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INDIAN CAVES IN WISCONSIN

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In his "Physical Geography of Wisconsin", published by the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, in 1916, Dr. Lawrence Martin devotes several pages to a discussion of some of the numerous caves in Wisconsin and to the causes for their existence. "Parts of the Driftless Area abound in sink holes and caves and these have been produced chiefly by the solvent action of the underground water, aided by the abundant joints in the rock.

The sink holes are sometimes at the entrance of caves. They are circular or elliptical depressions, some dry, others containing ponds. They are still being formed by solution and by falling in of cavern roofs and entrances is shown by the recent killing of trees adjacent to some sink holes, as near Blue Mound." The shallow caves in the Mississippi River bluffs, he states, are due to weathering.

He mentions some of the better known caves of the state, among them Eagle cave, northeast of Blue River, and John Gray Cave near Rockbridge, both in Richland County; Bear Cave near Boscobel, and Wauzeka Cave near Wauzeka, both in Crawford County, and Blue Mound Cave near Blue Mounds and Richardson Cave near Verona, both in Dane County. Blue Mound Cave has a total length of 250 feet, John Gray Cave of 710, Bear Cave of 800, and Eagle Cave of 960 feet. Of these he gives outline maps.

"There are doubtless scores of other caves and they are practically all within the Driftless Area. The lead and zinc district abounds in natural caves. Indeed the mining in early days consisted in some cases only of the removal of lead deposits that lined caverns and cavities. Many of these were small, but certain of them contained chambers as much as 35 feet long and 6 or 8 feet wide. The cavern just cited was 60