

The Journal of
Spelean History

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SPELEAN HISTORY ASSOCIATION



Volume 37, No. 1, Issue 123

January – June 2003

THE JOURNAL OF SPELEAN HISTORY

Volume 37, No. 1, Issue 123

January – June 2003

The Association

The American Spelean History Association is an internal organization of the National Speleological Society and is for the study, dissemination, and interpretation of spelean history and related purposes. All persons who are interested in these goals are cordially invited to become members. Dues are \$2 per issue of the *Journal of Spelean History*. Dues can be paid for up to 20 issues (\$40.00). Checks should be made payable to “ASHA” and sent to the treasurer.

Front Cover

The Mammoth Cave Hotel, 1900, mentioned in Trevor Shaw’s article and featured in Bob Thompson’s article. Photo by Eugene J. Hall.

Officers

President: Dean Snyder
3213 Fairland Dr
Schnecksville, PA 18078

Vice-President: Carolyn E. Cronk
1595 Blueberry Hills Rd
Monument, CO 80132

Secretary-Treasurer: Bob Hoke
6304 Kaybro St.
Laurel, MD 20707

Trustees

Larry E. Matthews
Marion O. Smith

Gary K. Soule
Jack Speece

The Journal of Spelean History

The *Journal of Spelean History* is the Association’s publication and is mailed to all members. The *Journal* includes articles covering a wide variety of topics relating to man’s use of caves, including historical cave explorations, saltpeter and other mineral extraction, and show cave development. All members are strongly encouraged to contribute material and to comment on published material. Please send typed manuscripts to Carolyn Cronk at the address below. Photos and illustrations will be returned upon request.

Back Issues

The Journal of Spelean History started publication in 1968 and copies of all back issues are available, although many of the early issues are reprints. The cost is \$2.00 per copy for 1-2 copies, \$1.50 per copy for 3-6 copies, or \$1.00 per copy for 7 or more copies. Add \$0.50 postage for one copy or \$1.00 for two or more copies ordered at once. Unfortunately, there is no complete index to the contents of the back issues. Order back issues from the Treasurer.

Official Publication
**AMERICAN SPELEAN HISTORY
ASSOCIATION**
History Section
National Speleological Society

Production

Editor: Carolyn E. Cronk
1595 Blueberry Hills Rd
Monument, CO 80132

Proofreading: Robert N. Cronk

Printing: Bob Hoke

IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF A CIVIL WAR SOLDIER'S NAME IN SOUTH CARTHAGE CAVE, TENNESSEE

By Joseph C. Douglas, Marion O. Smith and Jan F. Simek

From the late eighteenth century on, Americans regarded caves as popular curiosities, visiting them frequently to examine the marvels of the unique underground environments. By the middle of the nineteenth century, caves were also increasingly utilized as social spaces, places where people engaged in a variety of group activities, ranging from dancing to sightseeing excursions. These ways of interacting with the cave environment were so entrenched in American culture that they persisted in the Civil War years, despite the massive disruption of other patterns of life. Soldiers of the United States Army, usually in groups, visited caves in the South to satisfy their curiosity and for amusement. Such was the case in South Carthage Cave in Smith County, Tennessee, where at least one Union soldier visited the cave and inscribed his name in 1863.

The life of a Civil War soldier often consisted of extended periods of boredom punctuated with brief periods of terror and horror. During the relative quiet of ordinary camp life or guard duty, a visit to a local cave offered a welcome reprieve from the monotony of army life. While many of the caves these Union (and Confederate) soldiers visited were quite well known, such as Nickajack Cave and Lookout Mountain Cave, many smaller and lesser-known caves were also explored.' As new historical discoveries come to light, it is now clear that Union soldiers visited dozens of southern caves. This paper will discuss the recently discovered evidence of one such visit and its analysis.

THE CAVE

South Carthage Cave is a short but interesting cave, located high upon a bluff on the south bank of the Cumberland River in Smith County, Tennessee. The cave is about 450 feet long, consisting

primarily of one main passage. The main cave entrance is eight feet high (twenty feet at the dripline) and twenty feet wide. The entrance leads to a small second entrance and continues as walking height passage to a room with formations. Beyond, the cave alternates between walking and crawling dimensions before eventually becoming very low and muddy. The passage soon ends. A single side passage on the left (east) goes seventy-five feet before it too ends.

The cave earth is loose and shows signs of pothunting for Indian artifacts. A single freshwater mussel shell was found at the entrance, which also suggests Indian usage. The cave was well-known to residents of the nearby town of Carthage in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when it was called Hughes Cave, and there is good evidence that local groups visited the cave. In addition to historic graffiti, some of the speleothems in the cave show breakage from small-scale mining, probably for souvenirs. The cave has a large and conspicuous entrance and was easily accessible. There was a wagon road running alongside the river, a hundred feet below the cave entrance. ²

DISCOVERY

On May 1, 1999, Joe Douglas and Doug Plemons visited South Carthage Cave while checking known caves in the Smith County area. The two made careful observations of the cave and its cultural features, including the presence of several historic signatures, and evidence of Indian usage, pothunting, and formation mining. These historical observations were recorded in notes made inside the cave. While examining the walls, Joe Douglas found an inscription on the east wall, in a small pocket of standing height, just beyond a short crawl. The inscription read "J _ [?] Reed." Just below the name were the word "Ohio" and the year "1863." Several other marks were in the vicinity but were difficult to interpret. The two made the preliminary conclusion that Reed was probably a Union soldier, as they could think of no other reason a person from Ohio would be in Carthage in 1863 except for the war. But there was no obvious indication of a unit or other identifying designation, and the second initial of the name was unclear, as it appeared to have been marked over. After photographing the name and completing their other

notes, they left the cave, convinced that they had "found one possible Civil War name."³

RESEARCH

Soon afterward, Joe Douglas contacted fellow historian Marion Smith of the Andrew Johnson Papers at the University of Tennessee and told him of the inscription in the cave. Marion, whose research interests include the study of caves during the Civil War generally, and Union soldier visits to southern caves specifically, expressed an interest in the site. He began to investigate the movements of Ohio military units in the Carthage area during 1863, to identify possible candidates for the Reed inscription. Joe and Marion also inspected the photographs of the site from Joe's visit. However, in the photographs, just as in the cave, the second initial of the inscribed name was unclear. Joe had suggested in his field notes that the letter may have been an L, but this was far from certain.

Marion soon found not one but five Ohio infantry units which were either posted in or had made expeditions to Carthage in 1863; the 11th, 36th, 71st, 89th, and 92nd.⁴ None of these units included a J L[?] Reed, though there were several Reeds in the rosters, including a John C. Reed and a Joseph Reed.⁵ In a note, Marion suggested that John C. Reed, of Company A of the 11th Ohio Infantry, was the best possible candidate located so far. But clearly the inscription in the cave needed further study and analysis. Perhaps Marion's experienced eye could read the second initial, or some of the other markings, to confirm the hypothesis that it had indeed been John C. Reed in the cave in 1863. A return trip to the cave was in order.

On Friday evening, June 4, 1999, Marion Smith and Joe Douglas met at the Carthage exit of Interstate 40. Following a brief stop, they headed to South Carthage Cave. They entered the cave and made their way back to the 1863 inscription site. As the two pondered the name on the walls, trying to make out each letter individually, time dropped away, but to no avail. A lengthy examination of the wall markings was inconclusive. Although several other etched marks were noted above, inside, and around the inscribed name, Marion and Joe two remained unsure of the second initial, and they saw no other obvious identifying marks. Importantly, however,

Marion took several additional photographs of the site, while Joe photographed other areas in the cave. ⁶ The pair would continue the research on John C. Reed, on the assumption that it was probably he who visited the cave in 1863, but they needed outside help and expertise to confirm the tentative identification of the cave's inscription.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Marion and Joe turned to Dr. Jan Simek, Chairman of the Anthropology Department at the University of Tennessee and an acknowledged authority on cave archaeology. In his own research on pre-Columbian cave glyphs, Jan had developed and utilized new technological tools to help identify, analyze, and reproduce obscure wall markings.⁷ Now those same techniques would be applied to historic graffiti from South Carthage Cave. On June 23, 1999 Marion Smith took his slides of the Reed inscription to Jan's office in Knoxville for analysis.

Marion and Jan were able to discover two significant new pieces of information from the images of the inscription. To do this, Jan first put the images in digital form, scanning them with a Nikon Supercoolscan. Then he imported the images into Adobe Photoshop 5.0. where he could manipulate them by sharpening the image, altering contrast, converting to black and white, reversing the images to negatives, and doing whatever it took to view them more clearly. This technique, best described as exploratory data analysis for pictures, produced important results. ⁸

After considerable effort, Marion and Jan were able to positively interpret the second initial of the inscription, which had previously been obscure. The lower part of the letter had actually been carved twice into the host rock. The first incised line had been deflected by a small protruding rock, resulting in a mark resembling an L. But that was not the desired outcome. So a second line was incised, superimposed over the first, to correct the appearance. The second line was clearly the letter C. This was confirmed by visual analysis of the top of the letter, which was curled in a manner consistent with a C but not an L. The inscription was "J C Reed."

Equally important, when Jan more carefully defined the image of the entire panel around the inscribed name, he and Marion were able to unravel the tangled lines and marks encircling and intersecting the name. Etched directly above the name were two parallel lines, which close inspection revealed to be the number 11. A long curvilinear mark went from this number down the wall, ending at the word Ohio. The meaning was clear: just as a contemporary writer uses connecting lines when editing a manuscript to add words or phrases, so "J C Reed" added the 11 before the Ohio. The 11th Ohio was John C. Reed's Infantry Regiment.

JOHN C. REED

Three important questions remained after the positive identification of the name in the cave. Who was John C. Reed, what led to his exploration of South Carthage Cave in 1863, and what does his story tell us about people, especially Union soldiers, and caves in the period? While much concerning Reed remains unknown, the outlines of his war experiences can, perhaps, be brushed in broad strokes. Born around 1841, he officially joined a Dayton, Ohio company, previously known as the Washington Gun squad, on April 18, 1861, the same day the group arrived at Columbus, Ohio. He served as a Fourth Sergeant during his initial three month enlistment. On June 20, 1861, he re-enlisted for a three year term in the same unit, now Company A of the 11th Ohio Infantry, at Camp Dennison, Ohio. He served as a Third Sergeant until October 21, 1862, when he was promoted to Second Sergeant.⁹ However, he would not enjoy his new position for long.

In December of 1862 there was a shake-up among the Non-Commissioned Officers in Company A, though the cause remains unknown. Two Sergeants were stripped of their rank and busted down to private, including John C. Reed, while two other men were given their positions. No doubt this rankled Reed and perhaps fed discontent in the Company. In the next few weeks this discontent broke out in open dissention among the men. ¹⁰

The 11th Regiment, part of General George Crook's Third Brigade, had seen service in the western Virginia theatre, but in January

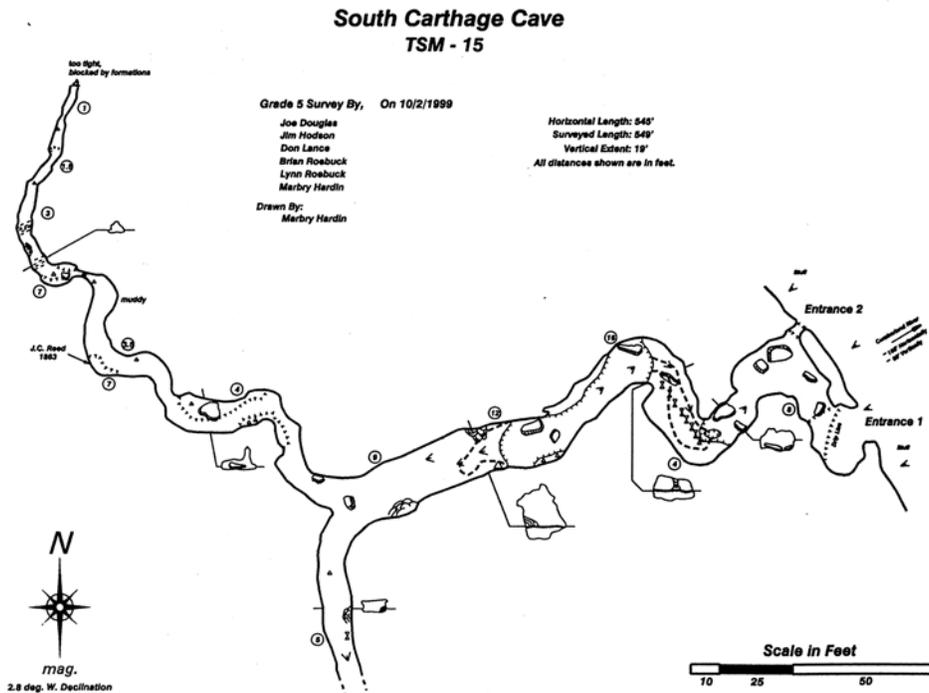
1863 the entire Brigade was transferred to Nashville, Tennessee. While en route south on the Ohio River, an incident occurred which embittered the men greatly and caused some, including Private John C. Reed, to soon desert. When the troops reached Cincinnati on January 28th, the officers refused to give the men permission to go ashore, "although hundreds of the men were within sight of their homes."¹¹ Many men went ashore anyway, while several others, including John C. Reed, took "French leave" when the ships arrived in Louisville, Kentucky. From January 30 to March 19, 1863 Reed was presumably in Ohio, though as far as the army was concerned he was a just another deserter.¹²

While Reed was absent without leave, the 11th Regiment was transferred to Carthage, Tennessee, arriving on February 26, 1863. The entire Division camped on the south bank of the Cumberland, apparently not far from South Carthage Cave. The goal of the Union troops was to stop Confederate raids, as later concisely explained in the Regimental history, which noted that "Carthage was the point at which rebel raiding parties were in the habit of crossing the Cumberland, the river being fordable at two or three places near the town. The importance of the position is evident from the strong force sent there, and the very effectual manner in which it was fortified."¹³

On March 19 or 20, 1863 John C. Reed returned from his desertion, suddenly appearing in Carthage to rejoin his unit. He was punished, at least in part, by having a month's pay withheld. The 11th Ohio Infantry Regiment stayed in the Carthage area until June 4, 1863, when Crook's Brigade moved south toward Chattanooga. It was during this period, between March 20 and June 4 that John C. Reed visited nearby and conspicuous South Carthage Cave, leaving behind his name, the year, and his unit etched into the cave wall. Although Reed's inscription is the only one identified in the cave, it is very likely that he was not alone in venturing inside the cave. Presumably, his visit was the result of curiosity about the cave, and it would have been an interesting diversion from ordinary army life.

After leaving Carthage, Reed and his Regiment moved south to Murfreesboro, Hoover's Gap, and Manchester, eventually camping at University Place (Sewanee). They participated in a foraging raid

into cave-rich Sweden Cove, admired the Big Blue Spring near Sewanee, traveled very close to Nickajack Cave, though it is unclear if Reed or his fellow soldiers visited the cave, and fought in the battle of Chickamauga. John C. Reed was eventually promoted to First Sergeant, a position he still held in June 1864, when the 11th Ohio was mustered out of service. After his enlistment ended, he returned to Dayton, Ohio where he lived for some years before disappearing from the historical record. ¹⁴



CONCLUSIONS

Although only the bare outlines are known, the visit of John C. Reed to South Carthage Cave adds another known example to the record of Union soldiers visiting caves in the South during the Civil War. It confirms the existing evidence in demonstrating that Union soldier visits were not limited to large or famous caves. In a larger context, it shows the persistent and adaptive nature of American cultural patterns of interaction with the cave environment, even in the Civil

War. Lastly, it suggests that additional historical and archaeological research in caves, both in the Smith County area and throughout the southern karst lands, coupled with innovative technical analysis, will yield new evidence concerning the history of American caves in the nineteenth century.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1) For a sample of the growing literature, see Marion O. Smith, "What Union Soldiers Had to Say About Nickajack Cave," *Journal of Spelean History* Vol. 7 No. 2 (April-June 1974): 34-36; Larry O. Blair and Joel Sneed, "Research in Lookout Mountain Caverns, Tenn.," *N.S.S. News* September 1982, pp. 227-228; Marion O. Smith, "History of Selected Southeastern Caves," in *Journeys Through TAG: 1998 N.S.S. Convention Guidebook*, eds. Geary M. Schindel and John L. Hickman (Huntsville, Al., 1998), pp. 67-73.

2) Thomas L. Bailey, "Report on the Caves of the Eastern Highland Rim and Cumberland Mountains," *The Resources of Tennessee* (Nashville, April 1918) pp. 123, 124; Thomas C. Barr, Jr., *Caves of Tennessee* (Nashville, 1961) p. 427; Joseph C. Douglas, *Outdoor Journal*, May 1, 1999. For additional information about the cave's history after the Civil War, see Doug Plemons, "First Stop for Tom Bailey: South Carthage Cave," Unpublished ms., 1999.

3) Douglas. Also see Plemons.

4) Frederick S. Dyer, *Compendium of the War of Rebellion* (Des Moines, 1908): 1500, 1501, 1530, 1536, and 1537.

5) Janet B. Hewett, *Union Rosters* (Wilmington, N.C., 1995-1996).

6) Joseph C. Douglas, *Outdoor Journal*, June 4, 1999.

7) Jan Simek, *Antiquity* 1997.

8) E-mail, Jan Simek to Joe Douglas, Sept. 23, 1999.

9) Compiled Service Records, John C. Reed, Records Group 94, National Archives, Joshua Horton and Solomon Teverbaugh, comp.

A History of the Eleventh Regiment, (Ohio Volunteer Infantry)
(Dayton, 1866) p. 129.

10) Ibid.

11) Horton and Teverbaugh, p. 87.

12) Ibid, pp. 87, 131, 132; Compiled Service Records, John C. Reed.

13) Horton and Teverbaugh, p. 92. Also see pp. 88, 89.

14) Ibid, pp. 94-99; Compiled Service Records, John C. Reed; *Williams' Dayton Directory (1864-65)* (1864) p. 179; *Williams' Dayton City Directory (1879-1880)* (1879) p. 323. Unfortunately there are no extant pension records for John C. Reed.

CHARLES WILKES' ACCOUNTS OF HAWAII CAVES

By William R. Halliday

Capt. Charles Wilkes was the commander of the "United States Exploring Expedition" in the Pacific Ocean, 1838-1842. A member of the American Philosophical Society and other learned groups, his writings reveal him to have been remarkably knowledgeable about a wide variety of field sciences, and his staff included additional scientists such as the young James Dana, later famous for his System of Mineralogy. Their reports were meticulous and voluminous, appearing in several volumes - the number of volumes depends on the publisher, as the first edition was repeatedly pirated in those pre-copyright days. All are rare today.

In Maine in 2002, I found and bought a copy of Volume IV of the 1845 Lea and Blanchard edition: "in five volumes and an atlas." It includes Wilkes' reports on Hawaii and the Pacific Northwest. The first part includes an especially notable account of the Big Island, as

it then existed, including an ascent of Mauna Loa from Kilauea volcano, under very difficult circumstances. Additional information on Hawaiian caves exists in other reports by James Dana in another volume, but Wilkes' account stands alone as a landmark. He recorded the following Hawaii caves, some of which still are not identified:

p. 83-84: cliffside lava tube burial caves up to 100 feet long, south of Waimanalo, Oahu. (The expedition was before the 20th Century kapu on Native Hawaiian burials.)

p. 90: burial caves at Kealakekua Bay, Hawaii.

p. 100: lava tube caves east of Umi's Heiau in the saddle between Mauna Loa, Hualalai and Mauna Kea volcanoes, Hawaii, used as temporary habitations.

p. 120: lava tube caves between Olaa (Keeau) and Kapuahi; the Ailaau Flow -Field then was unvegetated.

p. 133: Mauna Loa trail caves, unidentified at present.

p. 137-138,148: Recruiting Station Cave, Mauna Loa.

p. 150: unidentified cave on caldera rim of Mauna Loa ("red cave").

p. 176: Kilauea Caldera caves generally.

p. 202, 253: Haleakala Trail caves, Maui.

p. 221: Paliolii Cave, "on the road to Keau," Kohala.

p. 256: Silkworm Cave, Haleakala Volcano, Maui.

REFERENCE:

Wilkes, Charles, 1845, Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition during the years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842. In Five Volumes, and an Atlas. Vol. IV. Philadelphia, Lea and Blanchard. 539 p., appendices, plates.

TWO MORE 19th CENTURY MAMMOTH CAVE VISITORS FROM THE ENGLISH TOWN OF TODMORDEN

By Trevor R. Shaw

INTRODUCTION

Two English newspaper articles of the 1880s refer to Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. When Thomas Ashworth's unpublished letter of 1883 was printed in the *Journal of Spelean History*¹ a few years ago, it was noted that:

It is interesting to note that *The Todmorden Advertiser*... which Ashworth read even on his travels, often contained series of articles describing journeys abroad. One such series, "A few memories of American experiences" by J. C., appeared every two weeks or so from March to November 1883, and may have inspired or encouraged Ashworth's wish to go to the USA. No American caves were described in those articles but in the following year J. C. wrote about Mammoth Cave, commenting on the poor hotel and difficult access reported 24 years earlier.

Also:

It is ironic that one week after Ashworth returned to England, Dr Herbert Coupland Taylor, living in Todmorden Hall, described *his* visit to Mammoth Cave in the same newspaper.

Those accounts of the cave were not reprinted in the Ashworth article because more research was needed about "J. C." and Taylor. The references given then to the original newspaper articles made

them already accessible to historians, though copies of such local newspapers are not easy to find.

Now “J. C.” has been identified as James Chambers and more is known about Taylor. All three of these men who wrote in the 1880s about Mammoth Cave were from Todmorden, a cotton-manufacturing town on the border between Lancashire and West Yorkshire in northern England. Its population in 1979 was about 14, 500.

Thomas Ashworth (1828-1902), who saw the cave on September 17, 1883, described his visit in a letter home, which was first published in this Journal in 1998. James Chambers, though writing in 1884,² referred to the cave as it was in about 1860, and Coupland Taylor³ went there some time between 1878 and 1883.

JAMES CHAMBERS

“J. C.” has been identified as James Chambers by Elizabeth Savage,⁴ a knowledgeable local historian in Todmorden. He must have been born in 1819 or 1820, for he was 65 years old when he died on July 17, 1885.⁵ James was a brother of Charles and Robert Chambers, the founders of *The Todmorden Advertiser* newspaper. He lived in the Honeyhole district of Todmorden in his later years and is known to have had one daughter. Strangely, no obituary of him can be traced, not even in the newspaper owned by his brothers.

Fortunately, towards the end of his life he wrote a series of articles, “A few memories of American experiences,” in *The Todmorden Advertiser*⁶ from which we can learn more. He had left Todmorden about 1840, sailed from Liverpool to America, and remained there until about 1860, working as a printer and bookbinder, a trade he had no doubt learned with his newspaper brothers before he left England. Since he stated that he lived 75 miles away from Mammoth Cave, he was probably at Nashville to the south or Louisville to the north. If at Louisville it is likely that he worked for Bradley & Gilbert, the printers and bookbinders (Fig. 1) who published the first (1860) edition of Wright’s *A Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*⁸ about the end of his time there.

Most of his articles appeared at roughly fortnightly intervals between 16 March and 2 November 1883, and these were followed by a few more in 1884. So they were written long after the events they described and may not be entirely accurate. The article referring to the cave, from which the extract is reprinted below, was one of the last, published just a year before his death.

Chambers explicitly states that he did not visit the cave himself although he lived only 75 miles away. What he says about it must be based on what he had heard, from general hearsay and perhaps from friends who had been there.

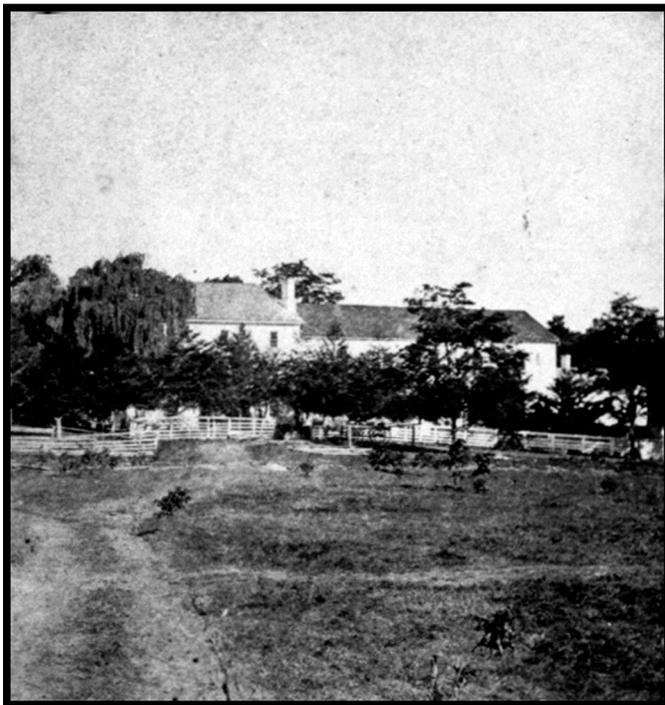


Fig. 2 Mammoth Cave Hotel, photographed by Charles Waldack in 1866, not many years after the time Chambers was writing about

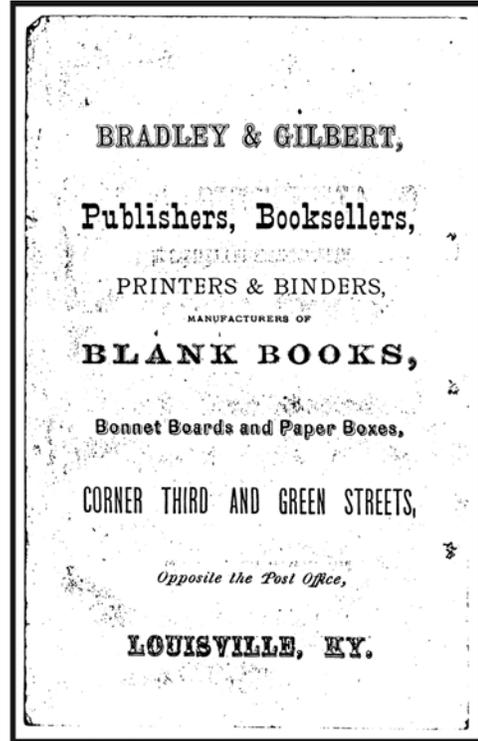


Fig. 1 Advertisement⁷ for Gradley & Gilbert, the Louisville publishers with whom James Chambers may have worked as a printer and bookbinder in the 1850s

In summary it was, he says, difficult to get to, with a poor hotel.

His statement about difficulty of access and the few visitors about 1860 suggests that he may have been thinking of the time even before the Louisville and Nashville Railroad reached Cave City in 1859.⁹

The Cave Hotel, here reported as "poor" by Chambers, had been

described in 1855¹⁰ as “a long, straggling pile of wooden buildings.” It was photographed in 1866 by Charles Waldack (Fig. 2).

This is what Chambers wrote about the cave:

Perhaps Kentucky is most widely known and visited by travellers on account of that stupendous underground natural formation, the Mammoth cave. This wonderful place, which in extent and interest far surpasses anything of the kind yet discovered, has now become much frequented, and is second only in attractiveness to the great Niagara. Daily its dark subterranean passages are tracked, and the silence of its deep solitudes are broken and made to resound to the voices of visitors. It was not the writer’s good fortune to visit this place, for though residing only 75 miles away (which from an American point of view would be but a short airing before breakfast), 24 years ago it was a place, comparatively speaking, difficult of access, and not much frequented, except by those whose means provided a private conveyance. The hotel accommodation was poor, and the means of exploration was not such as to commend itself, or be taken advantage of by the general public. ...

H. COUPLAND TAYLOR

Herbert Coupland Dawes Taylor (Fig. 3) was born on August 11, 1855.¹¹ Educated at Cheltenham College and King’s College London, he qualified as a medical doctor at the University of Edinburgh in 1878.¹² As a Bachelor of Medicine (MB) and Master in Surgery (CM) he was able to practice medicine and be called a doctor, for in Great Britain a doctorate of medicine (MD) is a research degree. In 1882 Taylor became MD as well. On June 20, 1883 he married and settled in the family

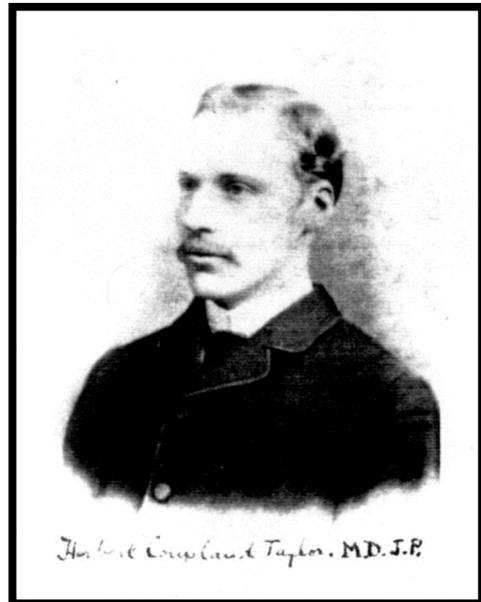


Fig. 3 Dr. H. Coupland Taylor

home at Todmorden Hall¹³ (Fig. 4), the ancient mansion in part of which Thomas Ashworth was to live some 20 years later. He was a doctor in Todmorden and was also a magistrate there.



Fig. 4 Todmorden Hall, the home of Coupland Taylor

Taylor spent much time abroad, his later travels being attempts to restore his health, for he had a weak chest from which he died on September 14, 1891¹¹ at the age of only 36.

His account of the visit to Mammoth Cave is in the first³ of five articles published in *The Todmorden Advertiser* between

November 9, 1883 and January 4, 1884. The year of his visit is not stated. It will be noticed that the articles describing it appeared four months after his marriage so one wonders whether the American journey was in fact a honeymoon, taking place in the summer of 1883. But nowhere does he mention the presence of his wife, or indeed of any other companion: “my second excursion...,” “I saw...,” etc. So perhaps these travels, which he says were in summer, took place the year before or even earlier; almost certainly they were after he had finished his medical training in 1878. From February to May 1884 the same newspaper published another series of five articles,¹⁴ on his visit to Australia and New Zealand, so it seems likely that once he had settled down in Todmorden Hall as a married man, he took the opportunity to write up his travels of previous years.

Whichever the year in which he made his visit, he provided quite a detailed description of what he saw, albeit without giving any significant new information. It is printed at the end of this article.

The nine mile drive from Cave City to the cave, which took him 2 hours with four horses, was replaced in 1886 by a new local railroad – The Mammoth Cave Railroad – from Glasgow Junction (now Park City) to the cave entrance, which made the journey in 35 minutes and survived until 1931. His “first expedition” lasting 4 hours was clearly the standard Short Route; on the next day his “second excursion” of nearly 12 hours was the Long Route.¹⁵

His description of the cave presents one puzzle. Its sheer length and the amount of detailed information in it is more than he could have remembered from what the guide told him, even if he had made short-hand notes at the time. It suggests that much of his information must have been obtained from one or more guidebooks, perhaps copied in part or just used as a source for his own writing.

If so, what was the source? He makes no mention of what guidebooks were on sale then. Nor, unfortunately, does he mention whether Mandeville Thum’s photographic stereo views of 1876 were still available.

In an attempt to identify which sources he used, and to highlight information that appears to be new, his text was compared in detail with the descriptions in eight different publications.^{10,15-21} In addition to the guidebooks, which were probably available when he was there, depending on the year of his visit, a few other items were considered which he might well have come across.

The comparison was made easier by the fact that the dimensions given for some parts of the cave were different in different publications, or only provided in a few. Again, some descriptive details appear only in some of the books, as do the mineral and atmospheric compositions which he reports; and a few phrases he uses are almost identical to those in some of the books.

In short, there are at least 18 points of coincidence between his text and that of Wright’s *Guide Manual*,¹⁹ of which all but three agree also with Forwood’s book.¹⁸ Hardly any of these are present in the other sources. Forwood’s work is based on Wright’s and contains many passages quoted and acknowledged from it. These two books,

first published in 1860 and 1870, were still reprinted as late as 1876²² and 1875²³ respectively, so it is not surprising that he could have used them.

The fact that Taylor used two facts and one phrase which occur only in Wright's book, identifies that as his main source. These three points are the six miles given as the length of the Short Route, nearly twelve hours as the duration of the Long Route, and his statement that in Cleveland's Avenue "the walls and ceiling are literally covered with alabaster flowers of every variety" (compare Wright's "the walls and ceiling are literally lined with alabaster flowers of every conceivable variety").

Of course some of this information may have been transmitted by the guide, or measured by Taylor's watch, but the mass of coincidence is overwhelming. Although Taylor did not copy directly from Wright's book, it was clearly his principal source.

Not everything that he wrote was derived from books and some things must have come either from his own information or from the guide:

- Wright's Rotunda has a maximum diameter of 500 feet;
- the story about how Scotchman's Trap got its name;
- Echo River has a maximum width of 60 feet (Wright and others say 200 feet);
- Echo River echoes last up to 9 seconds;
- the joke about losing one's sole/soul in the mud of the Infernal Regions;
- the long prismatic crystals of fibrous gypsum in Cleveland's Avenue;
- the description of the Corkscrew passage, which was not developed as part of the tourist route until 1871 or later, i.e

after the first edition of Wright's book which was reprinted unchanged in the later editions.

Here is Coupland Taylor's account:

NOTES ON A VISIT TO THE WESTERN STATES OF AMERICA. [part 1]

...From Cincinnati I went on to Louisville and Cave city, the nearest point to the Mammoth Caves of Kentucky by rail. I had then a nine miles drive to the caves, over a most infamous road, taking 2 hours, though we had a good team of four horses. Here one begins to get more amongst the backwoodsmen. The houses of the settlers are very primitive, generally having no window whatever (though the larger ones may have), and are made entirely of rough hewn logs of wood, except the chimney which is stone. The way of clearing the land of timber seems a most wasteful one, they just cut through the bark all round the stem about a foot from the ground, *i.e.*, 'ring them,' in the early spring; then they die and dry during the hot summer months; then in autumn they just set fire to them and burn the whole tract of land down. Next spring it is ready to plant. It is a most melancholy sight to see a piece of perhaps 500 acres of fine trees all blackened and dead and stretching their gaunt limbs towards the sky. It is said that 7,000 acres of land are cleared in this way per day in the United States alone. The Mammoth cave, at which I now arrived, is most interesting in many particulars. It is in the first place the most extensive cave in the world, over a *hundred miles* of it having been explored while there are still many parts and passages which have never been entered. Again, in its depths is found a large flowing river, containing the eyeless fish which at one time caused so much discussion in the scientific world. Its air also is pure, contrary to what ordinarily obtains in extensive caves and underground passages; in fact, the air on many analyses has been found to be purer than that of the outside atmosphere, not even a trace of ammonia can

be detected, while the carbonic acid only amounts to 2 parts in 10,000, which is only just half that found in the open air. Another curious property of the cave is its "breathing." This is a very curious fact and is due to its uniform temperature all the year round, which is owing to its vast extent, and to its comparatively small entrance. The temperature of the air in the cave always remains at 59 degs. F., so that in summer when the external air is much hotter, there is a continuous rush of air from the cave outwards, and, contrarily, during winter, when the atmosphere is below 59 degs. there is a constant flow of air into the cave. On a hot day in summer, so great is the force of the air rushing out, that it is with difficulty that one can keep the unprotected lamp which each visitor carries, from being extinguished. Such are some of the peculiarities of this wonderful cave. Now as to my personal explorations of it. My first expedition took me four hours to accomplish, and in that time I traversed about six miles of the cave, and saw the following parts, which were of chief interest – (1) The chamber called the Rotunda. This chamber is about a hundred feet high and one hundred and seventy-five feet across. This I thought was a room, as one might call it, of immense size, with a roof unsupported by a single pillar, but I afterwards found it was small in comparison to one called Wright's Rotunda, of which hereafter. (2) The Star Chamber, which is one of the most interesting objects in this cave. It is sixty feet in height, seventy wide, and five hundred feet in length. When some of our lights were put out, the roof so exactly resembled the sky on a clear starlight night that it was difficult to divest one's self of the idea that one was not looking up at the sky through a large hole or rent in the cavern roof. This illusion was further increased when the guide put out all our lights, and walking away leaving us in perfect darkness, he presently slowly reappeared with the lights giving one a most vivid impression of the rising moon. The ceiling is composed of black gypsum, and is studded

with innumerable white points which, by the dim light, present a most striking resemblance to stars. These stars are produced by an efflorescence of Glaubers salts on the black gypsum. (3) Proctor's Arcade, which is said to be the most magnificent natural tunnel in the world. It is 100 feet wide, 45 feet in height, and three quarters of a mile long. The ceiling is so smooth and the walls so regular that they look as if they had been chiselled out of the solid rock. (4) Wright's Rotunda, already referred to. This immense chamber is *four hundred* feet in its smallest diameter, and nearly five hundred in its greatest, and this without any support whatever! So ended, after seeing other less interesting chambers, my first expedition into the Cave.

My second excursion was much more prolonged, and took me nearly the whole of one day – nearly 12 hours – to accomplish. The most interesting parts that I saw on that day were as follows: (1) The Bottomless Pit, which, however, is only 235 feet deep, and is quite narrow, being about 15 feet wide. (2) The Scotchman's Trap, which is a huge stone suspended over a narrow passage only five feet in diameter, through which one has to go, and was so called because the first Scotchman, with the characteristic caution of that canny race, declined to go any further lest it should fall down when he was there and shut him in! (3) Echo River, the most interesting curiosity of the Cave. This subterranean river is three-quarters of a mile long, and varies from 20 to 60 feet wide, and from ten to thirty feet in depth. We got into an old punt and paddled up the stream, there being only a slight current in it. The echo on the river is splendid, and very musical. I found that the reverberations of a loud halloo lasted as long as nine seconds. In this river are the noted eyeless fish. They have rudiments of eyes, but have no optic nerves, which are supposed to have been gradually lost from their living for so many ages in perpetual darkness. They are said also to be viviparous – that is, giving birth to their young alive, not depositing eggs as most fish do. I saw one of these

interesting fish, but that was in captivity. (4) After leaving this wonderful river, I came to Silliman's Avenue, a part of which is called the "Infernal region," for the floor is composed of wet and very slippery clay. This was so sticky that someone had left the *sole* of his boot there, which was pointed out by the guide as one lost *soul* gone to those regions! I then passed a dome 300 feet in height, and came to Martha's Vineyard, and the Snowball Room, where the stalactites exactly resemble grapes and snowballs respectively. These are formed of carbonate of lime, and in the case of the grapes are coloured of a purple hue by black oxide of iron. There were many other interesting parts, which I must omit, but I cannot pass over without mention this very healthful (5) Clevelands Avenue. This is nearly two miles long, and throughout the whole length the walls and ceiling are literally covered with alabaster flowers of every variety and form, besides being of great beauty. Most of them have a wonderful resemblance to white roses. The fibrous gypsum in long prismatic crystals found in some parts is also very beautiful. On our way home we were glad to shorten our 18 miles' rough walk by ascending the "Corkscrew," which cuts off three quarters of a mile, and has only been lately discovered. This ascends almost perpendicularly 150 feet, and is so extremely narrow that one has to go on hands and knees and pull one's self up. In one place it was only 18 inches wide and 2 feet high. I am afraid all stout persons will be unable to take advantage of this short cut! After being so many hours in darkness I was very glad to see daylight again, and to breath the fragrant air of a summer evening.

H. Coupland Taylor.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. Shaw, T. R., 1998, An Unpublished Visit to Mammoth Cave, in 1883, *Journal of Spelean History*, 32 (2), pp. 22-30, (p. 26).
2. C[hampers], J., 1884, A Few Memories of American Experiences, *The Todmorden Advertiser, and Hebden Bridge Newsletter*, no. 1421, July 11, p. [6], columns 5-6.
3. Taylor, H. C., 1883, Notes on a Visit to the Western States of America [part 1], *The Todmorden Advertiser, and Hebden Bridge Newsletter*, no. 1386, November 9, p. [6], columns 4-5.
4. Savage, E. M., 1997, Letters to the Author dated March 12 and July 28.
5. Certified copy of an entry of death given at the General Register Office, London.
6. C[hampers], J., 1883, A Few Memories of American Experiences, *The Todmorden Advertiser, and Hebden Bridge Newsletter*, March 16 to November 2.
7. Advertisement bound in before p. 9 of the 1870 edn. of C. W. Wright, *A Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*, Louisville, Bradley & Gilbert, 63pp.
8. Wright, C. W., 1860, *A Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*, Louisville, Bradley & Gilbert, 63 pp.
9. Asman, L. P., 1971, Hercules and the Mammoth Cave Railroad, *Journal of Spelean History*, Vol. 4, No. 3, pp. 50-56.
10. Taylor, B., 1860, *At Home and Abroad: A Sketch-book of Life, Scenery and Men*, New York, Putnam & Sheldon, vi + 500 pp. (Cave Hotel on p. 190).

11. West, J. L., 1977, *The Taylors of Lancashire Bonesetters and Doctors 1750 – 1890*, Worsley, Duffy, 134 pp. (pp. 98 – 99).
12. *Alphabetical List of Graduates of the University of Edinburgh from 1859 to 1898*, Edinburgh, 1899, 139pp.
13. *Slater's Royal National Commercial Directory of Yorkshire, Manchester, Slater*, 10th edn., 1877. ([Other towns in] the West Riding of Yorkshire, p. 409).
14. Taylor, H. C., 1884, Notes on a Visit to Australia and New Zealand, *The Todmorden Advertiser, and Hebden Bridge Newsletter*, 8 Feb., 4 and 28 March, 2 and 30 May.
15. Hovey, H. C., 1882, *Celebrated American Caverns . . .*, Cincinnati, Clarke, xii + 228pp.
16. Anon., 1861, A Tour in the Mammoth Cave, *All the Year Round*, 5 (91), pp. 343 – 347. (This London magazine, edited by Charles Dickens, the novelist, was widely read in England.)
17. Binkerd, A. D., 1869, *The Mammoth Cave and its Denizens: A Complete Descriptive Guide*, Cincinnati, Clarke, [i] + 95 + [i]pp.
18. Forwood, W. S., 1870, *An Historical and Descriptive Narrative of the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*, Philadelphia, Lippincott, 225pp.
19. Wright, C. W., 1870, *A Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky* [cover title : A guide manual to Mammoth and Procter's Caves. The best and most complete guide published], Louisville, Bradley & Gilbert, 7 + [iii]-vi + 7-60pp. The text on Mammoth Cave, pp. V-59, is identical with that in the 1860 edn. (see note 8) except for some personal names on p.7.
20. Thompson, R. S. 1879, *The Sucker's Visit to the Mammoth Cave*, Springfield, Ohio, Live Patron, 128pp.

21. Hovey, H. C., 1880, One Hundred Miles in Mammoth Cave, *Scribner's Monthly*, 20 (6), pp.914-924.
22. Editions of C. W. Wright's *Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave* appeared also in 1875 and 1876. The 1875 edition was referred to by Harold Meloy in Jack Speece's introduction to his 1970 limited edition facsimile reprint of Wright's earlier book, *The Mammoth Cave, Kentucky* of 1858 (Speece Reprint No. 6). An edition of 1876 is listed on p.458 of D.E. Northup et al. (ed), 1998, *A Guide to Speleological Literature of the English Language 1794-1996*, St. Louis, Cave Books. Neither the 1875 nor the 1876 edition has been examined. It was the 1870 edition (see note 19) that was compared with Coupland Taylor's text.
23. Forwood, 1875, *An Historical and Descriptive Narrative of the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky*, Philadelphia, Lippincott, 4th edn., 241pp. (recorded on p.41 of W. R. Jillson, 1953, *A Bibliography of Mammoth Cave (1798-1949)*, but not examined by the author).

CORRECTION

In the *Journal of Spelean History* Volume 36, Number 2, Issue 122 the picture on page 74 is mislabeled. The picture is not of Theodor Tellkampf, but is instead of James E. DeKay. The picture, properly identified, appeared in *JSH* Volume 36, Number 1.

MAMMOTH CAVE HOTEL REGISTERS

By Bob Thompson

On December 9, 1916, the old Mammoth Cave Hotel was destroyed by fire. According to a newspaper article, all of the old hotel registers were destroyed in the fire.

The headline and story from the *Louisville Times* newspaper from Saturday, December 9, 1916 reads:

Mammoth Cave Hotel Destroyed By Fire, Historic Structure Caught Fire From an Unknown Source Early Saturday Morning. The original Mammoth Cave Hotel, a part of which was built in 1811, was entirely destroyed by fire of unknown origin which started at three o'clock this morning, consuming the hotel in two hours. There were no injuries sustained by the guests or employees, but many of the employees of the hotel lost all their personal belongings. All the registers of the hotel and cave, which contained perhaps the greatest collection in existence of the autograph signatures of famous men and women of this country and other parts of the world, were destroyed. The registers of the Mammoth Cave and the Mammoth Cave Hotel, which in part were more than a century old, contained the names of such famous personages as the late King Edward of England, Jenny Lind, Edwin Booth, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, and Don Pedro of Brazil.

Twelve of the "destroyed" Mammoth Cave Hotel registers have materialized and exist today in collections at the Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky University, in Bowling Green, Kentucky and at Mammoth Cave National Park. These original hotel registers give us a glimpse into the day-by-day operations at Mammoth Cave over 100 years ago.

Two original hotel registers were donated to the Kentucky Library from an unknown source and at an unknown date. The earliest register dates from July 21, 1858 to December 22, 1860. The second register dates from March 15, 1862 to September 4, 1866.

Mammoth Cave National Park has 10 original hotel registers that date from 1883 to 1897. Ellis Jones of Cave City, KY donated them to the park in 1982. The registers and the years they cover are as follows: 1883-1887 compilation of all guests from this time period, August 19, 1883 to June 25, 1884, February 26, 1885 to August 6, 1885, August 7, 1886 to December 31, 1886, January 1, 1888 to July 31, 1888, January 1, 1890 to August 31, 1890, July 11, 1891 to August 31, 1891, September 1, 1891 to February 19, 1892, August 1, 1895 to December 1896, and 1897.

In August of 2002, I examined the two original Mammoth Cave Hotel registers in the Kentucky Library. They are in good condition considering their age. They were printed by John P. Morton & Co., Printers and Binders, of Louisville, Kentucky. Some of the earliest books on Mammoth Cave were printed by Morton (with Griswold) including *Rambles in the Mammoth Cave* by Alexander Clark Bullitt in 1845 and *The Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, An Illustrated Manual* by Horace Carter Hovey and Richard Ellsworth Call in 1897 with numerous reprints until 1912. Howard Clifton Griswold (1866-1941) headed the John P. Morton Company at the time Hovey and Call manual was published. There was also one piece of hotel stationary mixed between the pages of one of the registers that was also printed by Morton & Co.

The names of the managers of the Mammoth Cave Hotel were written in the top header of the two registers. From the register of 1858-1860 was written "Cave House, L. J. Procter, Proprietor." From the register of 1862-1866 was written "E. K. Owsley." At the top of both hotel registers in a zebra wood font are the words "Travelers' Register." Subtitles going across the register page from left to right are "Arrival, Names, Residence, Destination, Room, and Remarks." The arrival dates of all visitors were put in the registers. There were days when the hotel did not receive any visitors, especially during the colder months of the year. For example, on April 13, 1862, was written "no arrivals on this day." Others days the hotel had only one

or two visitors. Summer visitation at the cave was good, but there were also slow days for the usually busy months of June, July, and August. One of the best days found in the registers was on July 3, 1865, when the hotel received 59 guests.

Each of the guests signed the register and put in a place of residence but rarely a destination. For most guests at this time, Mammoth Cave was the main destination for them. Because the hotel received few guests during this time, room numbers were rarely put in the registers except for days when visitation was high. The remarks column of the 1858-1860 register was left mostly blank, whereas the 1862-1866 register had notes written in the column. The remark column was mostly used to state what trip the visitor took in the cave. At the time, there were only two different trips into the cave, the short route (about 4 hours) and the long route (about 10 hours). Each of the two trips took place in different parts of the cave. Sometimes when visitation was slow, the current weather would be placed in the column. For example, Saturday April 22, 1862, "cloudy & heavy rain." Other times, cave admissions (\$2.00) were placed in the column. Other interesting notes in the 1862-1866 register include, "E. K. Owsley left for Bowling Green," and "Sent Mat (Bransford, cave guide) to Cave City today." Occasionally, poems were written by guests in the registers to express their experiences at the cave.

The two Mammoth Cave Registers at the Kentucky Library clearly show the diversity of visitors to the cave. There were many visitors from around Kentucky, as well as other states and Europe. Many of the signatures in the registers were from Civil War soldiers. Surprisingly, some visitors stayed at the hotel but did not visit the cave. The \$2.00 admission fee was considered a large sum of money at that time.

Some of the more prominent guests in the two Mammoth Cave Registers are photographers Adin F. Styles (written in the register as A. F. Styles) of Burlington, Vermont, Charles Waldack of Cincinnati, Ohio, and his assistants John R. Procter of Maysville, Kentucky, and John H. O'Shaughnessy of Newport, Kentucky, and Mandeville Thum (and family) of Louisville, Kentucky.

Photographer Adin F. Styles registered at the hotel on September 25, 1865. He stayed in room 23 of the Mammoth Cave Hotel and took the Long Route trip in the cave. During his visit, Styles photographed cave guides Mat and Nick Bransford together in front of the entrance to Mammoth Cave.

Photographer Charles Waldack registered at the hotel on June 14, 1866 and July 26, 1866. During his visit, Waldack took the first interior photographs of the cave. They were the first successful photographs taken underground in any cave and were a vital key in showing Mammoth Cave to the world. Waldack's assistant, John R. Procter also registered on June 14, 1866 (his name came just before Waldack's). Waldack's other assistant, John O'Shaughnessy registered at the hotel on June 16, 1866 and July 13, 1866. John R. Procter was the nephew of Mammoth Cave Hotel manager, Larkin J. Procter, and was later a geologist for the State of Kentucky. Photographer Mandeville Thum & Family registered at the hotel on July 26, 1860. It is not clear if he took photographs of the cave during his visit. All of Thum's photographs of the cave were copyrighted on November 22, 1876. Thum may have visited the cave with his family for the first time in 1860 and then returned later in 1876 to take photographs.

Prominent writers listed in the Mammoth Cave Hotel register included Professor Charles W. Wright of Louisville, Kentucky. He visited the cave many times when writing his early guidebooks to the cave, *The Mammoth Cave, Kentucky* (1858), and *A Guide Manual to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky* (1860). Wright registered at the hotel on August 19, 1858, December 4, 1859, June 6, 1866, and June 14, 1866 (the same day as Charles Waldack). During this time, Wright also was known for his cave discoveries in Mammoth Cave as well as a new cave near Mammoth called Richardson Cave (discovered on July 15, 1859 and now called Diamond Caverns).

Other prominent names in the two registers include W. F. Bell and John Bell (August 15, 1858) of Three Forks, Kentucky (Bell's Tavern) and Courtland Prentice (August 15 and 22, 1858), son of George D. Prentice, editor of the Louisville Courier Journal. Prentice descended the Maelstrom, a deep pit in Mammoth Cave. Others, George Procter

(July 6, 1859), owner of Bell's Tavern and Diamond Caverns, and brother of Mammoth Cave manager Larkin J. Procter, and T. (Thomas?) L. Bransford (July 27 and 30, 1860) of Nashville, Tennessee, possibly the owner of cave guides Mat and Nick Bransford before they were sold to one time owner of Mammoth Cave, Franklin Gorin, in 1838.

I also found the signature of Abraham Lincoln in one of the hotel registers, "Abraham Lincoln, President of the U. States" 1863. In doing some research on Lincoln, I found his signature to be the most frequently forged autograph in America. Lincoln wrote with a strong and bold hand and signed his letters "A. Lincoln" and official documents as "Abraham Lincoln." In authentic Lincoln letters, the handwriting is quite illegible. If the writing is easy to read, it is a giveaway that it is not genuine. Is the signature in the old register genuine? Probably not.

In November of 2002, I examined two of the 10 original hotel registers at Mammoth Cave. There are gaps between the 10 existing hotel registers from 1883 to 1897. There were no registers found for the years 1887, 1889, 1893, and 1894. The size of each hotel register varies. Some were large volumes whereas others were very small. The 10 registers were either printed by John P. Morton or the Courier Journal. Register headings include "Name, Address, Party, Cave fees (names of routes listed and cost), Board and Room, Room, Breakfast, Dinner, Supper, Wines and Bar, Wash Bill, Stable Bill, Fire, Costumes, Guide Books, Date departed, and Notes."

The photographer W. F. Sesser and his wife registered at the hotel on August 26, 1886, October 20, 1886, February 15, 1887, March 26, 1887, and June 8, 1887. He signed the register, "Sesser, W. F. & wife, St. Joseph, Michigan." Sesser took photographs to help promote Mammoth Cave and the new Mammoth Cave Railroad.

The woman photographer Frances Benjamin Johnston and her mother registered at the hotel on October 27, 1891. Her mother signed the register for both, "Mrs. A. D. Johnston, Washington, D.C.," and on the next line, "Miss Johnston." Frances Benjamin Johnston never married. They stayed in room 101 and had supper at the hotel.

In Margaret Bridwell's book, *The Story of Mammoth Cave National Park* (1952), she mentions that in one of the hotel registers at Mammoth Cave under date of Monday, November 8, 1886, there is the name of the first passenger to ride on the Mammoth Cave Railroad, "November 8, Monday, W. F. Richardson, USA, 1st Passenger on Mammoth Cave Railroad (Ticket No. 1350) \$3.00."

The only indication of how the hotel registers may have been saved from the hotel fire of 1916 comes from a letter in the *Courier Journal*, on April 19, 1936. William P. Kendrick and some friends were at the old hotel the night of the fire. Here is his story:

About 1 a.m. we were awakened by a man shouting and running up and down the porches and knocking upon all the doors. We naturally thought that he was drunk and was playing a joke on us, but opening our eyes we found that the entire dining hall was ablaze, it being only two or three rooms away from ours. The rest of us, completely dressed, rushed out to see what we could save. The above-mentioned pieces of furniture, along with several other articles, one of which was the register, were carried out by Clem D. Johnston and myself. We later heard that the late King George himself signed his register along with many other notables.

Special thanks to Pat Hodges, Coordinator, Manuscripts, Department of Library Special Collections, Kentucky Building, WKU, Bowling Green, KY, Terry Langford, Consultant Curator, Mammoth Cave National Park, and to my wife Judi.