Mountain Meadows Trail and Boundary Trail from road USFS 070 to Mt. Elijah, passing by Bigelow Lakes up to Mt.. Elijah | Distance from USFS 070 junction loop is 4 miles (6.4 km) with 700 ft. (213 m) gain in elevation. From Visitor Center to Mt. Elijah it is 4.5 miles with a 2390 feet (728 m) gain in elevation. | Allow 4 to 6 hours depending on route                       |

Cougar/Bear Country

Cougars and black bear are important members of the animal community of the Siskiyou mountains. While they are very rarely seen and risk of attack is low, you should be prepared in case you do see one.

Be aware, not scared.

Most cougars and bears will try to avoid confrontation.

Never approach these animals, especially ones that are feeding or with young.

Do Not Run. Stay calm. Hold your ground or back away slowly. Always give them a way to escape.

If you have small children with you, pick them up.

Face the animal and stand upright. Do all you can to appear larger. Grab a stick. Raise your arms.

If the animal behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you are dangerous and not prey.

If attacked by a cougar or a black bear, fight back!

Ranger Programs

During the summer months Rangers share the stories of Oregon Caves' natural and cultural legacy.

Programs last 20 to 30 minutes with different topics daily.

Check the schedule in the Visitor Center for the day's programs.

