

Map

Millers Pit 1

#017

Geologic Unit: Ste. Genevieve Limestone

Description: The entrance is located in the Ste. Genevieve Limestone but the cave is developed in the St. Louis. It is a dry, shallow sink on a hillside with another similar sink a few feet away. The actual opening of the shaft is a narrow slit only a few feet wide. The drop of seventy feet leads into a narrow dome that bells out slowly until it is some thirty feet across the bottom. To one side is a canyon passage into a like dome that does not penetrate to the surface but lies directly beneath the other surface sink. The rest of the cave consists of a muddy stoopway with occasional small domes. The passage ends after about a hundred feet in a small room. Total horizontal passage: 199 feet.

Millers Pit One
By Gary O'Dell NSS 10278

This pit was pointed out by the owner in 1971, and prior to that time had not been descended. The entrance consists of a narrow slot, about 6 feet by 2 feet, in the bottom of one of two similar shallow, adjacent sinks. As both of these sinks overlie a dome, it is advisable to stay out of either unless rigged, for creation of a new entrance via a long drop sans harness is not the best way to start a caving trip.

The entrance crevice bells out immediately to give a 70-foot, essentially free-fall drop into an impressive dome. This scenic dome is well worth the trouble to drop just to see, which is fortunate as there is very little additional cave present. Adjacent to the entry dome is a second dome of similar dimensions, having no opening to the surface. It is believed, but not determined, that this second dome underlies the other sink -- hence the cautionary statement.

About a hundred feet of muddy stoopway with occasional minor domes leads to a small room, the known ending. There are rumors of additional extant passage.

Parking for this pit cave is at the Miller Grocery.