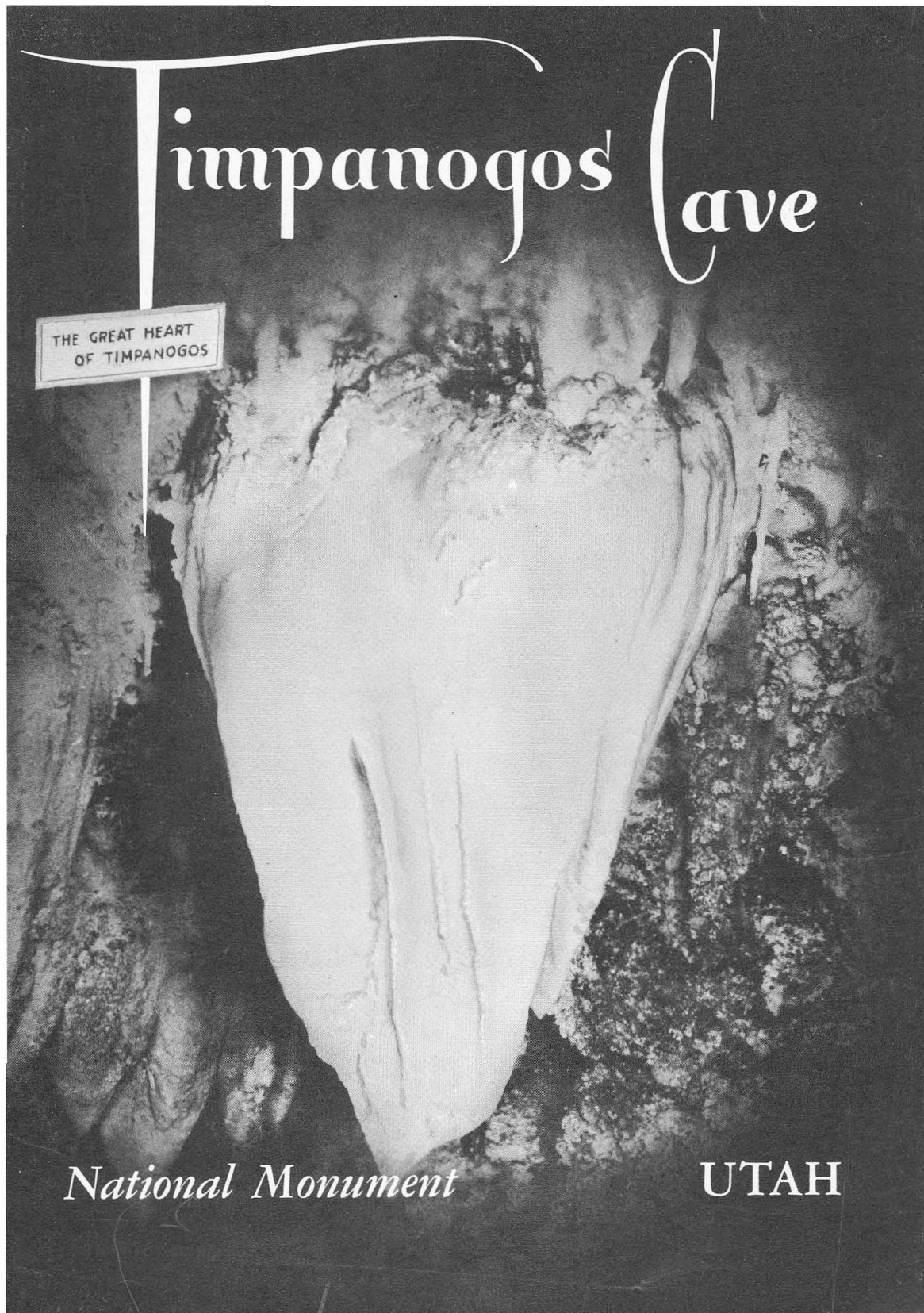


The Journal of Spelean History

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of The AMERICAN SPELEAN HISTORY ASSOCIATION



ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The American Spelean History Association is a non-profit corporation chartered for the study, dissemination and interpretation of spelean history and related purposes. All persons of high ethical and moral character who are interested in these goals are cordially invited to become members. Annual membership is \$5.00; family membership is \$6.00. Library subscriptions are \$4.00.

About the Journal

The Association publishes The Journal of Spelean History on a quarterly basis. Pertinent original articles or copies of material to be reprinted are welcomed. As a photo-offset process is in use, articles should be submitted in a form which can be photographed for direct use, i.e., single-spaced, on 8 1/2 x 11 paper with adequate margins. Submission of rough drafts for preliminary editing is strongly recommended. Line drawings are welcome; photographs require special handling and the editor should be contacted. Dark, clear xerox copies of books, etc. reproduce well.

About the cover illustration

The 8 1/2 x 6" brochures formerly published by the National Park Service on each national park and monument are grievously lamented by spelean historians. The most noted of these, speleologically stated, probably is that by Isabella Storey on Carlsbad Caverns National Park which contains a valuable early bibliography. The sequence of these booklets at the cavernous national parks as a whole, however, provide valuable insight into the history thereof. The 1951 Timpanogos Cave National Monument booklet illustrated on the cover is a comparatively late member of this notable series and is perhaps more notable for its illustrations than for any historical content. However, it serves well as an introduction to the rapidly evolving history of this noted cave system.

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of
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DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION
of the
TIMPANOGOS CAVES OF UTAH

Editor's note:

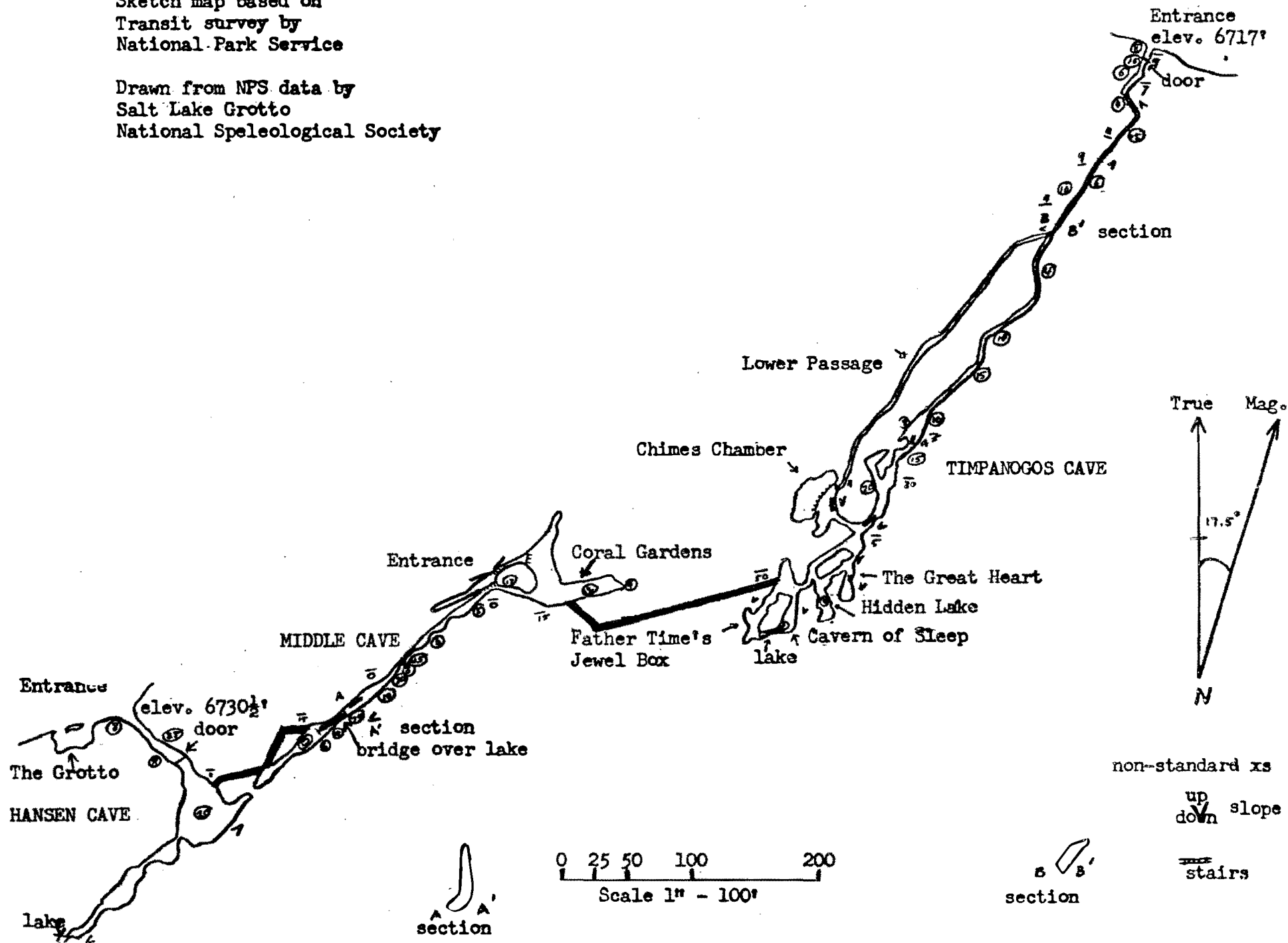
The following article is excerpted from "The History of Timpanogos Cave National Monument, American Fork Canyon, Utah", an undated 53-page National Park Service report issued in limited mimeographed form circa 1969. These excerpts originally appeared in "Timpanogos Cave National Monument: area and service history", an even more limited mimeographed report by Ralph M. Iorio, undated but prepared circa 1960. The original reports may be consulted in the files of Timpanogos Cave National Monument. The sections below are published here with the permission of the National Park Service, through the courtesy of Don H. Castleberry and Neal Bullington.

Timpanogos Cave National Monument is located on the north flank of Mt. Timpanogos, about 35 miles southeast of Salt Lake City, Utah, astride Highway U-80. The National Monument was established on October 14, 1922, by proclamation of President Warren G. Harding under the power vested in him by "An act for the preservation of American antiquities" passed by Congress June 8, 1906. By issuing this proclamation the President sought to promote the public's interest because the cave "is of unusual scientific interest and importance." The action reserved from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws a "natural cave, known as Timpanogos Cave...with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof."¹ Reserved by this act are 250 acres of land, within which are located three separate caves known individually as Hansen's, Middle, and Timpanogos.

TIMPANOGOS CAVES, UTAH

Sketch map based on
Transit survey by
National Park Service

Drawn from NPS data by
Salt Lake Grotto
National Speleological Society



DISCOVERY OF THE CAVES

HANSEN'S CAVE

During the late 1800's, as civilization spread through the western states, heavy demands were imposed on the forests of the region. As the readily available lumber supplies were exhausted, the timber cutters gradually invaded the more difficult to reach spots. In the canyon of the American Fork River this meant going higher and higher up the steep slopes.

In the year 1887, sometime during the fall, Martin Hansen was cutting timber high upon the south wall of the canyon. One day, when it was time to return to his home in American Fork, he left his ax by the partially trimmed tree on which he had been working. That night a light snow fell and powdered the countryside. Returning to work the next morning, Mr. Hansen noticed the tracks of a mountain lion in the snow near the fallen tree. Armed with only his ax, he followed the spoor onto some higher ledges; there, they led him into an opening in the cliff face. Going a short way into the opening, Mr. Hansen suddenly realized that should he corner the lion, his only weapon was the ax. Turning back towards the entrance he observed that the floor was littered with bones and other debris. Resuming work Mr. Hansen made a mental note of the location of the cave with the object of exploring it further at the first opportunity.

During the following winter, Martin Hansen interested several other men in his discovery and they joined together to open the cave to the public. With the aid of his brother-in-law, Richard Steele, and Charles and Joseph Burgess, the discoverer hacked out a rough trail from the canyon bottom to the cave entrance. The path went almost straight up for 1,200 feet with little or no attention given to such refinements as switchbacks to reduce the grade. In places where it was necessary to climb, trees were felled against the higher ledges and a crude ladder formed by trimming the branches. At other difficult places along the trail, logs were bolted to the steep rock faces to offer better footing. Hansen apparently had no legal claim to the cave, but in order to protect it he placed a wooden door over the natural entrance.

For about three or four years after the discovery, Hansen conducted groups through the cave on request; a small fee being collected for this guide service. Many of the people on these tours would remove souvenirs from the cave, and despite the locked door, others would occasionally

break into the cave to destroy and remove dripstone formations. Sometime during 1891, Hansen stopped taking groups through the cave and did not return for a year or two. Reportedly, unknown to Mr. Hansen, during the winter of 1892-93, a few men from neighboring town mined the cave for the 'onyx' deposits. These men had located the cave as a mining claim and working on contract with the Duke-Onyx Company of Chicago, Illinois, stripped the cave of its decorations and of course, destroyed its scenic value. The scattered remnants of the formations that may still be seen in the various rooms of Hansen's Cave indicate that originally it was exceptionally well decorated. Remaining deposits show predominance of various shades of red, deep browns, yellow, cream and some unstained white calcite. Aside from the usual dripstone and flowstone deposits, patches of anthodites and helictites may still be seen. Of the material removed, no records have been uncovered to reveal its disposition, but it is known that at least two freight cars were loaded from this place. It has been said that some of the slabs weighed as much as fifteen tons. About the only indication of what happened to most of the 'onyx' is that it was shipped to an eastern city. One rumor has it that some may have been used for decorative purposes in the construction of the American Museum of Natural History, in New York City. It is known that one of the main wings of the museum was erected during the decade 1890-1900, but no record was kept of the source of building material. Another building in which some of the flowstone may have been used is the Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Salt Lake City. A mantel on the third floor of the temple, reportedly, consists of polished slabs of 'onyx' taken from the cave, and fashioned by John Devey, a former resident of Lehi, Utah. A grand daughter of Devey, living in Provo, Utah, has in her possession a small table which was made by him. The table consists of polished columns and discs, arranged in steps and made of calcite that supposedly was taken from Hansen's Cave.¹

Though the story of Martin Hansen following the lion into the cave is the most widespread, it is not fully accepted by some of his surviving children. As they recall his telling them, he had found the cave while cutting timber, but not by following lion tracks to it. "While chopping trees on the mountainside, he heard an echoing sound which made him think the ground beneath him was hollow. In trying to locate the cause for the echo he found the present Hansen's Cave. A few years later, again while cutting timber, he came across the lion tracks which he followed to a natural opening in the rocks; but after this initial discovery he could not relocate the entrance to this second cave."² It

has been implied that this last found cave is the one presently known as Timpanogos.

Present day visitors to the area see only the first room of the Hansen's Cave. It was from this room that a tunnel was drilled to Middle Cave. Overall, it is a linear northeast trending series of three large rooms connected by smaller rooms or passageways with a few short side passages. Total length is about 300 feet. The first room entered is used as an orientation chamber for the cave tours and no visitor is allowed into the other sections as a protective measure for the cave's water supply which is located there.

TIMPANOGOS CAVE

American Fork Canyon has always been a favorite recreational area for residents of the nearby towns in Utah Valley; this being especially true during the heat of summer when its shaded cool fastness offers welcome relief from the sun-baked valley. Hunting, fishing, camping, picnicking and hiking are some of the activities which may be enjoyed there. One day during the early years of World War I, a group of people from Lehi, Utah, planned an outing in the canyon and while there decided to visit the old Hansen Cave. Two of the group, James W. Gough and Frank Johnson, youngsters of about 14, did not enter the cave with the others, instead they remained outside to "climb around and explore". In the course of their wanderings the boys found an entrance to a previously unknown cave, presently known as Timpanogos. A personal account of his discovery is given by James W. Gough in appendix A of this paper.

Soon after the initial discovery a number of Church and social organizations from Lehi visited the subterranean wonder. However, despite the fact that numerous people had been to the cave, for some undetermined reason public knowledge of it seemed to fade away. That is from all but the memory of the discoverer for on August 8, 1915, James C. Gough, father of James W., recorded at the Utah County Court house in Provo, a filing on the location of the "Lone Star" lode. This claim covered the land on which the cave was found and the locators were listed as James C. Gough, James W. Gough and John Hutchings. According to the younger Gough and Hutchings, the filing was made about one year after the initial entry. Shortly after the filing the Goughs moved to Idaho, and little or none of the necessary assessment work to validate the claim was done. In order to conceal the entrance, before they left, young Gough piled rocks over the opening, and apparently no one entered the cave again until 1921.

In 1920, on the 18th and 25th of May, three mining claims were filed with the County Recorder in Provo, on locations in American Fork Canyon. These claims, "Bet Your Boots", "Golden Arrow", and the "Joy Mine" were located by E. T. Culmer, S. F. Snyder, Don Workman and David Andrews. They were filed as being 3/4 of a mile above the upper power plant in the American Fork Canyon and described as "joined to each other". These three claims, for metalliferous ore deposits, led eventually to litigation with the Forest Service, the agency administering the lands.

Rumors to the effect that a "new cave" had been found in American Fork Canyon were circulating in the nearby towns early in 1921. On June 30th of that year, Edwin S. Poulson, a resident of American Fork, wrote a letter to the Wasatch Forest Supervisor, Dana Parkinson. In the letter the rumors were brought to the attention of the Forest Supervisor, and the cave was described in superlative terms by Mr. Poulson, though he had not seen it. The writer expressed concern that negotiations were underway for the sale of "specimens" to the Chicago University and that such action would destroy the scenic beauty of the cave. Mr. Poulson could give no more than an approximate location of the cave, but he did identify the original discoverers as James "Golf", Jr. (Gough) and John Hutchings, both of Lehi. In exchange for this information certain photographic privileges were expected. On, or about, August 27, 1921, Dana Parkinson and Mr. Poulson visited the elder Mr. Gough to see if he would take them to the cave, but correspondence of Mr. Parkinson's reveals that, "he (Mr. Gough) refused to disclose any thing regarding the cave."⁶

Reports of the rumors had been carried in the local newspapers that summer and came to the attention of some members of an outdoor club in Payson, Utah. With the intention of visiting the caves the club members arranged to make a trip to American Fork Canyon on August 14, 1921. That same day Vearl J. Manwill, a member of the club, succeeded in finding the sealed-over entrance to this much sought after cave. (Mr. Manwill's personal account of the discovery may be read in appendix B). Sitting around a campfire that evening after exploring the cave the club members discussed possible courses of action. Presumably, without the participants being aware, a scene was re-enacted along the banks of the American Fork River which was, in essence, a duplication of one which occurred around an immortal campfire some fifty years earlier at the confluence of the Firehole and Gibbon rivers in Wyoming. There, on September 19, 1870, Cornelius Hedges, a member of the Washburn-Doane-Langford expedition that was exploring the Yellowstone region, countered pro-

posals that the natural wonders to sub-divided for personal exploitation. Instead, he offered the suggestion that the whole region be set aside as a national park.

The Payson group having witnessed that day the result of depredation in Hansen's Cave, were open to suggestions. The leader of the group, Dr. L. D. Pfouts, advanced the idea that they form a club which would be dedicated to the purpose of protecting and preserving the cave from vandalism. By the fire the Payson Alpine Club was created, and it was agreed that they would return two weeks later to fully explore the cave.

As most of the American Fork Canyon was within the Wasatch National Forest, officers of the administering agency were particularly interested in determining the validity of the cave rumors. During the summer of 1921, occasional searches were conducted in the canyon, but to no avail. Therefore, on August 28, 1921, when Forest Deputy Supervisor Walter G. Mann and Ranger Vivian N. West observed a number of automobiles parked by the riverside below the old Hansen Cave they decided to investigate. The tracks left by people in a large party went up the south wall of the canyon. Following the footsteps of the group, Mann and West found that they ascended the trail built by Hansen for a way then turned off and headed east. Eventually the Forest Service officers came upon a group of about 22 people, setting and resting by an opening that led into the cliff face. Included in the party were the members of the Payson Alpine Club. There was apparently some misunderstanding between the officials and the other group when they met, but this was clarified later when the facts became known. In order to protect the cave, the Supervisor and Ranger posted the area as a "Public Service Site." The next day Fire Guard, Amber Boulter was stationed at the foot of the trail to prevent trespass. A short time later, for added protection, the Forest Service placed a door over the entranceway. This action was the first step in the series that eventually led to the reservation of this tract as a national monument. When the reservation was made as a "public service site" the authorities recognized the fact that a mining claim had been staked on the same ground. The claim was the Lone Star Lode which had been located by the Gough's and Hutchings. Assistant Acting District Forester R. E. Guy in a memorandum dated September 3, 1921, stated that since "The locator has done no work on the claim and as it has been posted with the public service site signs, no present attention will be paid thereto by the Service." The locators of this claim apparently made little or no effort to dispute this decision.

During the period of excitement over the discovery of Timpanogos Cave and at the time when only special groups were being taken through, another cave was discovered. The Forest Service was notified soon after of the discovery of this second cave. The cave was situated approximately midway between the old Hansen Cave and the recently uncovered Timpanogos. Because of the very difficult approach to the natural entrance, and the long, almost vertical drop to the floor, no immediate plans were made to open it to the public. Recognition was given, at the time, to the possibility of drilling a tunnel from the cliff face level with the cave floor. Later, after the caves had been explored more thoroughly, the possibility of linking them by two short tunnels was realized. Eighteen years later the joining of the three separate caves, by man-made passageways, into one linear system was accomplished.

MIDDLE CAVE

Middle Cave, the last of the three in the Timpanogos group to be discovered, was found by George Heber Hansen and his nephew Wayne E. Hansen. George Heber Hansen was the son of Martin Hansen, and Wayne E. Hansen was the elder Hansen's grandson. Ever since Martin Hansen's discovery of the one cave and possibly the entrance to another, he would, from time to time, relate these adventures to members of his family. Therefore, whenever the Hansens entered the canyon they were usually on the alert for similar features. Reward finally came to the two members in the fall of 1921, a scant six weeks after the announcement of the location of Timpanogos Cave by the Forest Service. The exact date of discovery is in question, but an article in the November 19, 1921, edition of the American Fork Citizen quotes George Heber Hansen as finding the cave on October 15, 1921. Wayne E. Hansen, the co-discoverer, in his personal account of the event tentatively places the date a few days later. ³

On October 14, 1922, President Warren G. Harding created Timpanogos Cave National Monument by Proclamation No. 1640, under the authority of the Act of June 8, 1906, (34 Stat. 225).

The establishment of a National Monument only one month after an official request, and within 14 months of its discovery may have set a record.

REFERENCES

1. Anderson, Mrs. Arthur. Interview, December 9, 1960. Also article in Lehi (Utah) Free Press, October 28, 1937.
2. Poulson, Edwin S. Letter dated June 30, 1921, to Forest Supervisor.
3. See Appendix C, following.

APPENDIX A

The following account of the discovery of a cave now known as Timpanogos Cave was dictated by James W. Gough, Jr. on December 13, 1960.

During the summer of 1914 or 1915, I, James W. Gough, Jr. went with my parents and a group of people from Lehi, Utah to visit the old Hansen Cave. This group consisted of the following named men and their wives: James W. Gough, Sr., Harmon Johnson, Lavon Fox, Wilma Johnson, Thomas A. Taylor. There were also two boys 14 or 15 years of age; Frank Johnson and myself.

While the adults of the party were visiting the cave, Frank Johnson and I, who had been to the cave at other times, took a hike. In going up over some steep ledges we found ourselves in a position in which we could not get back down the way we went up. After several hours of trying to find a way down, we finally discovered a notch in the canyon wall which would allow us to descend. To do this, I held on to the roots of a tree and dangled over the side while Frank, clinging to my body, slowly climbed down and then dropped to the ledge five feet below. I then dropped to the ledge and was only prevented from plunging over the edge of a vertical drop of about 300 feet by Frank who grasped me.

Proceeding around the ledge, we discovered a place that looked mineralized. I started digging into a fissure which showed some mineralization that looked similar to mineralized rock I had seen at the Scranton mine. While digging, it soon became apparent that I was breaking into an opening or hole in the mountain side. Pulling the rock and soil away from the opening, it was soon large enough for me to look into. Looking down into the hole, I could see another opening about ten feet below which admitted daylight. This aroused the curiosity of Frank and myself, and further investigation revealed that a large slab of rock had been placed in the entranceway to a cave. This slab was almost completely buried and covered with topsoil, and only the upper portion was sticking out. Grass growing in the soil showed that it had been sealed up for a good many years. By taking another rock and pounding the "key" that held the slab in place, I broke the "key" and the slab plunged down into the cave. My curiosity was aroused to the point where I had to go down into the cave and see what was in it. Lighting a piece of candle which I had been carrying in my pocket, I persuaded Frank to go with me down into the opening. While climbing down, something suddenly knocked my hat off. Thoughts of bears and mountain lions raced through my head and I decided to get out of the cave as fast as possible. Attempting to scramble back up the slope, my foot hit a slick, mossy spot; I slipped, lost my grip, and slid to the bottom of the slope about ten feet below. In falling, I had lost my light and my hat. Everything about me, as I sat, was darkness and dust. At first I was very frightened, as I thought a bear would get me. Up above I could hear Frank laughing and laughing; then he

called down and said that it had been a bat that had knocked my hat off and not a bear. It was not long before the dust cleared away and once my eyes had become accustomed to the change from broad daylight, I could see fairly well with the light that came through the opening above. Frank came down to where I was, and together we explored the cave until we came to a deep hole in the floor. We were blocked from exploring deeper into the cave by the pit in the floor as we could see no way around it. We then left the newly found cave and returned to Hansen's Cave to tell our folks of the discovery. When we arrived there we found them just coming out of the cave. After we had told our folks of the find, we all rushed around to the entrance to explore it. The group entered the cave, but was also halted by the pit. Some of the men then went outside to get a log which was used to bridge the hole in the cave floor. After crossing the log bridge, the party explored the cave as deeply as what is now known as the "Heart of Timpanogos." Near the Heart the cavern branched into a number of passageways going in many directions. Fearing we would become lost if we went too far into the maze, it was decided to stop exploring at this point and return in about two weeks with better and more equipment than we had on hand. More rope, string for marking the trail, carbide lanterns were needed, or so we thought.

Two weeks later a party consisting of my father James C. Gough, Sr., myself, and perhaps two or three other people, the names now forgotten, returned and fully explored the cave. In the bottom of the cave we found a beautiful lake, ice cold and crystal clear. The many openings or side passageways, which we had at first feared would lead into a bewildering maze, were actually only short passageways, and there was no real danger of getting lost. When we returned to the entranceway we noticed some bones at the bottom of the slope; these had been broken by the slab of rock which had covered the entranceway when it fell.

About one month later, after we had explored the entire cave system, Thomas A. Taylor took a Mutual Group of about 15-20 boys and girls through the cave. After the mutual group's trip the cave was commonly known, and many other groups went through the cave.

Approximately one year later, because of the fracture that looked mineralized, my father and I staked the cave ground for a mineral claim. I sent a sample of the rock to John Hutchings, who lived in Scranton at the time, to have it analyzed. Hutchings found the sample contained $3\frac{1}{2}$ zinc. About six months later John Hutchings moved to Lehi, Utah, and being so interested in the cave, he was taken in as a third partner, each holding a one-third interest in the claim.

Over the period of years that we hold the claim to the cave ground, I went to the cave twenty-one times. On the last trip to the cave before I left to work in Sholloy, Idaho, I took a powder box to the cave. This box contained powder caps, fuses, and carbide. It had been given to me by John Hutchings in Scranton, and was left in the cave for future use.

APPENDIX B

The following is an account surrounding the discovery of Timpanogos Cave, by Voarl J. Manwill.

I was born in Payson, Utah, November 15, 1900 to John V. and Elizabeth Keele Manwill. Father was a farmer of moderate means, but about 1908, he went to work for the Forest Service as a Ranger. For about a year he was stationed at Vernon, in Tooele County, then he got transferred to American Fork Canyon in 1909. At that time he had five children, three boys and two girls.

We lived at the South Fork Ranger Station in the summer and in American Fork in the winter where we went to school. The summers were very interesting, but we saw very few people. Mostly miners, ore haulers, prospectors, sheep herders, and on holidays, covered wagons of campers would sometimes come up from the valley to picnic. Occasionally an artist or explorer would stay over at our house for a night. On those occasions, as a boy, I was fascinated by some of their stories of legends about Indian gold mines, exploring, and prospecting.

I later learned that there was a cave about a mile down the canyon called Hanson's Cave, and my mother told me of going through it with some University of Utah students in 1898, and described its beauty. I later got a chance to go through it, and it was very beautiful.

We spent nine summers in the canyon, and on several occasions, I took school chums through the cave using candles for light. In 1918, father was transferred from American Fork to the Strawberry Valley ranger station, so he moved back to Payson so the boys could work the farm in the summer time.

We missed the canyon very much so we organized a small hiking club and every other week-end we would go camping, mountain climbing or exploring.

In the summer of 1921, we went on the annual Timpanogos Mountain Climb, then in camp that evening we planned our next trip.

I remembered reading an article in the American Fork Citizen that was entitled "Rumors of Mysterious Cave in American Fork Canyon." We assumed that someone knew where it was, so we decided to go up to the canyon on August 14, 1921, and go through it. We went to see Martin Hanson

(discoverer of Hansen's Cave) and he said he had heard rumors, but knew nothing about its whereabouts, but if we were going to look for it, to look for it in the general area and level as Hansen Cave, as it was formed on a fault and if the fault extended through the rocks that would be the logical place to look.

We then proceeded up the canyon and went through Hansen's Cave. We had carbide miner's lamps, candles and also a couple of cameras and a flash gun for taking pictures. At this time we were very disappointed, as the onyx and beauty of the cave had been practically all stripped off. We didn't take any pictures, but proceeded to the entrance where we decided to separate and do exploring. I went alone and went to the west, then climbed up over the ledges to the top and then turned back east and down the east side of the big ledges. I stopped to rest at a point about the same level as Hansen's Cave, but about 3/4 mile east and as my eyes scanned the mountainside, I noticed next to the ledge an artificial appearance like masonry with vegetation partially growing over it about thirty feet west of where I sat. I walked over to it and kicked at it and one of the rocks came loose, rolling down an incline inside of the mountain. I opened it up and the hole was about two feet in diameter. I immediately called the rest of the group and we proceeded to explore it. At the foot of the first incline, about 30 feet down, was a room of rather spacious dimensions and on the floor was part of an old dynamite box (all soggy and mouldy). This indicated that someone had been in before and then sealed up the entrance and had either lost the location or was keeping it secret.

We then proceeded to explore it. It was a thrilling experience as there were no trails or tracks to follow. In places we had to lay on our stomachs and squeeze through. Other places we had to make ourselves into human bridges or ladders to help the ladies along. About half-way through, half of the party became frightened and turned back. However, three of the men and two ladies proceeded all the way and we took pictures of what is now called "Father Time's Jewel Box."

We then went back out and joined the rest of the party and closed up the entrance, much as the way we found it and went back down to the canyon bottom where we were camped and that night by the light of campfire, discussed our find and talked about ways and means to preserve its beauty for posterity instead of allowing it to be vandalized as Hansen's Cave had been. We decided to start by organizing an outdoor club dedicated to the objective of preserving the cave, which we did.

We called it the Payson Alpine Club and I was elected president and my sister Elon Manwill, secretary. We decided to return in about two weeks and measure, map, and photograph the cave

then turn our information over to the proper authorities for their assistance.

We returned the following week (ed. two weeks) with a party of twenty-two, but so much time was spent showing it to the other group that we did no measuring, but did take a few pictures. When we left the cave, we were met near the mouth by Deputy Supervisor Mann and Ranger West of the Forest Service who demanded to know what we were doing there. When we explained they did not believe us. They seemed to think that we were the persons who were keeping the whereabouts of the cave a secret and were attempting to commercialize on it. So they, at that time, nailed up a sign on a nearby tree declaring the location a public service site, and then told us to vacate at once and they would investigate our story.

A day later an article appeared in a Salt Lake Newspaper titled, "Forest Rangers Discover Mysterious Cave." We were not mentioned in the article. From this point on it was taken over by the Forest Service, the Wasatch Mountain Club, and a Dr. Hopkins (dentist) of Salt Lake City made valuable contributions by pictures and other assistance in preserving the cave.

It was declared a National Monument in the fall of 1923, (ed: 1922) by President Harding and later turned over to the National Park Service.

I did not go near it again for several years, and it was not until about November, 1926, when I read an article in the Improvement Era (LDS Church) Magazine that stated that the U. S. Geological Survey gave me official recognition for the discovery, that my name was linked with the discovery. I later learned that considerable investigation, law suits, claims, and counter claims had brought to light the truth about it. But I am glad that I have contributed in part toward its preservation.

APPENDIX C

DISCOVERY OF THE MIDDLE CAVE OF TIMPANOGOS CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT

by

WAYNE E. HANSEN

On or about October 20, 1921, my Uncle, George Heber Hansen and myself, then a young man of 18 years, journeyed to American Fork Canyon to hunt deer. We made the journey by horse and buggy.

We traveled up the canyon to the location now known as Timpanogos Cave Camp, left the horse and buggy there and made our way on foot up the canyon to Tank Canyon, just below the old Hanging Rock. We traveled up Tank Canyon climbing to the top ridge. Then we proceeded to hunt in the ledges and pines back down the canyon to a point across from the old Hansen Cave and new Timpanogos Cave. It was about mid-day and we sat down here to eat our lunch.

While eating and resting, we were looking across the canyon with a pair of field glasses which Uncle Heber had brought along. First we located the entrance of Grandfather's old cave and then the new Timpanogos Cave.

Because of a story told by Grandfather Hansen, about another opening in the immediate vicinity of his cave, we were trying to find this opening with the glasses and thus found another opening about midway between Timpanogos and Hansen Caves, on about the same level. To us, across the canyon it appeared to be two or three feet in diameter. We talked about it and decided as we had not sighted any deer we would go across and try to locate this new opening.

From where we were we came down to the canyon bottom where we had left the buggy, over what we then called "Rattlesnake Slide" a very rugged and rocky trail as I remember it. Leaving everything we were carrying except our rifles, we climbed the trail to the Hansen Cave. Then taking a course around and up the canyon, on about the same level, we worked our way through brush, timber, and ledges until we found this new opening.

We found it to be an opening of about four to five feet in height and three feet wide. It was bigger than it had appeared to be from across the canyon. It seemed to be the opening of a huge crack in the canyon wall. We ventured into the opening as far as we dared, using what matches we had. The opening, we found, slanted downward. The floor of the opening ended abruptly going straight down.

It was decided to tell Grandfather about it and get a party together and come back. When we arrived back at American Fork that evening (with no deer), we told Grandfather and others of the family about it. Everyone was excited about what we had found, so a party was formed and a date set to go back and explore this new cave.

Members of this first party as I remember them were: Grandfather, Martin Hansen, my two unclos, George Heber Hansen and Thomas Hansen, one of my two elder brothers, Edmund R. Hansen or Leo T. Hansen, myself, and Richard H. Hansen, father of Wayne T. Hansen.

We took along with us, about 60 feet of hay derrick rope, other small ropes, flashlights, candles, hand picks and other things we thought we would need. We arrived at the new cave the morning of October 24 or 25, 1921, secured the derrick rope at the top of the opening, letting the end fall down over the edge of the ledge inside.

As I remember, Uncle Heber was the first man to attempt to go down into the cave. We did not know how far down it would be or if we had enough rope. So we had dropped rocks down and they did not seem to fall too far before we heard them strike bottom. Soon Uncle Heber shouted, that he was on the bottom and we all followed him down into the cave.

We spent about two or three hours exploring this new cave that day, but later another party went up and made the second trip through.

This second party was a bigger bunch. Included were my two brothers-in-law, Leo Thorne and Junius Adams, my father, Richard H. Hansen, my younger brother, Martin T. Hansen, both of my elder brothers, Uncle Heber and myself. Grandfather did not make this trip because of his age and because the other trip had been quite hard on him.

It was during this second exploration that an incident occurred which will not be forgotten by the members. In order to get out of the cave, one must climb hand over hand up about 60 feet of rope, pulling yourself over the ledge at the top. In a few places on the way up, you could brace yourself against the walls of the huge crack, but most of the climb was hang on to the rope and pull.

We spent another hour or two climbing around and exploring and were on our way out of the cave when Leo Thorne, who was climbing out and had reached the top at the ledge, fainted and fell to the bottom. Landing in an upright position feet first. Because of working the midnight shift at the Lohi Sugar Factory, then riding a bicycle from American Fork and climbing the trail to the cave, Leo must have been exhausted, this causing him to faint and fall. I was sent down the canyon to the Number two Utah Power and Light Plant to phone for Dr. Kelley and help. While I was gone the others in the party tied Leo to the derrick rope in an upright position and in this manner hoisted him up and out of the cave. Fortunately Leo was not injured seriously but he still carries the scars of this fall.

There could be other details and people, who may be involved in this account. I do not mean to leave anyone out of this account. This is as I remember it this October of 1956.