

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Form CR 1 - Permanent Record

CAVE REPORT

CAVE NAME(S) Hourglass Cave SERIAL NO. _____

STATE Kansas COUNTY Butler

OWNER AND ADDRESS H.M. Jones

USGS QUAD _____ LAT _____ LONG _____ ELEV 1760'

REPORT BY Capt. Van Arsdale DATE OF REPORT Nov 14, 1964

REMARKS: The entrance is made through a 35' drop, a ladder or at least a rope is required. This is a wet cave a change of cloths is advisable. This cave is located in the same section as Spaulding's Windmill Cave. Permission to enter the cave is no longer obtainable. The cave is located in; T2CS, R6E, sec 18, S SW₄ of NE₄. The cave is fairly long at about 2000'.

DIRECTIONS FOR REACHING CAVE: From El Dorado go S on US 77-54 .8 mile from southern city limits or until a county-road is seen going E. Turn E and procede on dirt road 1.7 mil. From here turn S into gated feild road, walk or ride S on feild road SW for .3 miles until it reaches a dilapidated windmill on the E side of feild road. The cave is found directl under the old win' ill.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF CAVE: The cave is entered by means of a large ^{and} possibly phreatic chamber of the size 25' long, 15' wide at the widest, and 35-40' deep. The entrance located directly below the old windmill is only 2x5' in size ~~but~~ opens up rapidly and is widest and longest about 2/3 of the way ^{down} this is at a wide ledge 8' off the breakdown and mud floor. This ledge is found only on the N side of the chamber. The size of the area at the bottom is 4-6" wide and 10-15' long, there ~~are~~ two passages leading off from this point both have streams in them after a ways one leads upstream and the other leads down-stream. On the NW side of the chamber is a flowstone coming down from near the ceiling of the chamber. Upstream the passage size is 3' high and 3' wide and half full of water to start with. In 25'-30' the passage becomes a near siphon, there are a few small formations in this passage. On the surface in this upstream direction about 70' is found a sink with a dual chamber below which is very similar to the entrance chamber of Hourglass Cave and obviously connected by the stream and siphon. This is the head of this system or this branch of this system. In this same area ~~are~~ the sinks that form the head of the Spaulding Windmill Cave system.

The other passage or the downstream direction is over mud and rocks and has a size 2' high and 2' wide, rocks were moved to gain entrance ~~to~~ into this passage on the first exploration of this cave, this continues for about 8', ~~this~~ enters the passage that the cave was named for which is hourglass in shape the lower oval being about the same size as the upper oval at the start. The water is meet at this point and ~~is~~ stays in this passage for the rest of the explored cave. The size of passage is 2' high and 2' wide in the ovals and 1' wide at the constriction. The water depth in this passage only 1-5". The passage is nearly straight and continues for a length of 150-200' in a generally WSW direction. At the end, the passage size is 3' high and 3' wide in the lower 2' wide in upper oval and 1.5' at the constriction. The passage turns to the NW and then gradually turns back to the W, the size is 4' high 3' wide and 1 1/2' of water.

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The passage continues on at about the same size until the first of several rimstone dams is reached this about 500-600' from the entrance chamber. The size of the passage over the rimstone dams is 3' high and 4' wide. On down this passage the second set of rimstone dams are met and this set form a small water fall of about 1 1/2'. Heading SSE is a side passage at the size of 3 1/2' high, and about 1' air space above the water and 3' wide. The water from this side passage was draining into the main WSW passage and oil was coming from this side passage. The length was not determined other than led down as far as possible which was some 60-70' and the passage led on. The main passage has increased in size after the rimstone dams and is now 6-7' high and 4-5' wide. The distance from the entrance chamber is now about 900-1000'. Past the second set of rimstone dams a second side passage is seen also on the SSE side and lower than the main passage. This side passage also has water in it and it is flowing into the main passage. The side passage is some 100' beyond the second set of rimstone dams, it was not explored. Coming on down the main passage a turn is reached, the passage thus far has been going nearly straight, at WSW, this turn is to the SE and the passage height lower to 4' and the width increases to around 7'. The passage goes this direction for about 100' then turns WSW then goes another 100' and then turns NW and goes about 80' where again meets the joint that it was in earlier and turns again to the WSW at the same size as before 7' high and 5' wide. About 130' on the side passage called Tom's side passage is reached on the SSE side. This point is around 1600' from the entrance chamber. Tom's side passage is small about 3' wide and 3' high. The floor is muddy and slopes upward at a steep angle. It is located about 3' above the stream level. This passage has been explored about 20' until a dome is reached. The dome is estimated at 20' high. On down the main passage there is a turn to the NW and this continues until a mud block is reached a total distance of about 200'. The water goes on through a low, about 40' high with 30' of water and 7' wide, passage. Going on down this passage and following first to the WSW and then through a gradual jog to the NW and then back to the WSW and finally arriving at the "Domes Room", a distance of about 250'. This brings the total distance from the entrance chamber to around 2000'. The domes room is a room that has at least two domes and maybe three domes connected together. The room is about 25' long and from 4-10' wide and about 20-25' high. There are two main domes one on the SE side and in the upstream end of the room and the other off set from stream passage and on the NW side and in the downstream end of the room. The downstream dome is climbable and a ledge directly under the dome about 15' above the stream and off set to the NW is easily reached. The dome is blocked with breakdown about 10' about this ledge and is probably very near the surface possibly under a small sink or a paired sink. The passage leading on downstream is about the same size as the passage coming into this room. This was the farthest point of penetration. The total length of passage would be about 2250', counting all side passages, the rooms, and upstream passage. The cave developed in the Fort Riley limestone.

Hourglass Cave



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CAVE REPORT

CAVE NAME(S) Shaulding's Windmill Cave SERIAL NO. _____

STATE Kansas COUNTY Burtler

OWNER AND ADDRESS M.M Jones

USGS QUAD _____ LAT _____ LONG _____ ELEV 1355'

REPORT BY Chuck Van Arsdale DATE OF REPORT Nov. 1, 1964

REMARKS: The cave is a sewer tube type and as an active stream in it. Cave is dangerous in rainy weather. Rope or ladder is needed to descend the entrance drop (30'). Permission to enter the cave is no longer obtainable. Exploration is incomplete in this cave. A sketch map of the cave was made. Location of cave; T26S, R6E, sec 7, NW 1/4 of NE 1/4

DIRECTIONS FOR REACHING CAVE: From southern city limits of El Dorado or where the Walnut River crosses, go S on US54 & ~~7~~ 1 mile. Then turn E and go 1.7 miles on county road. Walk S up a small draw to a windmill (can be seen from the road), about 100 yds. The Cave is directly under the windmill.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF CAVE: The cave has not been explored other than dropping to the bottom of the well. The entrance drop is about 25' through a hole about 4' long and 3' wide. The drop ends in 1' of water at the bottom with a moving current. There are 2 passages leading out both upstream and downstream. The height of these two passages is about 3', although the downstream has ~~2~~ water depth in it. The downstream passage seems to be flowstone blocked or nearly so, and seems to just about siphon at this point about 10' from the entrance drop. The upstream passage is more promising although it is half full of water. The passage could be seen to go straight back 30' and ~~then~~ then turn to the right. The cave is elongated in a nearly straight line running roughly SE-NW, SE upstream and NW downstream, except for the turn at the end of the upstream passage, which turns roughly SW. The cave is in the Fort Riley Limestone. At present the total length is about 45'. A sketch map of the cave has been made.