

TRIP REPORT

MISTY CAVE SAND GAP KY.

*"see - Surveying IS
good for something"*

Located in Sand Gap Ky., Misty Cave is one of those types often found in this area of the country. Its main cave area had been visited by many locals over the years (as much graffiti attests to). But with a little determination, Guess work, and luck, it began to yield up virgin passage.

It was first spotted by Don Muaney and Jacque Ramey in June of 1987. We all joined in on the fun July 4th but little new was found. Shortly after, a trip moved some rocks to enter for the first time into cylume crawl (named after a cylume which still abodes there). This quickly led to the aptly named Flat room. An obvious breeze led these intrepid explorers to the main stream passage. This 3 foot high stream crawl is strongly reminiscent of other stream crawls in the area - low, rocky, and wet. But this one led to "The Only Way Up" a dome pit lead to an upper level. This was climbed by Mark Rocklin and I on our Sept. 1987 survey. This survey is well remembered as Mark Shot the whole survey reading the wrong side of the compass. I spent 2 weeks trying to figure out how the cave could go under the stream in front of it!

The 2nd survey went out on Dec 20th '87 and started as a mop-up of leads. The first lead was a dismal,

low lead called Christmas Crawl. This 1 and 2 foot high crawl kept us occupied and complaining. But after about 100 feet it led us to Christmas Climb and No-Risk Canyon (named because the three foot fall into deep water made a good place for the beginners in our party to learn how to chimney).

This in turn led to a major extension of the main stream called Apparition Ave because of the tricks it played on lights by diffraction. This passage paralleled the main cave and, even though it runs water in it, it is actually higher than the main cave. This passage eventually linked to the main stream through a small sandy crawl.

Downstream in apparition lies some beautiful stream cut passage, another entrance (for very small cavers), and a sump.

This cave is a good visit and still has many going leads and unmapped passage. Any extra survey would be appreciated.

Survey History

Survey #1 Sept. 19 1987

H.Kalnitz, M.Rocklin, J.Streba

Survey #2 Dec 20, 1987

H.Kalnitz, M.Rocklin, J.Neack
S. Johnson

Survey #3 Jan. 3 1988

J. Wisher, M. Rocklin, J. Streba,
J Neack, J. Ramey, K. Metzler

Survey #4 April 24, 1988

a) H.Kalnitz, J. Neack, M.Guattadauro
b) J. Streba, D.Hornsby, D. Mauney
Total Survey - 4047 ft.

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