



THE ROCKFINDER

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Larry Hess, *Rockfinder* Editor
15358 Kerlin Drive
Granger, IN 46530

Important Announcement:

NEW MEETING LOCATION

**Studebaker National Museum
in downtown South Bend.**

**Don't forget - September 25,
2:00pm.**

MICHIANA GEM and MINERAL SOCIETY

1994 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	---- Margaret Heinek	7091 E East Park Ln, New Carlisle IN 46552
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Publicity	---	Meg Auth	1308 E Monroe, South Bend IN 46615
Membership	---	All Members	

The Michiana Gem & Mineral Society, a non-profit organization, is affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Regular Meetings

Time: 2:00 PM EST	Place: Studebaker National Museum
4th Sunday of each month	525 S. Main Street
June - Field Trip Meeting	South Bend IN
July - No meeting	in downtown South Bend
August - Annual Club Picnic	
December - Christmas Party	

ROCKFINDER STAFF

Editor	Larry Hess	15358 Kerlin Dr, Granger IN 46530
Co-Editor	Margaret Heinek	7091 E East Park Ln, New Carlisle IN 46552
Staff	Bob Heinek / Club Members	

All contributions for publication should be in the hands of the Editor by the 10th of each month. (219 272-5431) Permission is hereby granted to reprint, at any time, items published in the ROCKFINDER provided due recognition is given.

cut

Membership Dues are: Please send your dues and this form to
Michiana Gem & Mineral Club, Treasurer
Marge Collins
3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd
Buchanan MI 49107

_____ Individual	\$ 6.50 per year
_____ Family	\$ 10.00 per year
_____ Junior	\$ 2.00 per year

Please make address corrections to the mailing label on the reverse side and fill in the optional information below. Your Birth Mo/Yr _____

Check your SPECIAL INTERESTS:

General Geology	_____	Gems & Minerals	_____	Fossils	_____	Artifacts	_____
Cabochons	_____	Faceting	_____	Silversmithing	_____	Carving	_____
Micromounts	_____	Beads	_____	Other	_____		

Family Members (include information on spouse and children):

Name	_____	Birthday	_____	Will attend meetings	_____
Name	_____	Birthday	_____	Will attend meetings	_____
Name	_____	Birthday	_____	Will attend meetings	_____

THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 34
Number 7

September 1994

Published by:
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society

Meeting: Meeting: September 25
Doors Open 1:30 PM
Meeting at 2:00 PM

Place: Studebaker Museum
525 S. Main St.
Downtown South Bend

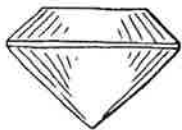
Hosts:

Bess Wise
Adeline Niebauer

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM
A photographic show of the 1994
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Show & MWF Convention.

September Happy Birthday & Anniversary:

7 Jan Pellus
8 Paul Stone
18 Donald Erb
19 Gertrude Orrell
21 Tom Fields
21 Marsha Miller
26 Kenny Zeiger
29 Ozzie & Jo Kytta (Anniv)



Interesting facts (and perhaps fiction) concerning your BIRTHSTONE.

September - SAPPHIRE

Blue corundum is termed sapphire, which is less common in pink and other colors. Sapphires were believed to attract divine favor to their owners. A gem could preserve its wearer from envy, protect against captivity, and serve as a key to understanding the sayings of oracles. Sapphire is the gem of autumn, and of the soul. The Bishop of Rennes in the 12th century praised the virtues of the sapphire and started the long history of the use of this gem in church regalia.

Birthstones are the gems symbolically associated with your birth month. Generally they are believed to bring the wearer good luck. Early records, from the Old Testament, describe garments made for Aaron, the High Priest (Exod. 28:17-21), that were attached to a breastplate in four rows of three gemstones each. Each stone represents one of the twelve tribes of Israel. Different translations of the Bible offer different lists of what stones were used, but the descriptions agree with many of today's birthstone gems.

(to be continued)

MARGARET'S COLUMN

I sincerely hope everyone had a good summer. It was a busy one for the Heineks, and an interesting one. Bob and I attended the AFMS Convention in Houston in June.

And then our show and convention for the MWF early this month. I feel this was a good show, good dealers and quite a few people from all over the midwest. I believe most of our members that attended the show met Ruth Bailey, President of the AFMS, from California. She is a very charming person and we were so glad to have her in attendance. We also had a member of the Eastern Federation, Barbara Sky, from Virginia. She visited with us and judged competitive exhibits.

I want to thank all of our members that worked at the show, transporting the items from the storage and all that displayed (we had 74 exhibits). I especially would like to thank Bill Crull and Chuck Collins for picking up our display cases, table covers and rocks that we had in the storage shed, and returning them on Tuesday after the show. The Crulls, the Collins and Bob Heinek worked very hard marking the floor for the booths, and setting up the show. I am afraid I will miss naming those that worked so hard to make this a good show and I do not want to miss anyone. You know who you are, so consider yourself THANKED! I will make mention of those that made or furnished the table prizes we had at the lunches, breakfast and banquet. Pam Rubenstein for fixing the Occoes for the banquet, Kathy Miller asked salesmen for samples (paper pads, pens and lotion), and Gladys Pacholke made the colorful baskets which so many asked about.

Now we are looking forward to our field trip to southern Indiana and our new meeting place. Make sure you note that we are meeting at the Studebaker Museum from now on. I feel this will be a good move, hopefully we will be able to help the Museum with some of their plans, and they will be good for us.

I will be unable to be at the September meeting, but I know Ed Miller will have something special for you in the way of a program. (Photo's from the Show)

As I write this column, I do not know how we did at the show in the way of profit. But I am sure by the end of September most of our bills will be in and paid.
Margaret

* * * * *

REPORT ON A COURT CASE -
THE OWNERSHIP OF SUE

John Boland of Wisconsin sent a report on the court case of the Black Hills Institute (BHI) over the T-rex named "Sue". The court awarded the dinosaur to Mr. Williams, the Indian land owner where Sue was found. He now has Sue for sale to the highest bidder. BHI has a lien on the T-rex for work performed to date and the dinosaur rests in the School of Mines. BHI has ownership of three other T-rexes, one named Stan, after the private land owner, and another named Duffy after their lawyer. They are all males and smaller than Sue, which was probably a female.

The Rocky Mt. Fed. had a program describing real estate (deeded) property (a dinosaur in the ground), personal property (a dinosaur out of the ground), and statutory possession (the government says who owns it).

The August issue of the Lapidary Journal announced that 52 nominees from all parts of the country were selected by clubs and individuals. Six were inducted into the Hall of Fame:

Mineral Division - Stanley Dyl II, Curator of the Seaman Museum, Houghton MI, host of the 1993 MWF show.

Faceter - Norman Steele Jr., Editor of three monthly newsletters in Seattle.

Jewelry - Robert Koeppler, silversmith, native of Wisc. now living in Quartzite.

Paleontology - Japheth Boyce, collector of fossils along the White River in South Dakota.

Education - John Boland, chairman and writer for the MWF and AFMS and amateur representative at government meetings.

Avid Collector - Lafayette Funk, Past MWF President who gave collections to Ill State Univ at Normal and Univ of Ill.

Editor's Notes

Your ROCKFINDER editor needs your input, so PLEASE give me a jingle. That's 272-5431 as a reminder.

Thanks, Larry.

Club Picnic Report

Clay Park - August 21, 1948

President Heinek welcomed everyone.

Margaret and Pam Rubenstein sent out 500 post cards for our upcoming show.

We have received 80 educational packets to hand out to teachers, or anyone teaching, who attends the show.

Larry Hess received 2nd place at national for his good and neat ROCKFINDER. Congratulations Larry.

Gladys Pacholke did an excellent job on the little baskets for the show. Thanks Gladys.

Tom Noe reported that he has 35 non-competitive displays at this date.

WNIT will give free tickets for anyone that pledges \$60.00 or more on their Sunday night program which seven of our club members will answer phones from 6:00 - 11:00 pm.

Tom McLaughlin reported on the field trip for September which should be very nice. Tom & Pat have a lot of neat things lined up. Bus will leave at 4:00 pm, so be there by 3:45 pm.

The meetings will be held at the Studebaker Museum downtown from now on, beginning in September. See you there.

Louis & Lorraine Jordan did an excellent job cooking the meat -- a BIG THANKS.

There were 24 adults, 3 juniors and 3 guests attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Crull, Secretary.

The "Son of Lucy"

Scientist recently reported the discovery of the oldest known skull from a human ancestor. In 1974 a 3'-6" female skeleton, Lucy, was found by paleoanthropologist Donald Johanson and colleagues in Ethiopia. The recent "son of Lucy" was discovered by researchers, also in Ethiopia, an estimated 3 million years after its death.

The partial skull, almost certainly the same species as Lucy, was among fragments of over 50 individuals of our now extinct relatives. Based on the size, researchers believe it to be from a male.

Reference: The Ledger, Winter Haven Florida, compliments of Bill Crull.

***** Upcoming Events *****

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Oct. 1-2 | Gerald E. Eddy Geology Center
Annual Geology Arts Fair
Eddy Center - Chelsea MI
(313) 475-3170 |
| Oct. 14-16 | Greater Detroit Gem & Min. Show
Detroit Light Guard Armory |
| Oct. 14-16 | Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Soc.
Ft Wayne Gem & Mineral Show
Allen County Fair Grounds
(219) 489-2143 |
| Oct. 21-23 | Central Mi. Lapidary & Min Soc.
"Rockhound's Dream" Show
Marshall St Armory, Lansing MI |
| Oct. 28-30 | Midwest Faceters Guild
1993 Midwest Faceters Fair
Dearborn Civic Center, MI
(313) 465-3622 |

1994 Show Note

We extend our special thanks to our guests from the Ft Wayne area; Linda, Donnelle Kay & Don. Your help at the door and other areas was greatly appreciated.

Michiana Gem & Mineral members should make an extra effort to attend and volunteer at the Three Rivers Show in early October.

Identifying True Amber (Succinite)

by Garry Platt (e-mail: arry@gplatt.demon.co.uk)

Since the screening of 'Jurassic Park' interest in the mineral Amber has grown significantly. Unfortunately so has the quantity of fake Amber coming on to the market. Some of these pieces have insect inclusions skillfully placed in the body of the matrix.

The British Natural History Museum recently discovered that a bee preserved in Amber thought to be one of the oldest known examples of this particular species was in fact a fake and probably no more than 150 years old. (More of this bee later). Evidence of this nature, that even the best can be fooled should alert all collectors to the possibility of being misled or simply cheated.

In some cases Copal, which is tree rosin which has not yet fully fossilized to Amber and may be anything up 3-4 million years old is described as true Amber. Debate still rages in the UK about certain Kenyan deposits as to whether they should be called Copal or Amber and I have heard of similar arguments concerning deposits found in South America.

There are a number of simple tests which can be carried out on Amber to check its authenticity. I have listed here all the basic methods I have come across. More sophisticated and complex tests are possible but they require access to laboratory equipment. These more complex tests include: Refraction Index, Polarized Light test for Ambroid (Conglomerated and Pressed) Amber, Specific Gravity, Melting Point.

When examining a specimen you should try at least 3 of the following methods detailed here. If the item in question fails any one of the tests, it could well mean the piece is not true Amber.

(Test 1) HARDNESS. Amber has a hardness on scale of 2 - 3 using Moh's scale. Using appropriate scratch sticks it should be reasonably straightforward to test the sample under question.

(Test 2) HOT NEEDLE. Heat a needle point in a flame and then push the point into the sample for testing. With Copal the needle melts the material quicker than Amber and omits a light fragrant odor. Amber when tested does not melt as quickly as the Copal and omits sooty fumes.

(Test 3) SOLUBILITY. Copal will dissolve in acetone. This test can be done by dispensing the acetone from an eye dropper onto a clean surface of the test specimen. Amber will however remain unaffected by contact with Acetone.

(Test 4) UV Copal under a short-wave UV light shows hardly any colour change. Amber fluoresces a very pale shade of blue.

(Test 5) FRICTION Rub the specimen vigorously on a soft cloth. True amber may omit a faint resinous fragrance but Copal may actual begin to soften and the surface become sticky. Amber will also become heavily charged with static electricity and will easily pick up small pieces of loose paper.

(Test 6) TASTE This test was introduced to me by a Antique Trader who specialized in Amber beads. She explained that one of the most reliable tests she used was to taste the Amber specimen after washing it in mild soapy water and then plain water. Whilst she could make no distinction between Copal and Amber, she could easily identify Plastics and other common substitutes because of their unpleasant or chemical taste. Amber has hardly any taste at all. As a method for identification I have not seen this procedure recorded elsewhere. I can vouch for its effectiveness as a non destructive method of differentiating between Amber and certain other substances often misleadingly labelled Amber.

(TEST 7) INCLUSIONS Infrequently Amber contains Flora or Fauna inclusions. Correctly identifying the trapped Insect or plant should be a fairly good indicator of a pieces authenticity. Most inclusions from truly ancient amber or of species which are now extinct.

Anyone wishing to find out more about Amber in general or these test methods specifically would do well to consult one of two books currently available on Amber, they are:

Life In Amber, George O. Poinar, Jr. Stanford University Press; ISBN: 0-8047-2001-0

or

Amber - The Golden Gem of the Ages, Patty C. Rice, The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc; ISBN: 0-917-00720-5.

Now back to the bee I mentioned earlier. I am afraid that only the last of these tests would have identified this particular fake. The item consisted of a block of true amber into which had been drilled a hole large enough to receive the dead bee. Amber which had been melted was then poured back over the insect, encasing it in a genuine amber prison.

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READING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS-Part 2

By Paul Godollei, club member.

Now is the time to explain the locations. The map is divided up into townships, North and South, and Ranges East and West. So when they say (SE 1/4 sec 12, T 28 N., R. 9 E.) they mean the South East quarter of Section 12, Township #28 North and Range #9 East.

Look at the reproduction of the lower left quarter of the map on the attached sheet.

To find it on the Huntington Quadrangle map, look along the left margin about eight inches up from the bottom and you will find T 28 N on the lower side of the horizontal line, and T 29 N directly above it, so you know Township 28 North is in the lower left hand corner of the map.

Now look along the lower edge of the map. About seven inches from the lower left corner is the notation on the left of the dashed vertical line R 9 E, and to the right of that the notation R 10 E. This tells you that Range 9 East is in the lower left corner of the map also.

In the center of each of the Sections on the map there is a section number. The right bottom corner of the map has a small inset

map of Indiana showing the location of the quadrangle, the lower left corner gives the name of the quadrangle, and in the center is a scale of miles.

The next map shows the lower left corner of the quadrangle map. We are looking for the South East 1/4 of Section 12.. Section 12 is 2 1/2 squares from the left lower corner of the map and 2 squares up. In the lower right corner of Section 12 the quarry is indicated with crossed pickaxes as the symbol!

Highway US24 is the dark black line running across the map, as indicated on the left margin. The Erie Railroad is shown with the switching tracks running diagonally up and down the map through Huntington. North Broadway Ave could not be found, but First Street is shown. Go South to Sabine Street and turn left, East until it runs into some jogging roads North that lead to the Erie Stone Co. Office. They will send you to the spoil dumps.

Each Quadrangle map is different, so you have to look at the locations of the Township numbers and Ranges on the edges of each.

We will describe more map reading in our next article.

The Fluorescent Mineral Society

The Fluorescent Mineral Society (FMS) is a unique organization founded in 1971 to promote the collection, study & distribution of information on fluorescent minerals. The 1992 roster shows membership at 290.

The society publishes the bimonthly "UV Waves", a newsletter with articles to keep members updated on fluorescent mineral news and FMS business. In addition, the "Journal of the Fluorescent Mineral Society" is published annually or biennially to provide information in a more technical and scientific vein.

Within the US, Fluorescent Mineral Society dues are \$15.00 per year, with an additional one-time fee of \$2.00 for new members for registration and introductory materials. Payment should be sent to the Treasurer (payable to Fluorescent Mineral Society):
Bob Jones, FMS Treasurer, 3900 El Caminito, La Crescenta, CA 91214

AFMS Poetry, First place award.
Cindy Lind, Clear Lake Texas Gem & Min Soc.

A SUMMER ROCKHOUND

The 'skeeter and the rockhound both
Went out to hunt one day.
The rockhound wanted specimens
The 'skeeter wanted prey.

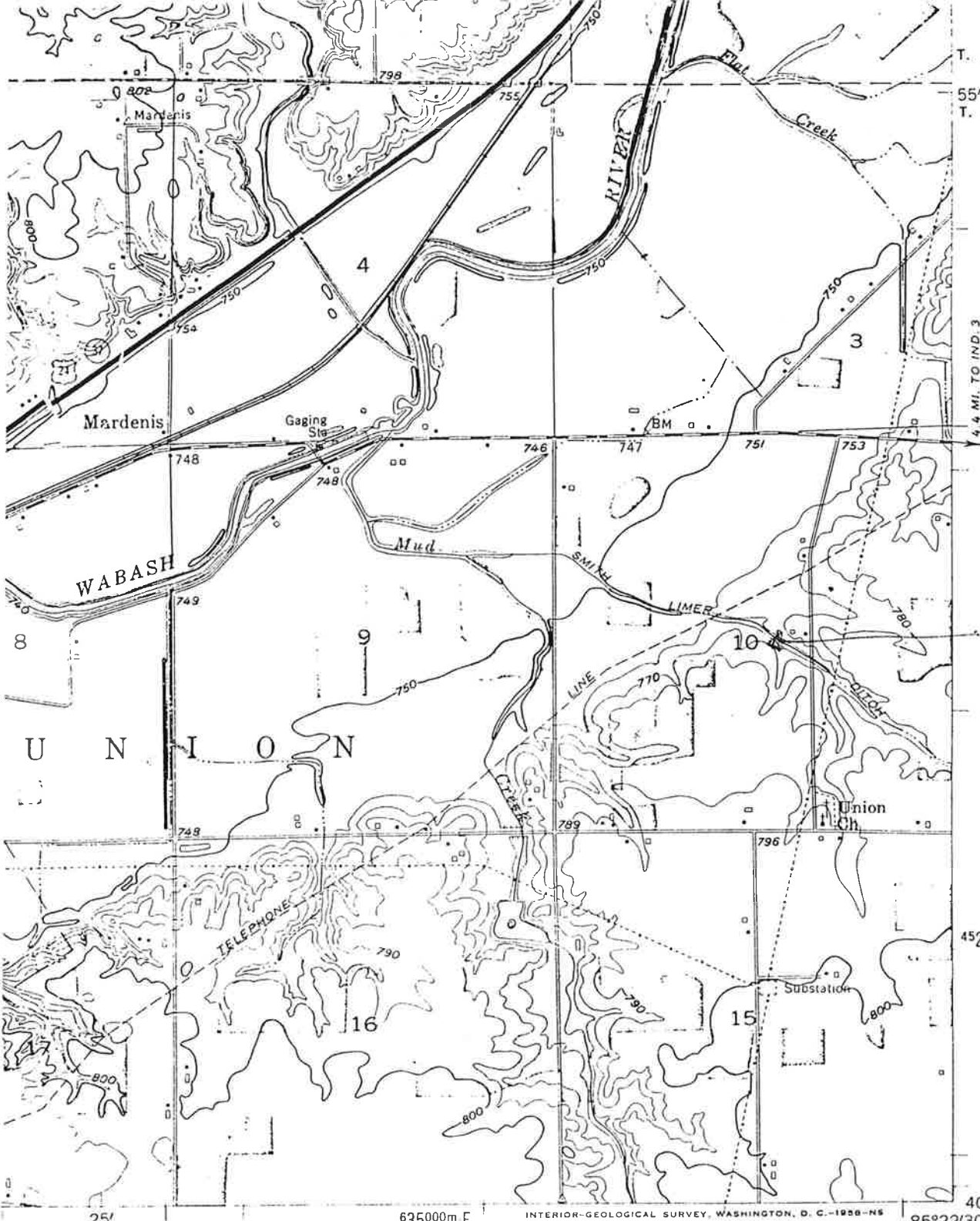
The rockhound found a likely spot
And settled with his gear.
He'd dug a while when he heard
A buzzing in his ear.

The rockhound swatted at the noise
And stood to look around.
He missed the 'skeeter, but he saw
A great stone in the ground.

The rockhound bent to lift the stone
His backside in the air.
The 'skeeter took advantage then,
And bit the rockhound there.

The rockhound jumped and squashed the bug,
His bottom to defend.
The rockhound and the 'skeeter had
Both got it in the END.

- Crystal Cluster.



T. 29 N.

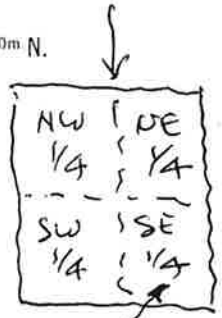
55'
T. 28 N.

↑
TOWNSHIP
NUMBERS
NORTH

4.4 MI. TO IND. 3

SECTION
NUMBER

SECTION



↓
SOUTH
EAST
QUARTER

4527000m N.

40°52'30"
85°22'30"

(MARKLE)

1 MILE

EEI

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty Light-duty
Medium-duty Unimproved dirt

U.S. Route State Route



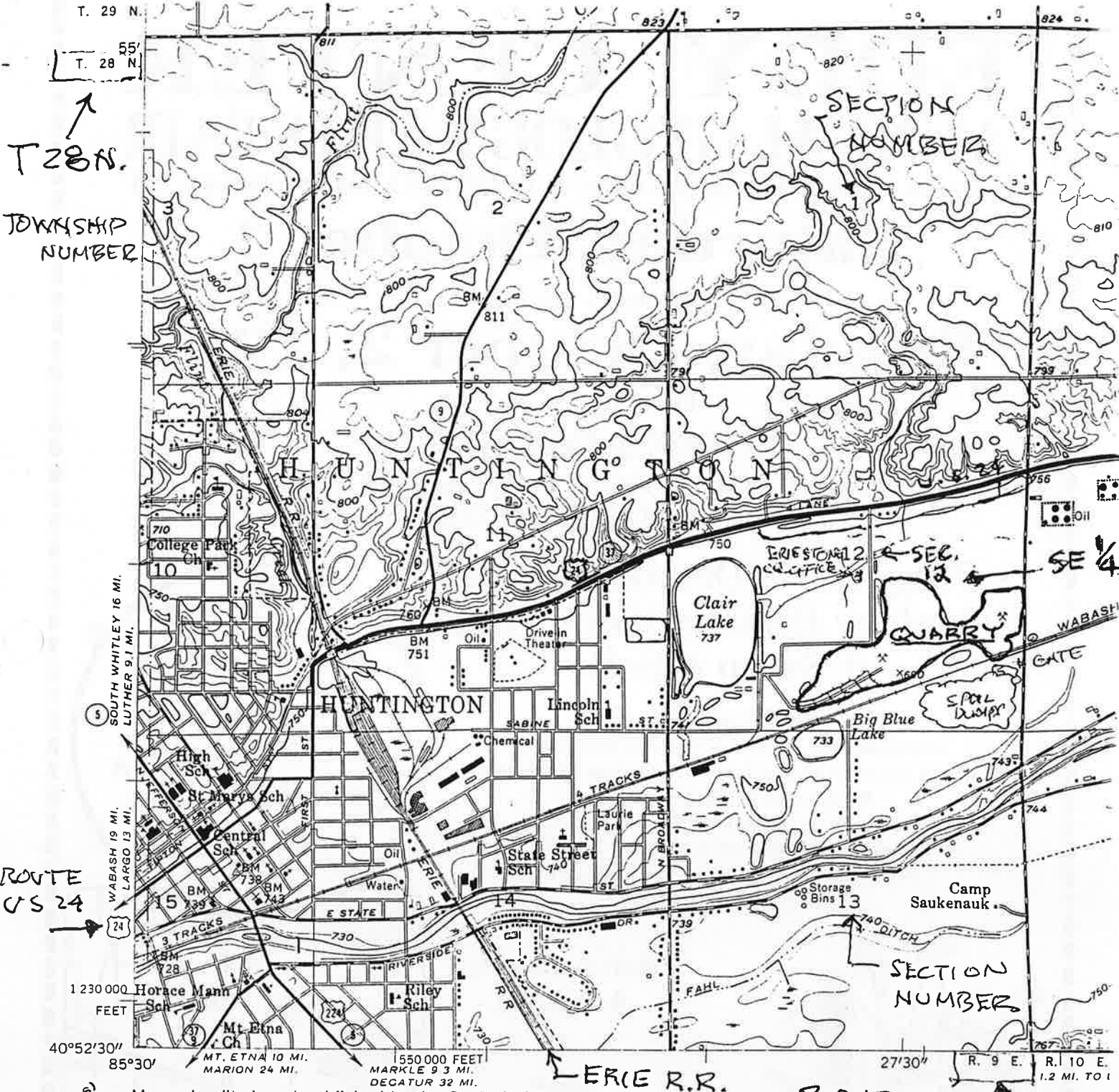
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

AREA OF MAP

HUNTINGTON, IND.
N 4052.5 - W 8522.5 / 7.5

1956

LOWER RIGHT CORNER OF QUADRANGLE MAP



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS and USCE
 Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1948. Topography by planetable surveys 1955 and 1956
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Indiana coordinate system, east zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

R. 9 E.
 RANGE NO.

1000 0

1

QUARRY SYMBOL

LOWER LEFT CORNER OF QUADRANGLE MAP

THIS MAP FOR SALE

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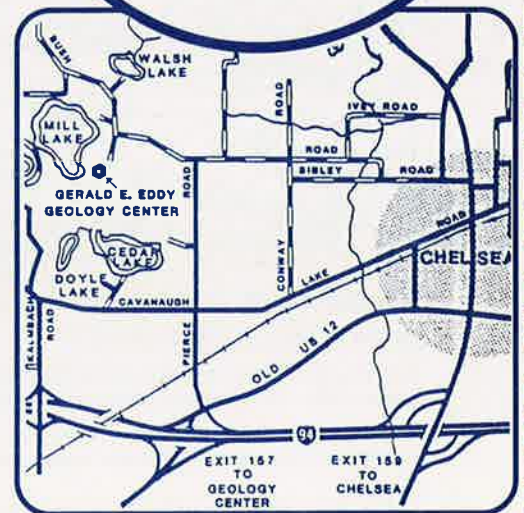
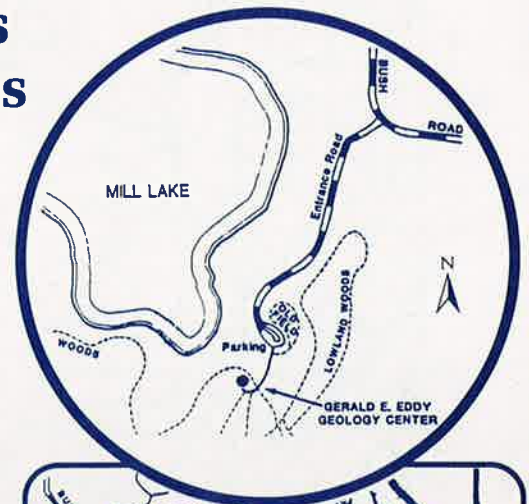
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