

10-23  
(May 1929)  
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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

JEWEL CAVE ..... NATIONAL \*\*\* MONUMENT

FILE NO. 0-35

PART 1

PROPOSED MONUMENT

JEWEL CAVE TENN

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LAST DATE ON TOP

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ARNO B. CAMMERER,  
*Director.*

# JEWEL CAVE

A Subterranean Fairyland of Jewels

*I tell him  
not interested  
we already have  
representative  
kind in order of this  
Post Office  
TENNESSEE CITY, TENN.  
R.F.D. No. 1*

March 28th 1932,

Horace M. Albright, Director,  
National Park Service,  
Department Of The Interior,  
Washington, D. C.

*Mr. C. Summer  
Mr. D. W. Wirth*

Dear Sir:

We have at this time a copy of the booklet put out by the Department, "Glimpses of our National Monuments". As Jewel Cave in Tennessee is a wonderful cave of Stalactite and Stalagmite Formation as well as a great variety of other Cave Onyx, we consider it should be protected by the Department of the Interior as a National Monument, that Future generations may have the benefit thereof.

We would like to have a representative of the Department of the Interior, or a man from the Smithsonian Institution, inspect the cave if this is in order.

Please give me any information along this line, and oblige,

Yours Very Truly,

W. E. Lawson.

*W. E. Lawson*



*Mysteries of*

# JEWEL CAVE

IN TENNESSEE

DICKSON COUNTY

*On No. 1 Highway*

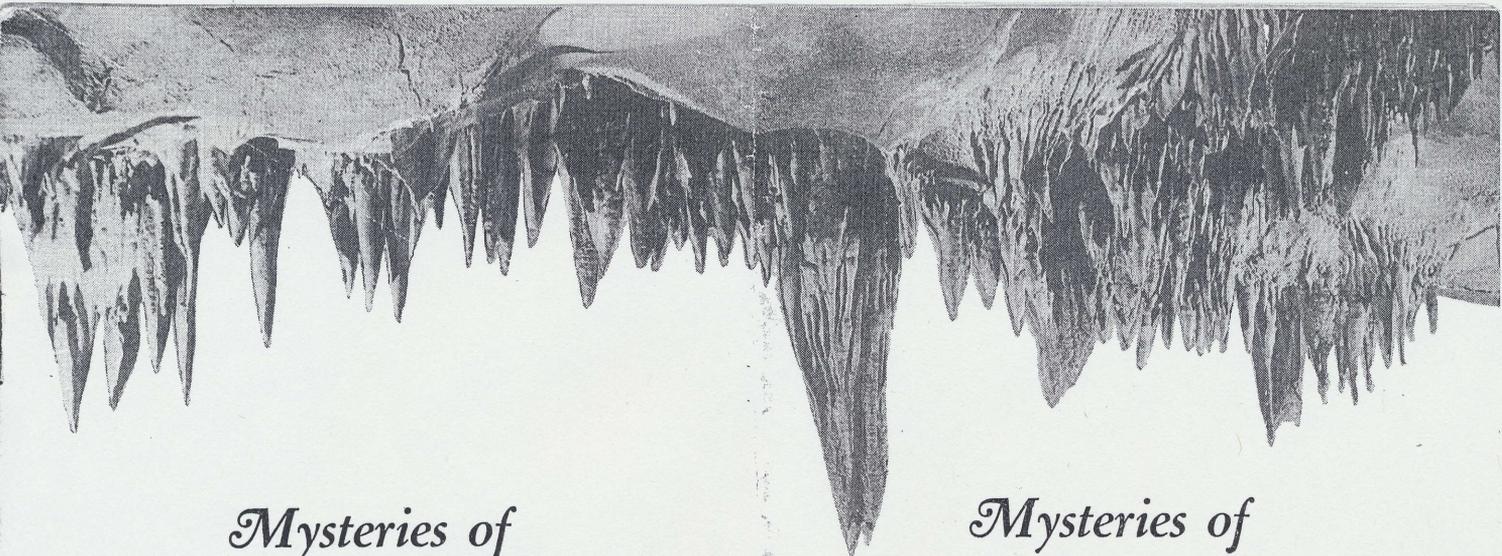
*Mysteries of*

# JEWEL CAVE

IN TENNESSEE

DICKSON COUNTY

*On No. 1 Highway*



# MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

## INTRODUCTION

In opening up Jewel Cave to the public our whole intention was to show the tourist and sightseers in general more real value in natural scenery of this nature than can be seen elsewhere in the United States, or, for that matter, in the whole world, Jewel Cave being covered more completely—ceiling, walls, and a greater part of the floor—with the growth of rock known as stalactites, stalagmites, pillars, pilasters—honeycomb, globular, beaded, thorn, and shale or terrace formation. Aside from the most varieties of cave formation, we show the widest variety of natural color, from the dark bronze, including yellow, pure white, and various tints of blue and purple. Then again we show specimens of a heretofore unknown species of fungi.

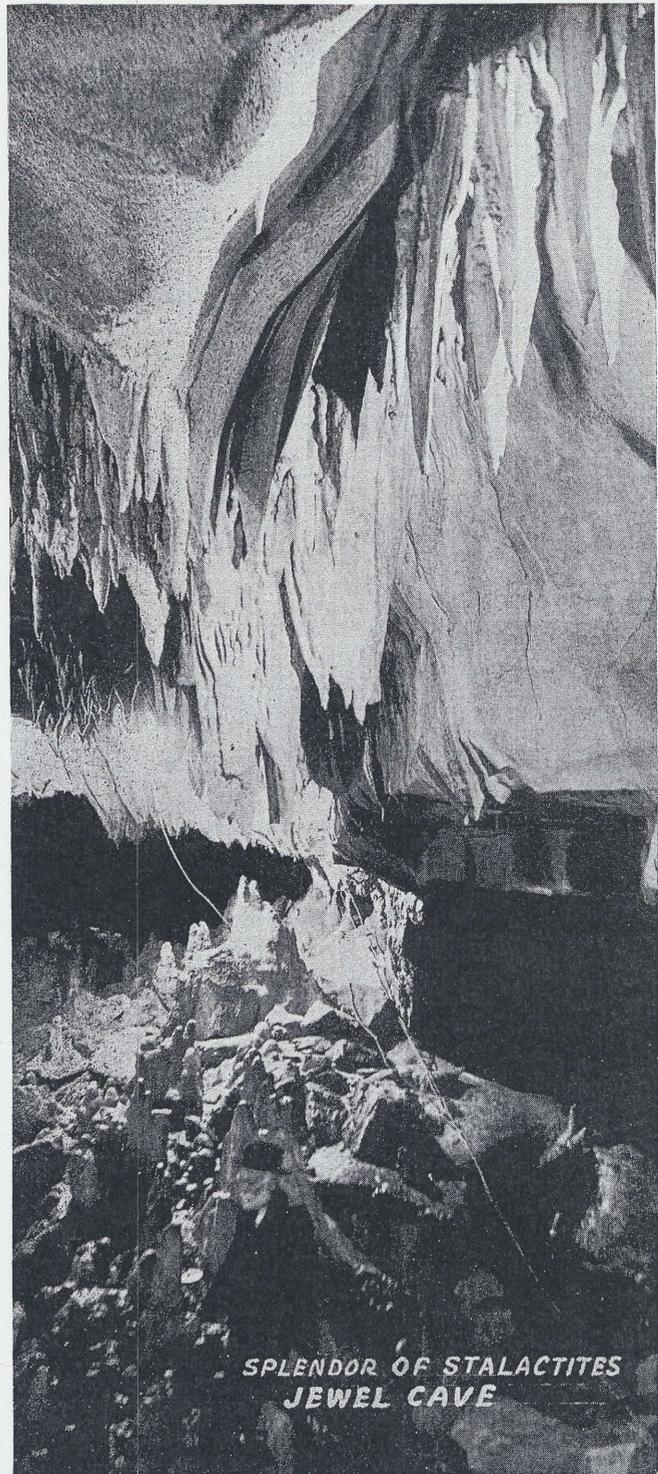
We have made Jewel Cave absolutely safe by the installation of concrete steps where needed and good gravel walks through the cave. There is no "Fat Man's Misery." The illuminating by electric lights throughout, installed by the indirect system as far as possible, gives the visitor the most wonderful scenic effect, as well as the advantage of the most minute inspection. Jewel Cave has less walking and more to see than any other cave open to the public.

In order that each and every visitor may get the maximum out of a trip through Jewel Cave, we have at all times employed competent and courteous guides who not only point out all the interesting features, but give a comprehensive lecture covering all parts of the cave, including the origin, formation, discovery, and, being somewhat versed on Geology and Biology, make this feature invaluable to the student along these lines.

And last, but not least, our charge is small compared with the inferior scenery of some caves, and the cheapest of all compared with the best.

**The Management, Jewel Cave.**

The design on the cover of this booklet is a reproduction of photographs taken of the gorgeous stalactite and stalagmite formation.



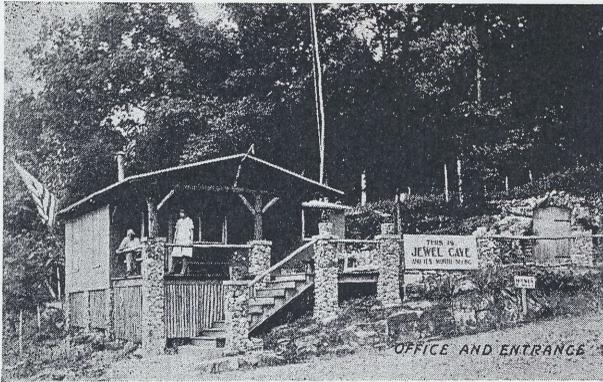
*SPLendor OF STALACTITES  
JEWEL CAVE*

*Unbelievable Until Seen*

MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

Mysteries of  
Jewel Cave  
In Tennessee

*A Subterranean Fairyland of Jewels*



*A place of study for the scientist*



*The superb work of the  
Divine Creator*

JEWEL CAVE

*On the Number One Highway  
Dickson County*

P. O. Tennessee City

Tennessee



*Clean Rock Formation*

## MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

### A JOURNEY THROUGH JEWEL CAVE

A jewel in itself, hidden away in the dark recesses of the earth for ages, only awaiting man's ability to make it visible by artificial light. As we enter the vestibule, making a sharp turn to the right, our guide asks us to please abide by the rules, "Hands Off the Rock Formation and No Smoking." We have a feeling now that we are about to enter the divine realm of God. Proceeding down a slightly inclined pathway, we enter the Palace of the Gods. The bewildering grandeur of the walls and ceiling, a spacious amphitheater with its stalactite-festooned ceiling towering high above. The floor covered with great clusters of stalagmites from midget size to high, imposing forms a man's height. All lighted with a dazzling brilliance from many thousands of watts of current. As we look around us we see what we take for a great iceberg, but on second look we see The Two Sisters Bowing in Prayer at the Altar. Then there is in this grand palace The Galaxy overhead, The Hornets' Nest Under the Mantelpiece, The Sea Lion, The Hanging Drapery, The Aroya Seco, The Stalk of Bananas, The Crystal Waterfall, The Jaw of the Barracuda, The Moro Castle, The Hanging Gardens of Babylon. And here we pass around to the left, when the guide flashes the light upon the most astounding and realistic of anything in the way of an image, The Madonna, this resembling Raphael's Sistine Madonna with such exactness that many visitors take it to be more or less artificial. The symmetry of the statue in its archaic crypt to all alike represent Mary and Jesus. Then next we pass The Queen's Chapel, with its richly carved stone decorations, to be excelled only by that which is to follow.

Here we have a chance to regain our poise as we pass down three steps to The Grotto. This cannot be described. We think no scenery can excel in marvelous grandeur. Tinted with the most delicate shades of blue, we have The Bunch of Cauliflower, The Long-Necked Squash, and to the left the superior of all things in cave formation, The Sunset in the Forest. This absolutely must be seen to be appreciated, and exemplifies the supremacy of the handiwork of the Divine Creator. Now we look at The Natural Bridge built up in a mysterious way by many small fragments of limestone, all cemented into a conglom-

erate mass. This spans over a great lake of the clearest and purest of spring water. This lake, however, disappears in the dry part of the summer.

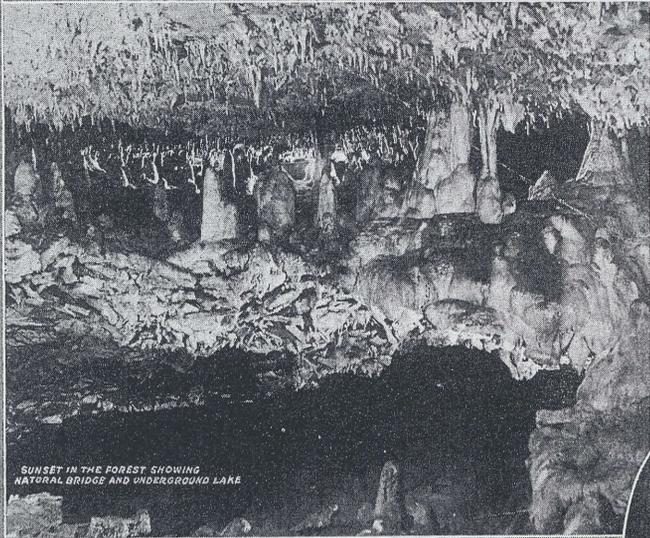
Below we look into the crevice through which Mr. Rodgers and his daughter crept years ago to view for the first time this labyrinth of stalactites and stalagmites. Except for the ample space we are allowed to tread and step about, everything in The Grotto is covered with a wide variety of the most delicate of tints and hues.

And now we take the other route up a flight of steps which is built of rough stone and concrete to match as nearly as possible the natural surroundings. Up and over a veritable mountain of formation which takes on the appearance of a great flow of lava, but in reality has been deposited, the smallest molecules dilute in water dripping and trickling down even yet, and into the past upward into millions of years ago. Through The Alpine Pass we pause to see The Bunch of Grapes and The Slice of Bacon, a light so situated to best show up the semi-transparent streaks of lean and fat.

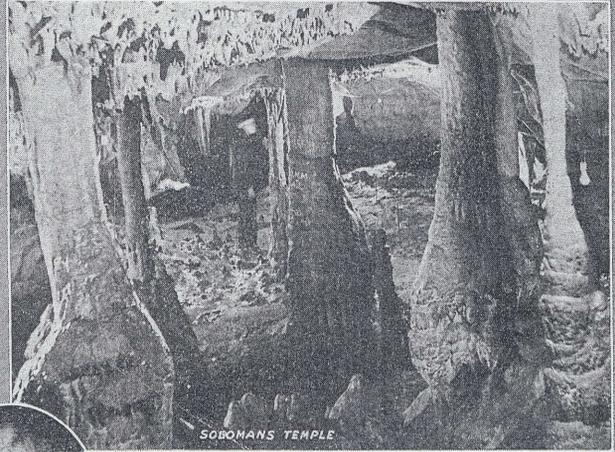
Around great masses of stalagmites which in times past rolled over to an angle of forty-five degrees and into The Outer Court. Here, to our left, we have The Shrine, and on to our left again we have The Japanese Gardens, which is a miniature of the great terrace formation around the hot springs of Yellowstone Park. Yet in these terraces we have a much harder rock substance, due to the thousands of years in the forming. Here we have a distinct bluish cast, caused by the slightest trace of sulphate of copper. Now, as we face on ahead, we are in the midst of great stone columns, reaching from floor to ceiling, and for the ornamentation by these columns this chamber was called "King Solomon's Temple." This was named in the early days of the cave by Mr. Rodgers. Passing on through between these pillars of solid white onyx, we feel a sense of safety; because of the spacing of these pillars, one can only think they were put there to hold up the ceiling.

Now we are at the innermost extremity of the cave. Here we see The Elephant's Head, The Crouching Monkey, The Castle on the Rhine, The Midget Forest, and many other things. Then our guide calls our attention to something bordering on

# MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE



SUNSET IN THE FOREST SHOWING NATURAL BRIDGE AND UNDERGROUND LAKE



SOBOMANS TEMPLE



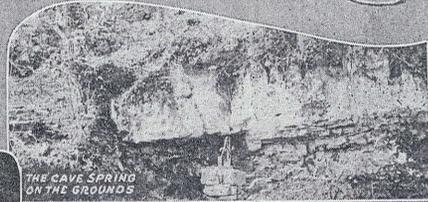
THE MADONNA

## IN TENNESSEE

## JEWEL CAVE



AT THE OLD SWIMMING HOLE

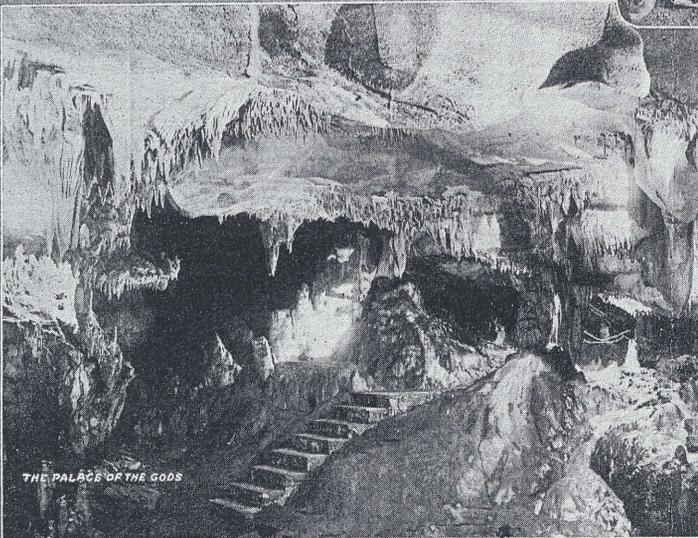


THE CAVE SPRING ON THE GROUNDS



CAR OF A VISITOR

NOTE TAGS OF WALL CYLES OF U.S.



THE PALACE OF THE GODS

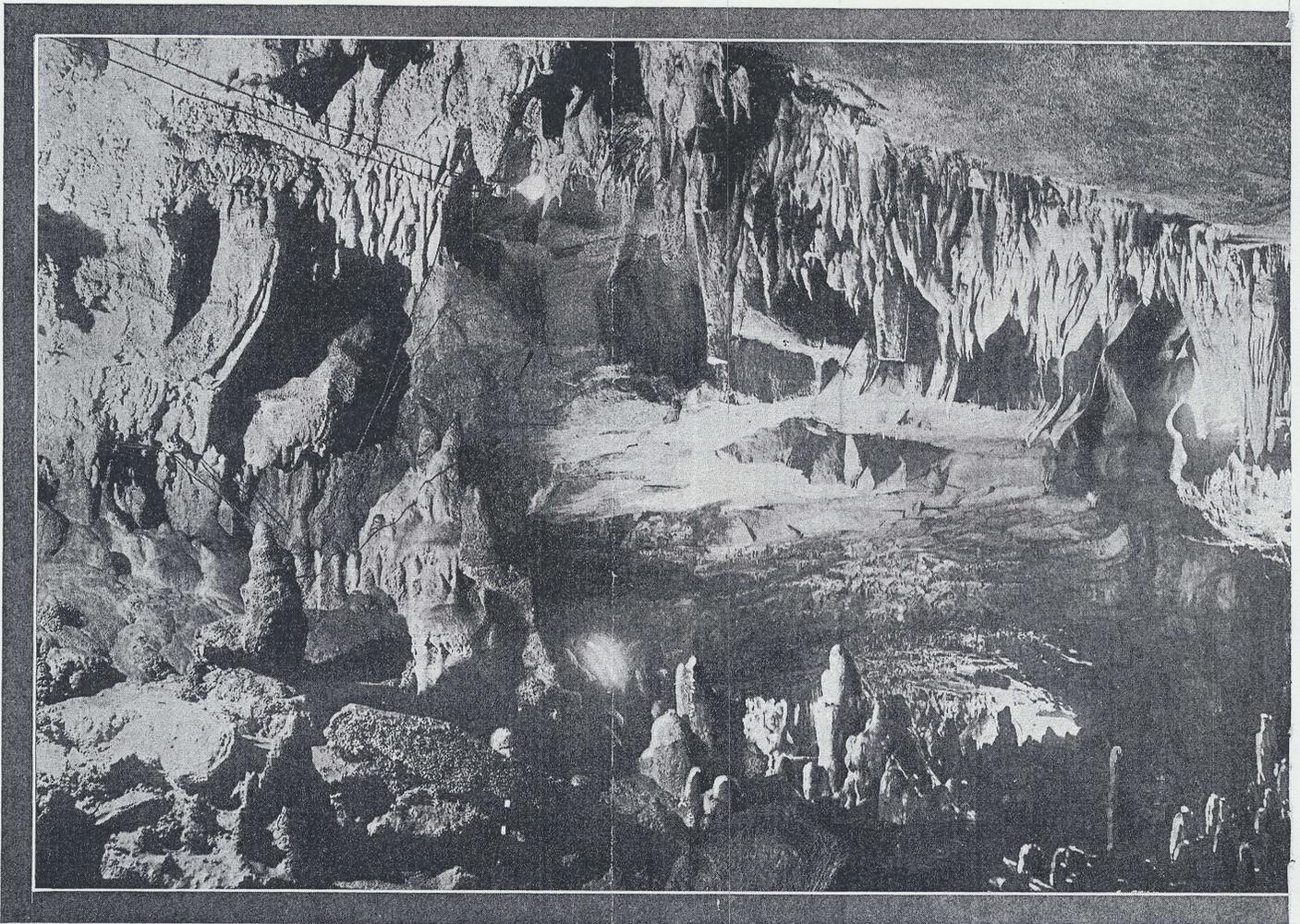


THE SHRINE

*In Every Corner and Crevice We Find the Most Weird Pigmies or Fairy Castle Settings*



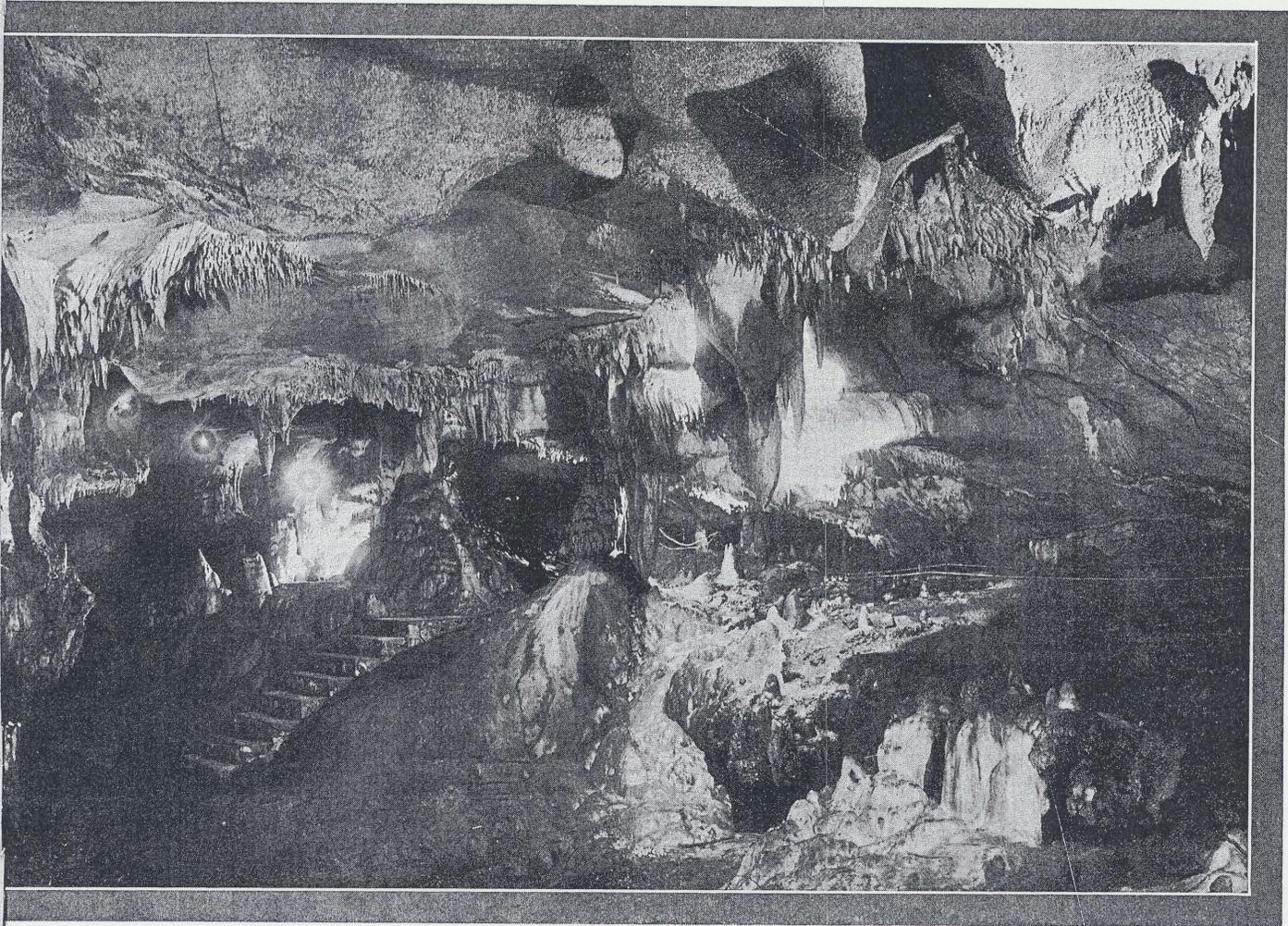
# TEN MINUTES EASY WALK AND ONE



SPOTLESS CLEAN, COOL AND COMFORTABLE, TOGETHER WITH BRILLIANCY OF POW  
SUBTERRANEAN MYSTERIES, HIDDEN FOR THOUSANDS OF



# HOUR OF AWE-INSPIRING GRANDEUR



POWERFUL ELECTRIC LIGHTS, GIVE THE VISITORS THE ADVANTAGE OF ENJOYING THE  
OF YEARS, NOW REVEALED IN JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

## MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE



the study of Biology. In the ceiling we note the many articulations of the stems of The Apiocrinites, these being a fossil, the last remaining evidence of what once was a deep-sea animal, thrown out of his natural environment by a great shift in the earth's crust, landing him high out of the water to petrify through the thousands of years.

Now our attention is called to still another strange thing, a species of fungi, a cryptogamous plant. If this fungi exists in any other cave, we have no knowledge of it. Covering great areas of the walls and ceilings like Egyptian Hieroglyphics.

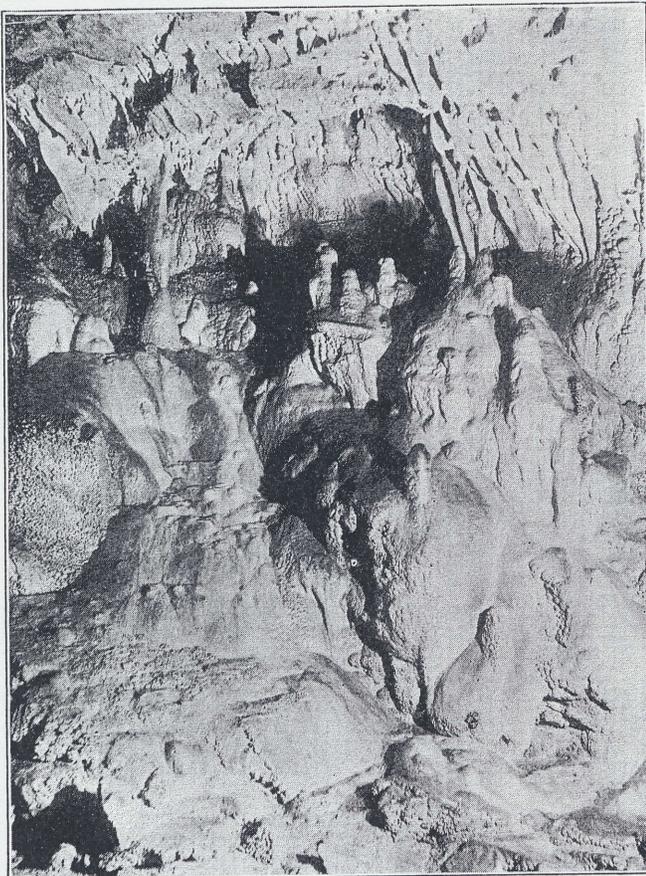
Now we come to Dante's Inferno. At this point the guide makes several changes of the light switches and we are astounded, as we are looking into the glaring, red-hot embers of Hades on every side. And now we pass on to find ourselves under the most realistic Indian wigwam, Powhatan's Tepee, decorated in the most delicate way with beads, lace, and rattlesnake rattles. Then we take a look at The Bears' Den and pass on out and up a few steps to find ourselves in the office once more to welcome the rays of Old Sol.

### LOCATION OF JEWEL CAVE

Located in the central part of Tennessee, Dickson County, and is easily reached by automobile, being only two miles to the north of State Highway No. 1, "The Broadway of America." Consult the map for distances from various points.

In the midst of the picturesque hills and fertile valleys and on the clear, crystal stream known as "Yellow Creek." Yellow Creek affords great pleasure for bathers and fishermen. In the shady groves the tourists will find ample room for camping and the best of spring water. Our store keeps a full supply of food and articles needed by the tourists at all times.

We are improving our roads between Jewel Cave and the No. 1 Highway, two fine bridges having been recently finished; and the fact that the visitor comes in one route and departs the other makes it only necessary to go out of the way something like one mile, and you are back on your way and very little time consumed in seeing the cave. Don't miss seeing the gorgeous stalactite-festooned chambers of Jewel Cave.



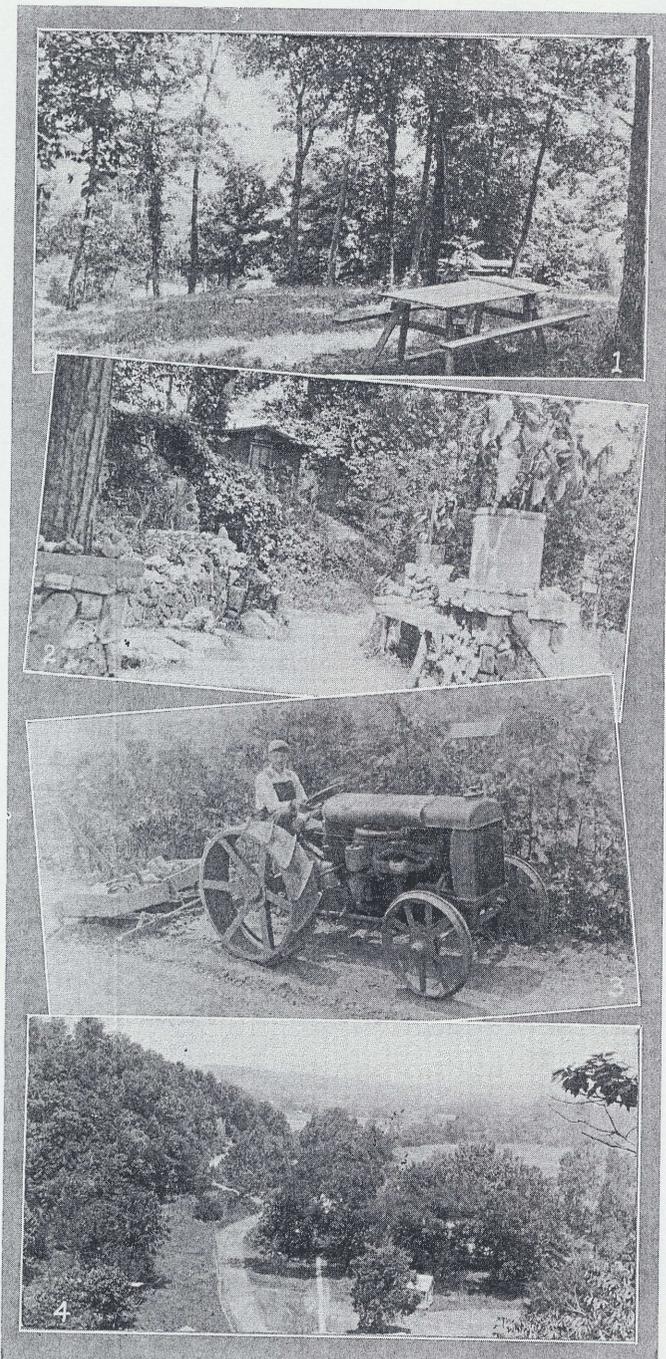
# MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

## HISTORY OF JEWEL CAVE

Away back in the old days when all houses had stone fireplaces in this part of the country, a small group of men of the neighborhood labored getting out limestone to build one of these chimneys. The quarry was started right over what is now the main entrance of Jewel Cave. In putting in a charge of powder to lift out the great slabs of rock, they drilled nearly through the ceiling of the cave, and the whole charge went down into the cave, failing to lift out any rock. So the workmen abandoned the quarry, being afraid of a cave-in.

This experience started Mr. Rodgers, the owner of the land at that time, to investigating. In the summer of 1885, Fanny Rodgers, with her father following close behind, ventured far into the Cave Spring. The Cave Spring is located seventy-five yards south of the entrance of Jewel Cave. After crawling over rock and mud and through water some two hundred yards, passing through three rooms of various sizes, seeing their way by the dim light of an old lantern, they came into the mystifying chambers of what is now Jewel Cave. Not knowing the extent of this labyrinth of subterranean castles, Mr. Rodgers provided himself with a pine board, and along the entire route of travel he whittled shavings, that there might be no chance of getting lost. Upon entering The Grotto they mistook the numerous weird-looking stalagmites for tombstones marking Indian graves. Then, after making a close inspection of the whole cave, they hurried out to tell the neighborhood of the discovery. The next task was to locate the best place to cut an entrance, so the cave might be entered with more ease. After considerable digging and blasting of rock, with no success, Mr. Rodgers engaged Mr. Niblett, who was county surveyor at the time, to survey the cave, who located the place the main entrance now is. The day the cave was opened there were folks from the countryside far and near to get a first glimpse of this marvelous work of the Divine Creator.

Mr. Rodgers always took his friends and neighbors into his cave when they came to visit him, sometimes charging a small fee. The cave went with the seven-hundred-acre farm when it was sold, and since that time has changed hands several times.



1. Picnic Grounds
2. Entrance to the Cave
3. Improved Road Near the Cave
4. One of the Roads Leading to Jewel Cave

## MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

In November, 1924, the cave property was taken over by W. E. Lawson and W. H. Lawson, who have put in extensive improvements for the convenience of the thousands of annual visitors. The improvements consist of electric lights throughout the cave, several flights of concrete steps and gravel walks, making the passage easy, clean, and absolutely safe.

Jewel Cave having no name at the time it was improved and opened to the public, it became necessary to select a suitable name. Several were under consideration. Noticing the jewel-like effect the globules of moisture hanging on the ceiling presented under the powerful electric lights, the name "Jewel Cave" seemed to be the most fitting.

### GUARANTEE OF JEWEL CAVE

To our visitors we wish to state that you take no chances in stopping or going out of your way to see Jewel Cave, as we absolutely guarantee everything in Jewel Cave to be just as represented. We guarantee all pictures to be actual photographs taken in Jewel Cave. We guarantee to show you many things that you will not see elsewhere. We guarantee that Jewel Cave is clean, free from soot, smoke, or any kind of gases, having good ventilation at all times. We guarantee to show you more for your money than elsewhere, and with far less walking, fatigue, and worry. We guarantee that Jewel Cave is lighted throughout with electric lights at one hundred and ten volts and the equal of any lighting system in any cave for brilliancy and effect. We carry no hand lanterns of any kind. And if after you have seen Jewel Cave you can say that we have not fulfilled our part of the above guarantee, we will gladly refund your money.

JEWEL CAVE.

### IN COMING TO JEWEL CAVE

the traveler may profit by knowing that there are other caves in this section of the country, and we would like to make it plain to those coming to JEWEL CAVE that they will not find the rare stalactite formation in all caves. Therefore, stop only at the reliable and advertised JEWEL CAVE. If you seek information, ask any one except other cave men. Follow the road signs, and you will be directed right to the entrance of JEWEL CAVE.

The following business places are recommended and are well equipped to serve you. In case of poor service or unfair dealing, please notify JEWEL CAVE, Tennessee City, Tenn.

#### MODEL RESTAURANT

Highways Nos. 1 and 48—Center of Dickson  
Always Ready to Serve You  
HOME COOKING

#### PACK TIRE COMPANY

Firestone Tires—Standard Gas and Oil  
For Service and Satisfaction, Telephone 113  
DICKSON, TENN.

#### REEDER SUDDEN SERVICE STATION

Pan-Am Gas—Cupples Tires  
Prompt and Courteous Service Phone 383  
DICKSON, TENN.

#### ELLIOTT BROTHERS

General Automobile Repair Work  
HUDSON—ESSEX  
Wrecker Service and Storage—Phone 134  
No. 1 Highway DICKSON, TENN.

#### GRAYSTONE HOTEL

Running Water—Baths—Steam Heat  
European, \$1.50, \$2.00  
JAMES C. MOREHEAD, Proprietor  
Dining Room with Tea Room in Connection  
DICKSON, TENN.

#### BLUE FRONT GARAGE

Gas and Oil—Auto Repairing  
V. DUTTON, Proprietor  
McEwen, Tenn.

#### CITY CAFE

T. J. RYAN, Waverly, Tenn.  
On Highway No. 1—On the Square  
VEGETABLE DINNER—SHORT ORDERS  
Everything Home Cooked—Prompt Service

#### EVEREADY MOTOR COMPANY

Chevrolet Sales and Service  
WAVERLY, TENN.  
Wrecker Service—General Repairs  
Phone 199

# MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

## JEWEL CAVE

Scientists, professors, and students in Geology are in accord in saying that within the mystifying chambers of Jewel Cave are found some of the best specimens of stalactites and stalagmites in all the world. Among these observers, all States and most of the foreign countries have been represented.

In Jewel Cave are found all varieties of cave formation, and numerous varieties not found elsewhere.

Ease of passage makes Jewel Cave surpass them all. As the walks are clean and there is plenty of head room, silk dresses and satin slippers need not be soiled.

Short distance through allows any one and every one the pleasure of viewing the peer of all stalactite caves.

We have had cripples on crutches, the old and feeble, and, in fact, in one case the person had to be carried every step of the way to view this wonder work of Nature.

Our newly installed Kohler Light Plant generates one hundred and ten volts, the same as city lights, and illuminates every crevice and corner with the brilliancy of sunlight.

## CAVE RATES

There is but one route, and that includes all passages and rooms ready for visitors. We hold nothing back. In almost all cases parties can enter the cave as soon as they arrive. There is never more than thirty minutes' wait.

Admission Price: Adults.....\$1.00  
 Children under twelve, half price..... .50

On parties of twenty-five or more, rates will be made according to number of persons, where arrangements are made one day in advance.

For information concerning Jewel Cave or additional copies of this booklet, apply at the following places:

- Chamber of Commerce, Memphis, Tenn.
- Chamber of Commerce, Knoxville, Tenn.
- Nashville Automobile Club, Hotel Hermitage, Nashville, Tenn., or address

## JEWEL CAVE

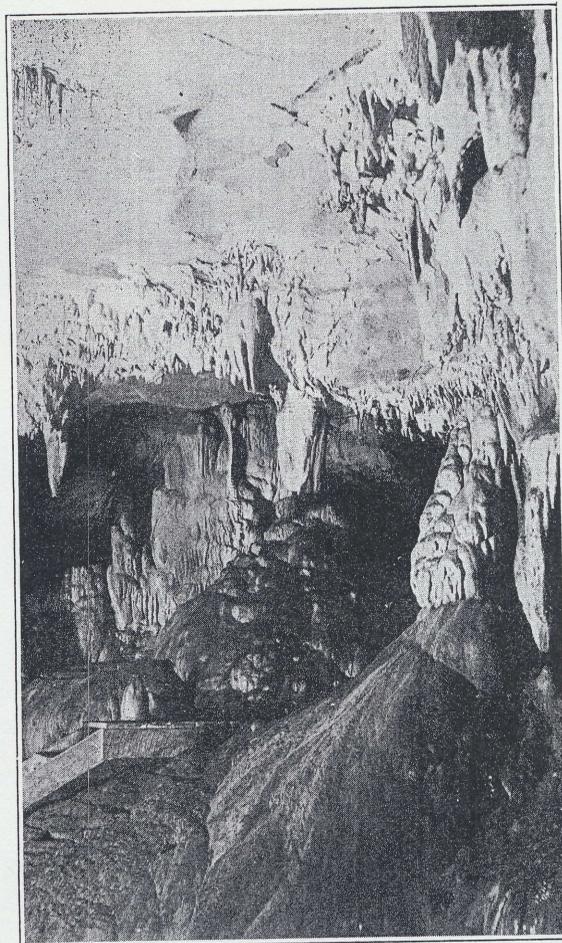
R. F. D. No. 1

Tennessee City, Tenn.

## INTERESTING POINTS TO VISIT IN AND NEAR THE BORDER OF TENNESSEE

(See Map on Last Page)

- The Hermitage, Nashville.
- Shiloh National Military Park.
- Fort Donelson.
- Lewis Monument.
- Reelfoot Lake.
- Lookout Mountain, Chattanooga.
- Muscle Shoals, Wilson Dam.
- Stone Mountain, Georgia.
- Great Smoky Mountains.
- Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.
- Chickamauga National Park, Georgia.
- Signal Mountain, Chattanooga.



*Mountains of Formation*

MYSTERIES OF JEWEL CAVE IN TENNESSEE

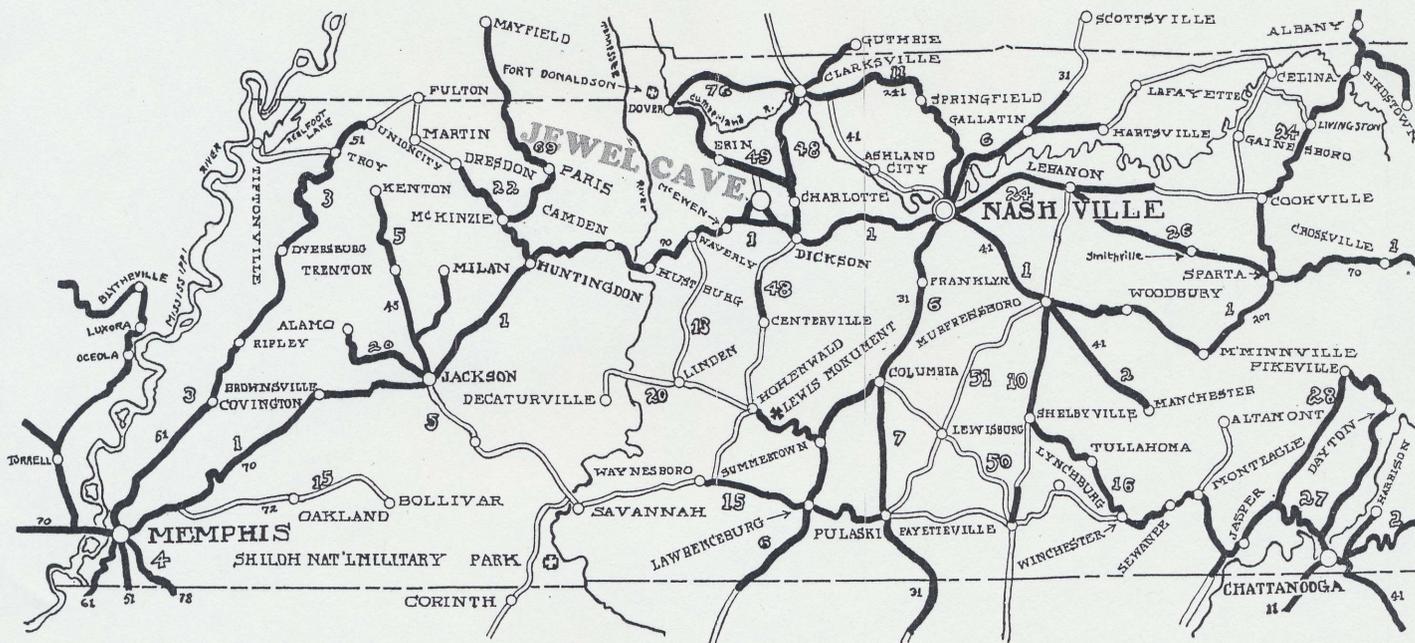
All Roads Lead to

Map Showing Best Roads to  
and Location of

JEWEL  
CAVE

JEWEL CAVE

In Dickson County  
Tennessee



Distance from Jewel Cave to the Following Points

	Miles		Miles
Atlanta, Ga. -----	364	Jacksonville, Fla. -----	620
Asheville, N. C. -----	415	Kansas City, Kan. -----	619
Birmingham, Ala. -----	269	Jackson, Tenn. -----	100
Bristol, Tenn.-Va. -----	403	Knoxville, Tenn. -----	278
Cave City, Ky. -----	150	Little Rock, Ark. -----	361
Chattanooga, Tenn. -----	223	Louisville, Ky. -----	240
Chicago, Ill. -----	500	Memphis, Tenn. -----	205
Cincinnati, Ohio -----	415	Nashville, Tenn. -----	54
Clarksville, Tenn. -----	40	Roanoke, Va. -----	570
Columbus, Ohio -----	522	St. Louis, Mo. -----	322
Evansville, Ind. -----	200	Washington, D. C. -----	817

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

APR -2 1932

Mr. W. E. Lawson,  
R.F.D. No. 1,  
Tennessee City, Tenn.

*Brooks*  
*With*  
*wooding*  
NM  
Jewel Cave  
Tennessee

Dear Mr. Lawson:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 28, inclosing a pamphlet on Jewel Cave, Tennessee. You ask if Jewel Cave could not be examined by a representative of this Department with a view of considering it for a national monument.

It is the policy of the Department and of this Service in establishing national monuments, to secure the best and most wonderful example of its kind in the United States. We feel that in Carlsbad Caverns and the proposed Mammoth Cave, we have the superior representative examples of caves in the United States, if not the world, and it is against our present policy to administer other areas that may tend to compete with these outstanding caves.

While Jewel Cave would undoubtedly warrant preservation and local development, we do not feel that we can properly advocate it for a national monument. However, we appreciate your bringing this to our attention, and would be glad to see it properly protected by State or local interests.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) ARNO B. CAMMERER

ARNO B. CAMMERER.  
Acting Director.

HLB-fmd