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Earl Shaffer's Appalachian Trail Hike Diary, 1965

Extracted on Aug-18-2014 03:42:06

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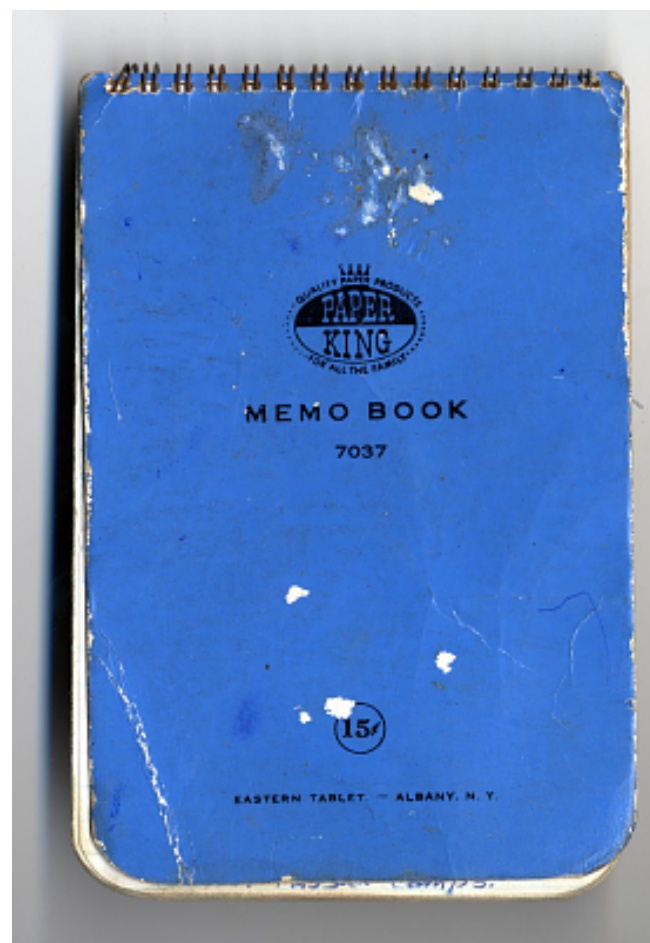
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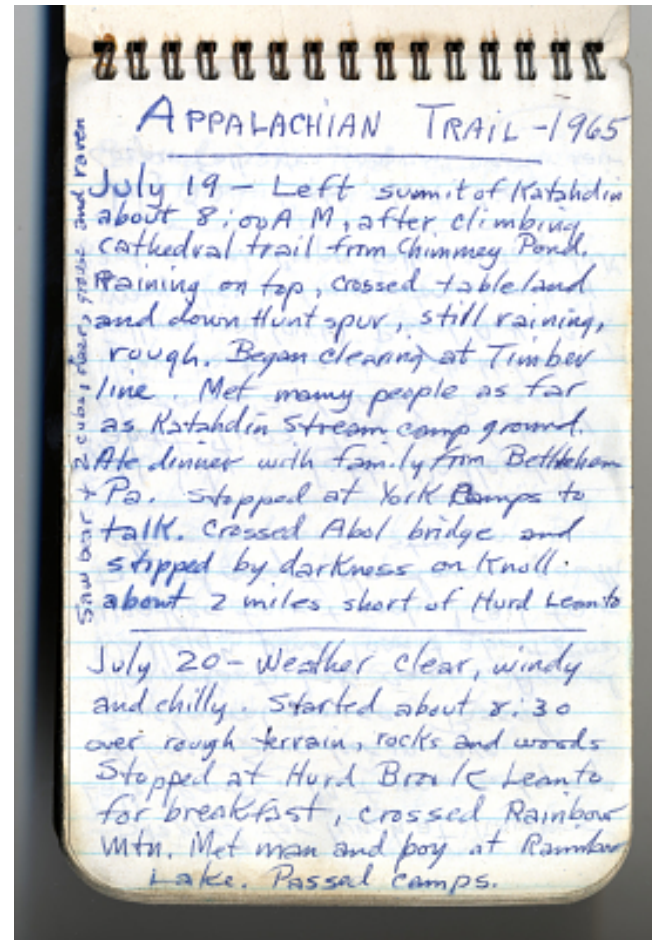
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APPALACHIAN TRAIL - 1965

July 19 - Left summit of Katahdin about 8:00AM, after climbing cathedral trail from Chimney Pond. Raining on top, crossed tableland and down Hunt spur, still raining, rough. Began clearing at Timberline. Met many people as far as Katahdin Stream camp ground. Ate dinner with family from Bethlehem Pa. Stopped at York Camps to talk. Crossed Abol bridge and stopped by darkness on Knoll about 2 miles short of Hurd Lean to

Saw bear + 2 cubs, deer, grouse and raven

July 20 - weather clear, windy and chilly. Started about 8:30 over rough terrain, rocks and woods. Stopped at Hurd Brook Leanto for breakfast, crossed Rainbow Mtn. Met man and boy at Rainbow Lake. Passed camps.



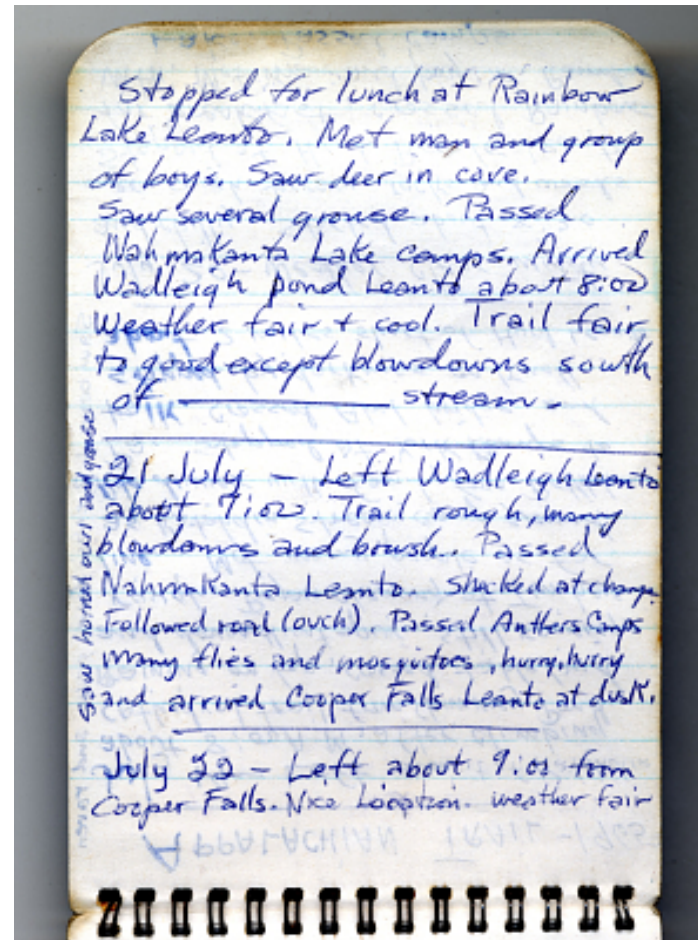
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Stopped for lunch at Rainbow Lake leanto. Met man and group of boys. Saw deer in cove. Saw several grouse. Passed Wahmakanta Lake camps. Arrived Wadleigh pond Leanto about 8:00 Weather fair & cool. Trail fair to good except blowdowns south of stream.

Saw horned owl and grouse

21 July - Left Wadleigh Leanto about 7:00. Trail rough, many blowdowns and brush. Passed Nahmakanta Leanto. Shocked at change. Followed road (ouch). Passed Antlers Camps many flies and mosquitoes, hurry, hurry and arrived Cooper Falls Leanto at dusk.

July 22 - Left about 9:00 from Cooper Falls. Nice Location weather fair

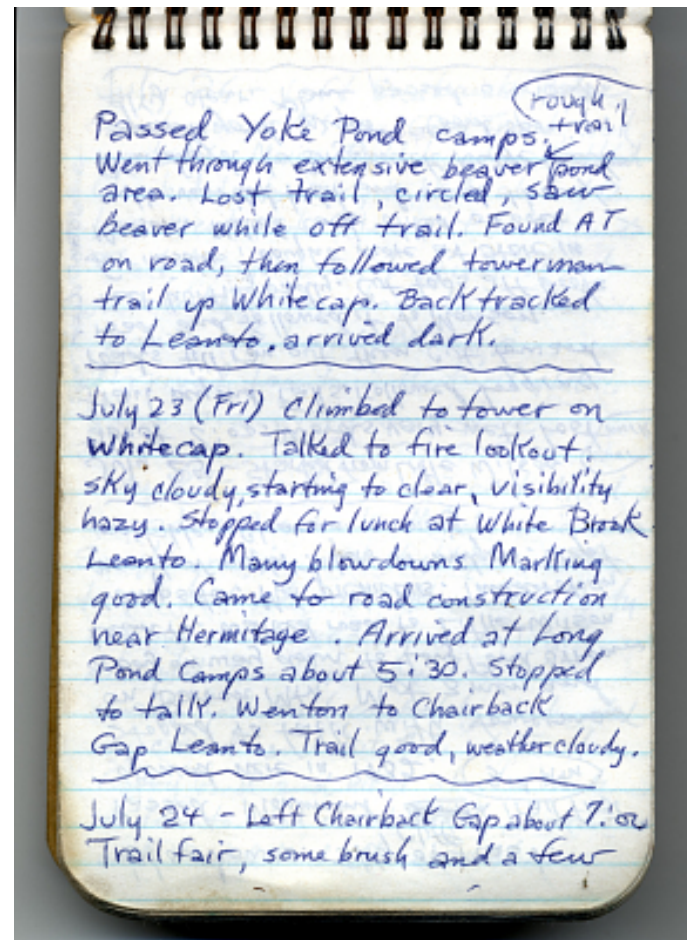


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Passed Yoke Pond camps. rough trail
Went through extensive beaver pond
area. Lost trail, circled, saw
beaver while off trail. Found AT
on road, then followed towerman
trail up Whitecap. Back tracked
to Leanto, arrived dark.

July 23 (Fri) climbed to tower on
Whitecap. Talked to fire lookout,
sky cloudy, starting to clear, visibility
hazy. Stopped for lunch at White Brook
Leanto. Many blowdowns. Marking
good. Came to road construction
near Hermitage. Arrived at Long
Pond Camps about 5:30. Stopped
to talk. Went on to Chairback
Gap Leanto. Trail good, weather cloudy.

July 24 - Left Chairback Gap about 7:00
Trail fair, some brush and a few



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blowdowns. Sky overcast. Passed Monument ~~Cliff~~ Mtn
[[insertion]] Cliff 3rd Mtn [[insertion]] Trail first opened
here in 1932.

Stopped to talk with towerman on Barren Mtn. Met 3 men and a boy on
way down to Long Pond Stream Leanto. Walked road to Little Wilson
campsite. Met picnickers. Thunderstorm most of night. Lots of midges.
Slept on table. Clear in morning.

[[written sideways in left margin]]

July 25 - Started from Little Wilson about 6:00. Woods very wet. Lost
[[insertion]] poor mark [[insertion]] trail beyond Falls. Followed logging
roads till ran out then cut toward road and followed it to Monson. Feet
hurting badly. Cut tops off boots for insoles, bought more at store in
Monson. Mailed card. Hiked on over well marked trail and road through
Blanchard to Breakneck Ridge Leanto. spent good night. Good spring.
sky clear. Plane passed overhead.

[[along left margin]] saw deer [[/left margin]]

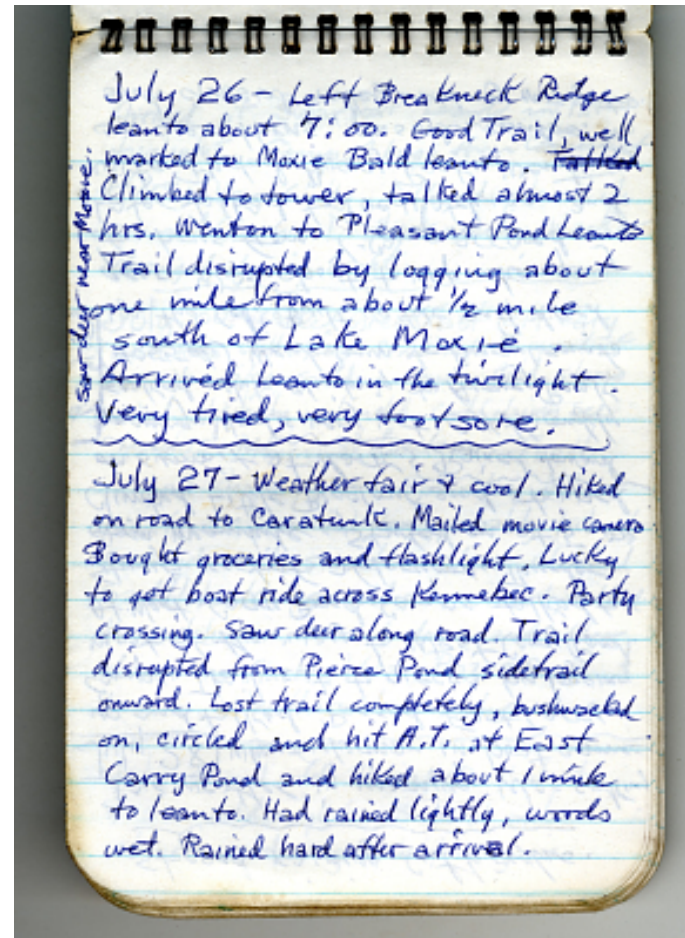
blowdowns. Sky overcast.
Passed Monument ~~Cliff~~ Mtn. Trail first
opened here in 1932. (3rd Mtn)
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July 25 - Started from Little Wilson (poor)
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roads till ran out then cut toward
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Feet hurting badly. Cut tops off boots
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Spent good night. Good spring.
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July 26 - Left Breakneck Ridge leanto about 7:00. Good Trail, well marked to Moxie Bald leanto. ~~Talked~~ Climbed to tower, talked almost 2 hrs. Went on to Pleasant Pond Leanto. Trail disrupted by logging about one mile from about 1/2 mile south of Lake Moxie. Arrived leanto in the twilight. Very tired, very foot sore. ~~[[along left margin]] saw deer near Moxie. [[/left margin]]~~

July 27 - Weather fair & cool. Hiked on road to Caratunk. Mailed movie camera. Bought groceries and flashlight. Lucky to get boat ride across Kennebec. Party crossing. Saw deer along road. Trail disrupted from Pierce Pond sidetrail onward. Lost trail completely, bushwacked on, circled and hit A.T. at East Carry Pond and hiked about 1 mile to leanto. Had rained lightly, woods wet. Rained hard after arrival.



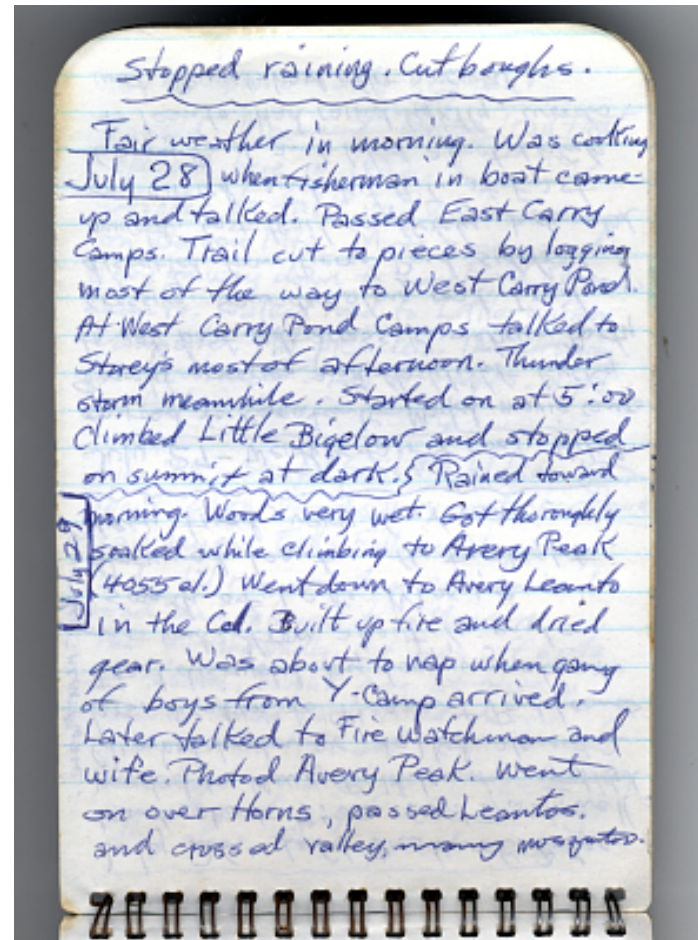
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Stopped raining. Cut boughs.

Fair weather in morning. Was cooking ^{July 28} when fisherman in boat came up and talked. Passed East Carry Camps. Trail cut to pieces by logging most of the way to West Carry Pond. At West Carry Pond Camps talked to Storey's most of afternoon. Thunder storm meanwhile. Started on at 5:00 climbed Little Bigelow and stopped on summit at dark.

^{July 29}

Rained toward morning. Woods very wet. Got thoroughly soaked while climbing to Avery Peak (4055 el.) Went down to Avery Leanto in the Col. Built up fire and dried gear. Was about to nap when gang of boys from Y-camp arrived. Later talked to Fire Watchman and wife. Photod Avery Peak. Went on over Horns, passed Leantos, and crossed valley, many mosquitos.

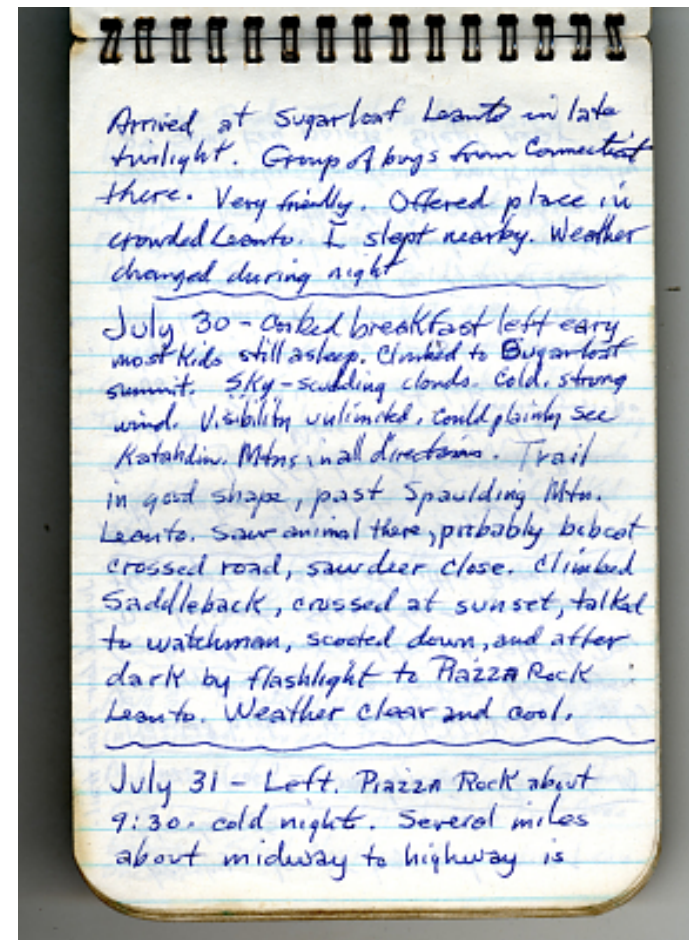


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Arrived at Sugarloaf Leanto in late twilight. Group of boys from Connecticut there. Very friendly. Offered place in crowded Leanto. I slept nearby. Weather changed during night.

July 30 - Cooked breakfast left early most kids still asleep. Climbed to Sugarloaf summit. Sky-scudding clouds. Cold, strong wind. Visibility unlimited, could plainly see Katahdin Mtns in all directions. Trail in good shape, past Spaulding Mtn. Leanto. Saw animal there, probably bobcat crossed road, saw deer close. Climbed Saddleback, crossed at sunset, talked to watchman, scooted down, and after dark by flashlight to Piazza Rock Leanto. Weather clear and cool.

July 31 - Left Piazza Rock about 9:30. cold night. Several miles about midway to highway is



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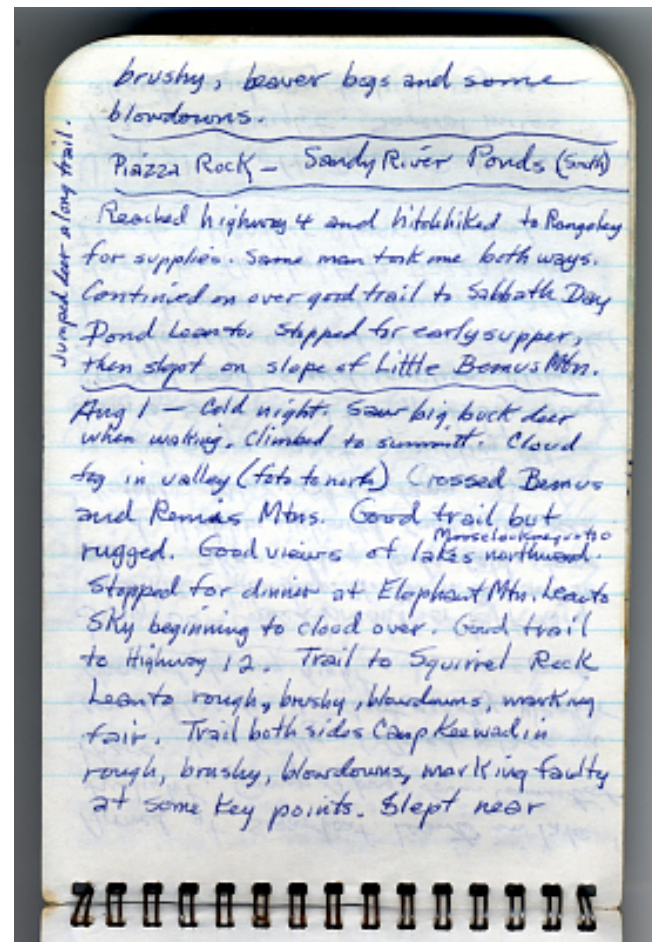
brushy, beaver bogs and some
blowdowns.

Piazza Rock - Sandy River Ponds (South)

[[margin]]Jumped deer along trail. [[/margin]]

Reached highway 4 and hitchhiked to Rangeley
for supplies. Same man took me both ways.
Continued on over good trail to Sabbath Day
Pond Leanto. Stopped for early supper,
then slept on slope of Little Bemus Mtn.

Aug 1 - Cold night. Saw big buck deer
when walking. Climbed to summit. Cloud
fog in valley (foto to north) Crossed Bemus
and Remis Mtns. Good trail but
rugged. Good views of lakes ^{Mooselookmeguntic} northward.
Stopped for dinner at Elephant Mtn. Leanto
Sky beginning to cloud over. Good trail
to Highway 12. Trail to Squirrel Rock
Leanto rough, brushy, blowdowns, marking
fair. Trail both sides Camp Keewadin
rough, brushy, blowdowns, marking faulty
at some key points. Slept near

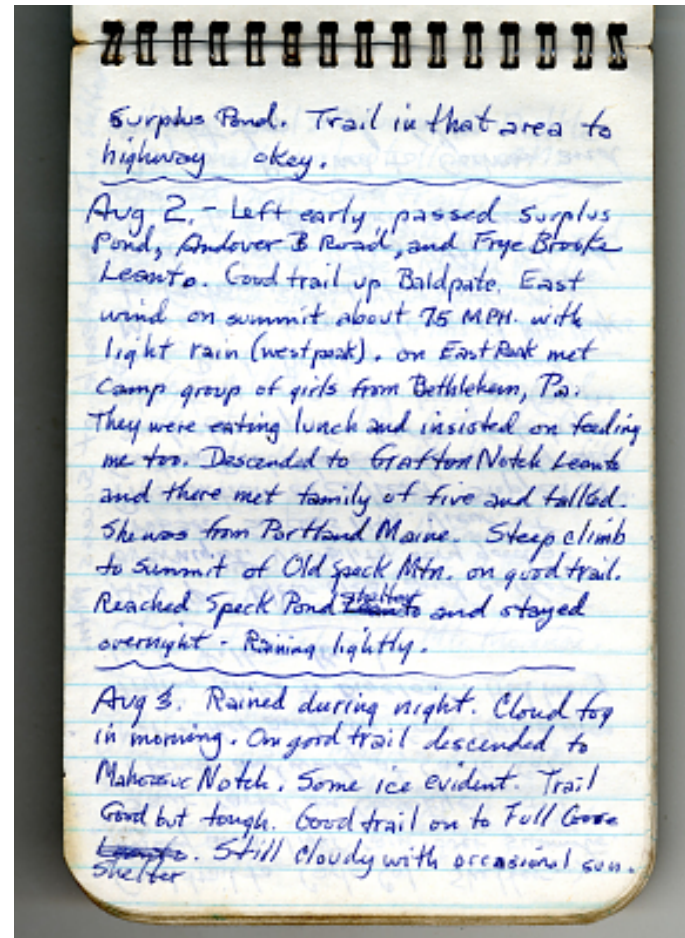


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Surplus Pond. Trail in that area to highway okay.

Aug 2. - Left early, passed Surplus Pond, Andover B Road, and Frye Brooke Leanto. Good trail up Baldpate. East wind on summit about 75 MPH. with light rain (west peak). on East Peak met camp group of girls from Bethlehem, Pa. They were eating lunch and insisted on feeding me too. Descended to Grafton Notch Leanto and there met family of five and talked. She was from Portland Maine. Steep climb to summit of Old Speck Mtn. on good trail. Reached Speck Pond ~~Leanto~~ Shelter and stayed overnight. Raining lightly.

Aug 3. Rained during night. Cloud fog in morning. On good trail descended to Mahousuc Notch. Some ice evident. Trail Good but tough. Good trail on to Full Goose ~~Leanto~~ Shelter. Still cloudy with occasional sun.



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[[start page]]

Good trail to Carlo Col shelter. Windy and light rain over summits. Saw raven on Goose Eye. Still cloudy and windy at Carlo Col. Met father and son from Chicago area trying to hike to Bigelow. Had heavy loads, Kelty packs.

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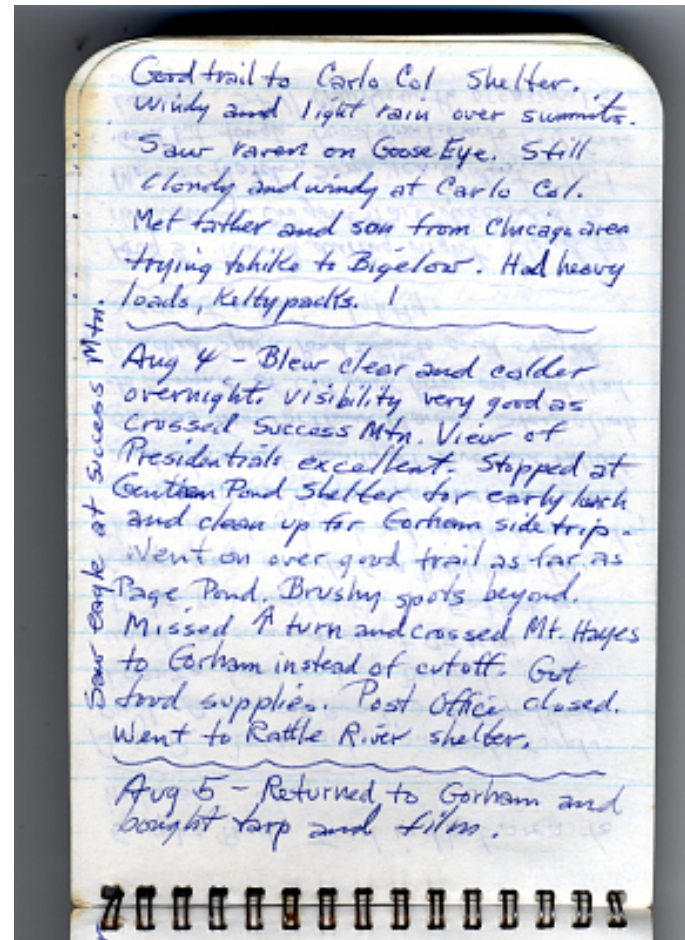
[[left margin note: Saw eagle at Success Mtn.]]

Aug 4 - Blew clear and colder overnight. Visibility very good as crossed Success Mtn. View of Presidentials excellent. Stopped at Gentian Pond Shelter for early lunch and clean up for Gorham side trip. Went on over good trail as far as Page Pond. Brushy spots beyond. Missed [[up arrow]] turn and crossed Mt. Hayes to Gorham instead of cutoff. Got food supplies. Post office closed. Went to Rattle River shelter.

[[wavy line as page divider]]

Aug 5 - Returned to Gorham and bought tarp and film.

[[end page]]

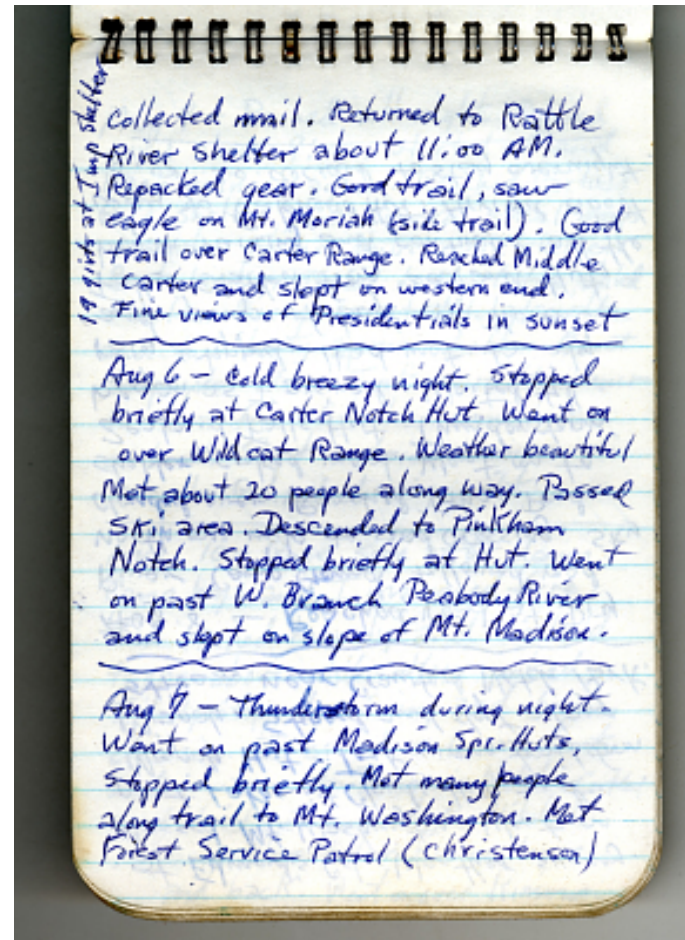


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[[along left margin]] 19 girls at Imp Shelter [[/margin]]
collected mail. Returned to Rattle
River Shelter about 11:00 AM.
Repacked gear. Good trail, saw
eagle on Mt. Moriah (side trail). Good
trail over Carter Range. Reached Middle
Carter and slept on western end.
Fine view of Presidentials in sunset.

[[wavy line page division]]
Aug 6 - cold breezy night. Stopped
briefly at Carter Notch Hut. Went on
over Wildcat Range. Weather beautiful
Met about 20 people along way. Passed
ski area. Descended to Pinkham
Notch. Stopped briefly at Hut. Went
on past W. Branch Peabody River
and slept on slope of Mt. Madison.

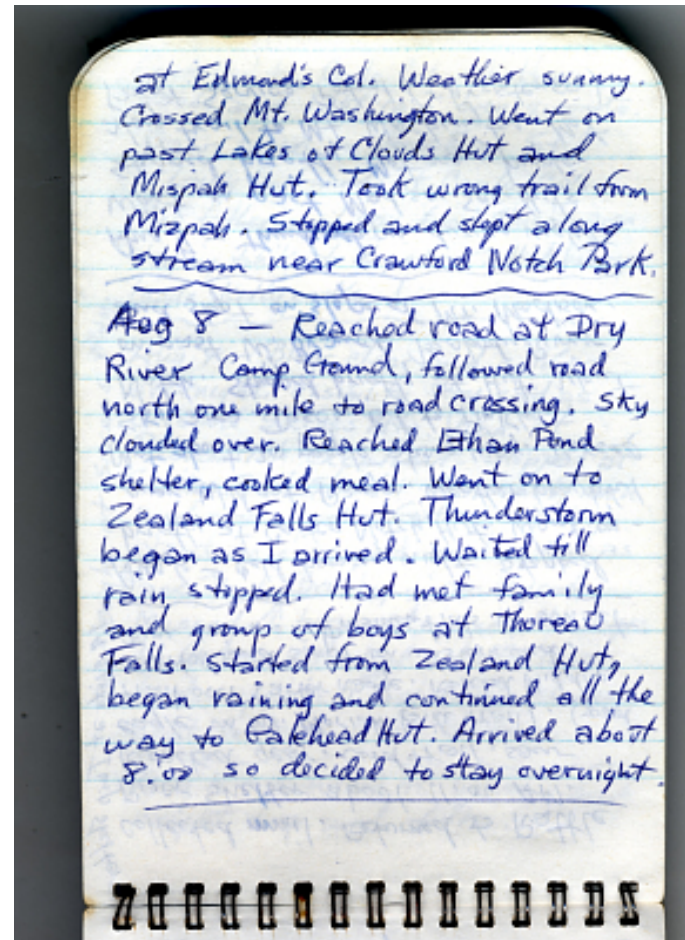
[[wavy line page division]]
Aug 7 - Thunderstorm during night.
Went on past Madison Spr. Huts,
stopped briefly. Met many people
along trail to Mt. Washington. Met
Forest Service Patrol (Christenson)



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at Edmond's Col. Weather sunny.
Crossed Mt. Washington. Went on
past Lakes of Clouds Hut and Mispah Hut. Took wrong trail from
Mispah. Stopped and slept along
stream near Crawford Notch Park.

Aug 8 - Reached road at Dry
River Camp Ground, followed road
north one mile to road crossing. Sky
clouded over. Reached Ethan Pond
shelter, cooked meal. Went on to
Zealand Falls Hut. Thunderstorm
began as I arrived. Waited till
rain stopped. Had met family
and group of boys at Thoreau
Falls. Started from Zealand Hut,
began raining and continued all the
way to Galehead Hut. Arrived about
8:00 so decided to stay overnight.

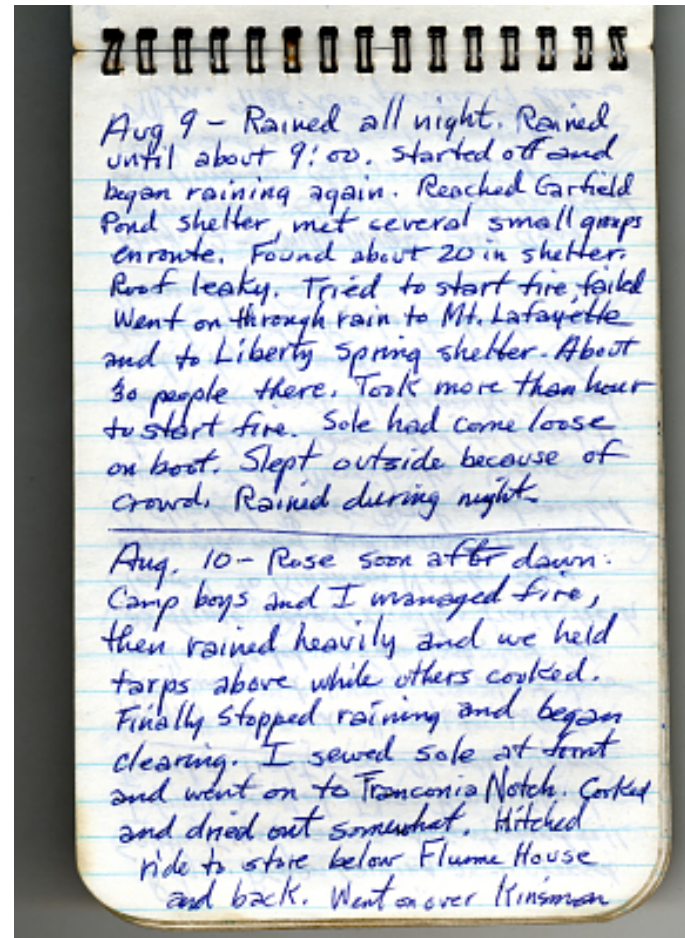


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[[start page]]

Aug 9 -- Rained all night. Rained until about 9:00. Started off and began raining again. Reached Garfield Pond shelter, met several small groups en route. Found about 20 in shelter. Roof leaky. Tried to start fire, failed. Went on through rain to Mt. Lafayette and to Liberty Spring shelter. About 30 people there. Took more than hour to start fire. Sole had come loose on boot. Slept outside because of crowd. Rained during night.

Aug. 10 -- Rose soon after dawn. Camp boys and I managed fire, then rained heavily and we held tarps above while others cooked. Finally stopped raining and began clearing. I sewed sole at front and went on to Franconia Notch. Cooked and dried out somewhat. Hitched ride to store below Flume House and back. Went on over Kinsman [[end page]]

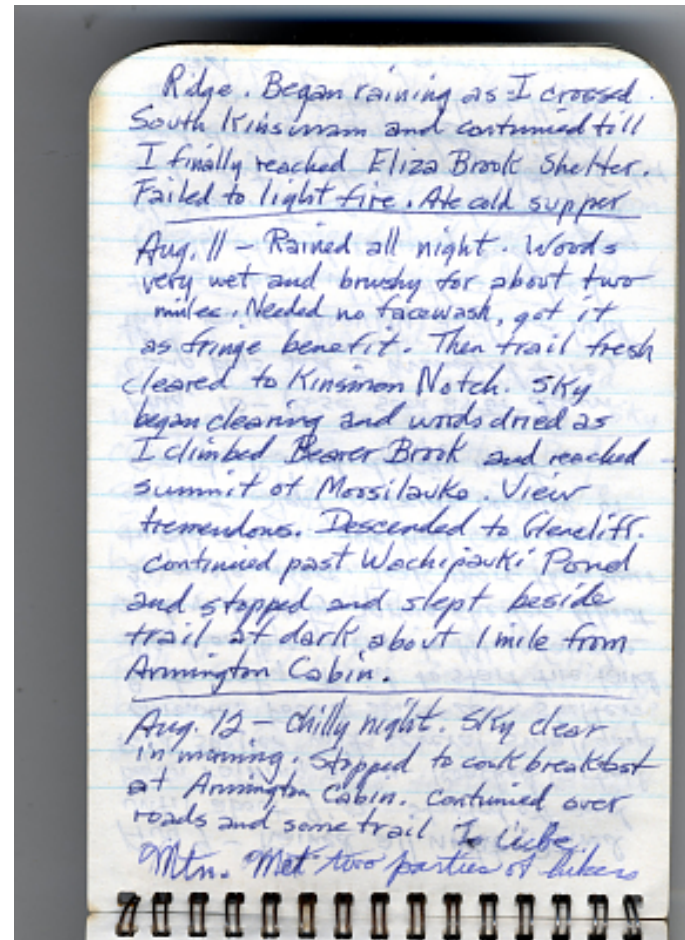


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[[start page]] Ridge. Began raining as I crossed South Kinsman and continued till I finally reached Eliza Brook Shelter. Failed to light fire. Ate cold supper

Aug. 11 -- Rained all night. Woods very wet and brushy for about two miles. Needed no facewash, got it as fringe benefit. Then trail fresh cleared to Kinsman Notch. Sky began clearing and woods dried as I climbed Beaver Brook and reached summit of Moosilauke. View tremendous. Descended to Glencliff. Continued past Wachipauki Pond and stopped and slept beside trail at dark about 1 mile from Armington Cabin.

Aug. 12 -- Chilly night. Sky clear in morning. Stopped to cook breakfast at Armington Cabin. Continued over roads and some trail To Cube Mtn. Met two parties of hikers [[end page]]



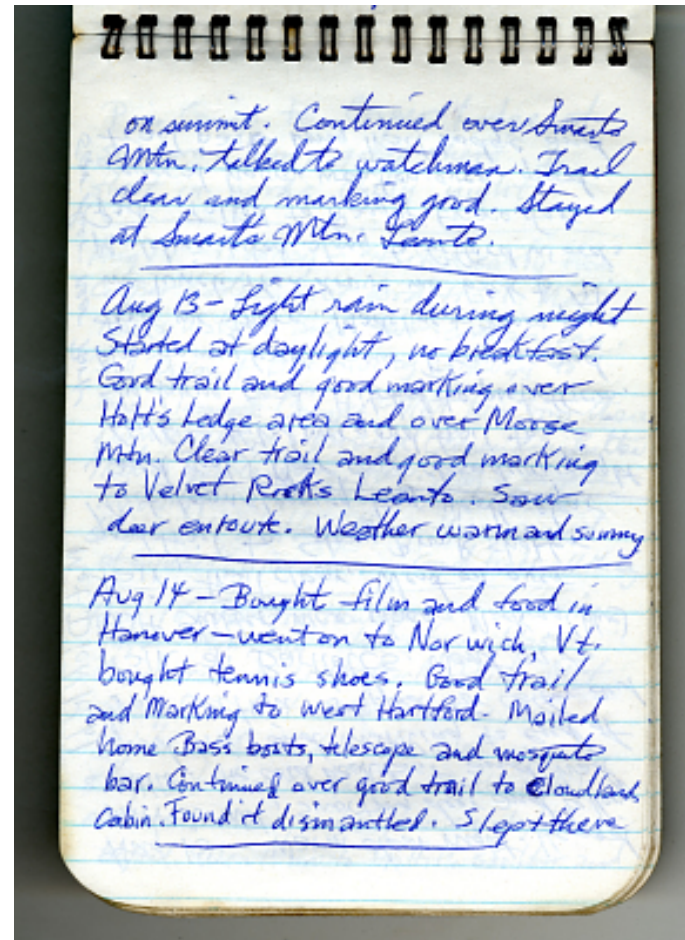
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[[start page]] on summit. Continued over Smarts Mtn. talked to watchman. Trail clear and marking good. Stayed at Smart's Mtn. Leanto.

Aug 13 -- Light rain during night. Started at daylight, no breakfast. Good trail and good marking over Holt's Ledge area and over Moose Mtn. Clear trail and good marking to Velvet Rocks Leanto. Saw deer enroute. Weather warm and sunny

Aug 14 -- Bought film and food in Hanover--went on to Norwich, Vt. bought tennis shoes. Good trail and marking to West Hartford. Mailed home Bass boots, telescope and mosquito bar. Continued over good trail to Cloudland Cabin. Found it dismantled. Slept there

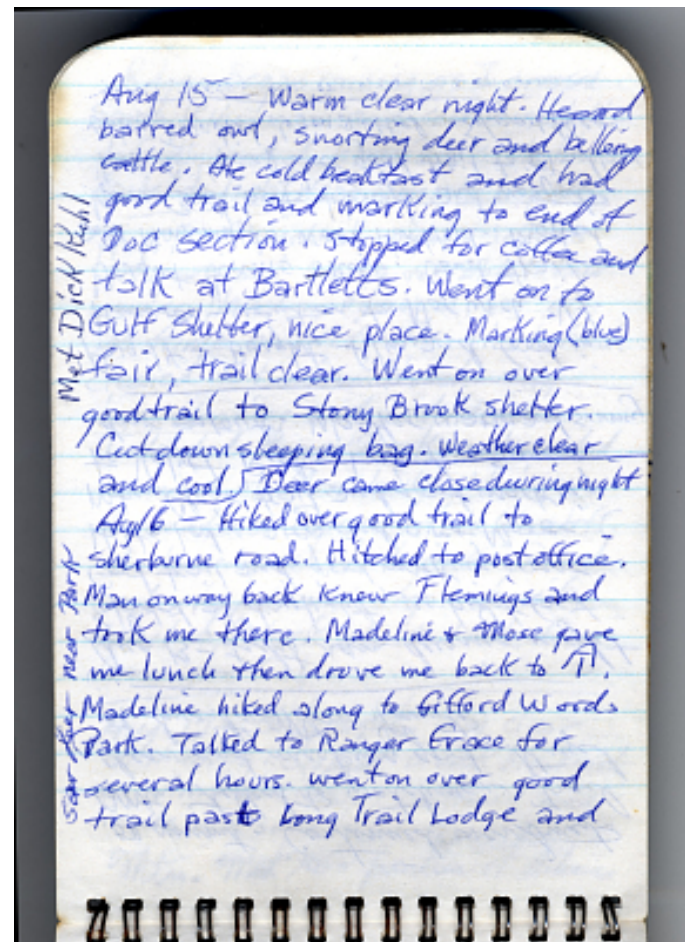
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Aug 15 - Warm clear night. Heard barred owl, snorting deer and belling cattle. Ate cold breakfast and had good trail and marking to end of Doc section. stopped for coffee and talk at Bartletts. Went on to Gulf Shelter, nice place. Marking (blue) fair, trail clear. Went on over good trail to Stony Brook shelter. Cut down sleeping bag. Weather clear and cool. [[in margin]] Met Dick Kuhl.

Aug 16 - Deer came close during night. Hiked over good trail to Sherburne road. Hitched to post office. Man on way back knew Flemings and took me there. Madeline and Mose gave me lunch then drove me back to [[Symbol for Appalachian Trail]]. Madeline hiked along to Gifford Woods Park. Saw deer near park. [[in margin]] Saw deer near park. Talked to Ranger Grace for several hours, went on over good trail past long Trail Lodge and [[endpage]]

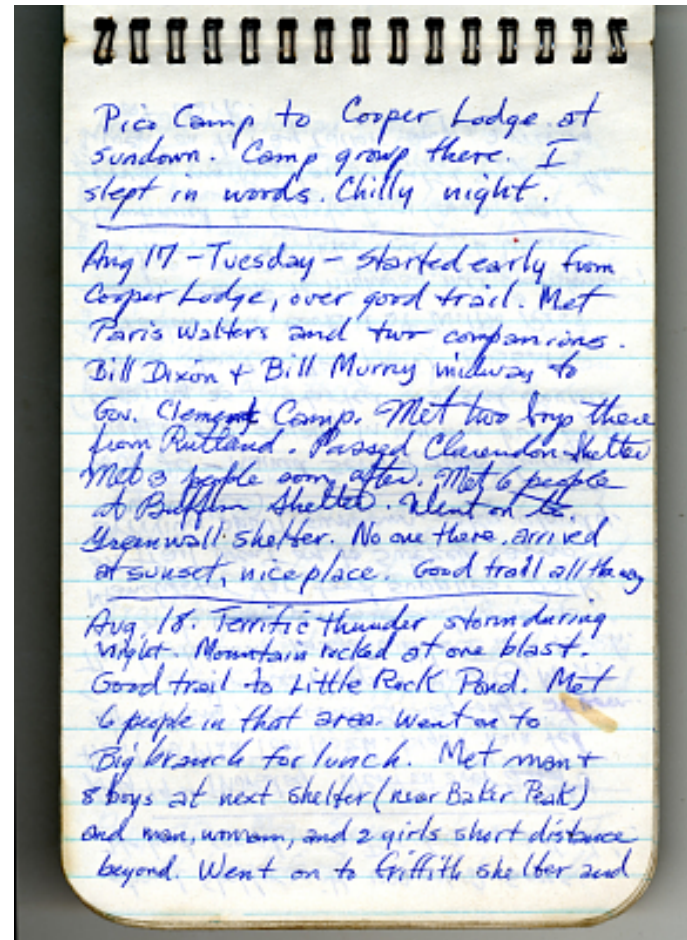


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[[start page]] Pico Camp to Cooper Lodge at
sundown. Camp group there. I
slept in woods. Chilly night.

Aug 17--Tuesday--Started early from
Cooper Lodge, over good trail. Met
Paris Walters and two companions.
Bill Dixon & Bill Murny midway to
Gov. Clement Camp. Met two boys there
from Rutland. Passed Clarendon Shelter
Met 3 people soon after. Met 6 people
at Buffum Shelter. Went on to
Greenwall Shelter. No one there. arrived
at sunset, nice place. Good Trail all the way

Aug. 18. Terrific thunder storm during
night. Mountain rocked at one blast.
Good trail to Little Rock Pond. Met
6 people in that area. Went on to
Big branch for lunch. Met man &
8 boys at next shelter (near Baker Peak)
and man, woman, and 2 girls short distance
beyond. Went on to Griffith shelter and [[end page]]



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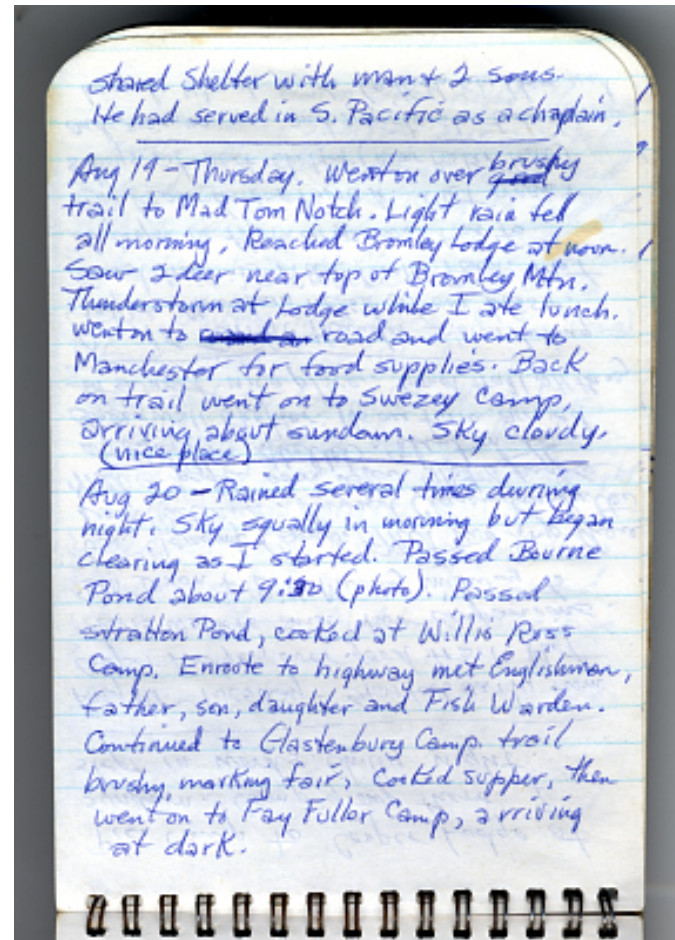
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shared shelter with man + 2 sons.
He had served in S. Pacific as a chaplain.

Aug 19 - Thursday. Went on over ~~good~~ brushy trail to Mad Tom Notch. Light rain fell all morning. Reached Bromley Lodge at noon. Saw 2 deer near top of Bromley Mtn. Thunderstorm at Lodge while I ate lunch. Went on to ~~road~~ an ~~road~~ and went to Manchester for food supplies. Back on trail went on to Swezey Camp, arriving about sundown. Sky cloudy. (nice place)

Aug 20 - Rained several times during night. Sky squally in morning but began clearing as I started. Passed Bourne Pond about 9:30 (photo). Passed Stratton Pond, cooked at Willis Ross Camp. Enroute to highway met Englishman, father, son, daughter and Fish Warden. Continued to Glastenbury Camp. trail brushy, marking fair, cooked supper, then went on to Fay Fuller Camp, arriving at dark. [[end page]]



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Aug 21 - Saturday - Met father and son as leaving Fay Fuller. Missed turn beyond highway and lost trail, found it again, went on over Hamlin Hill to Thendarra Camp. No water, went on past Sucker Pond, met 2 men on Hondas, two more in Jeep. Arrived Seth Warner Camp about 7 PM. Man and three boys there. I decided to stay night.
[[along left margin]] Good trail, good marking]]

[[dividing line]]
Aug. 22 - Rained at night. still raining as I leave. Arrived at state line. Met 2 scout groups of 12 each and 4 other boys enroute to Blackinton. Trail brushy in spots, marking fair to good. Good trail & very good marking over Mt. Greylock, Foggy & rainy. Reached Greylock Leanto in the twilight, one man there. Rained as I turned in.

[[dividing line]]
Aug. 23 - Mon. Signs of clearing as I cook breakfast. Hiked downhill [[end page]]

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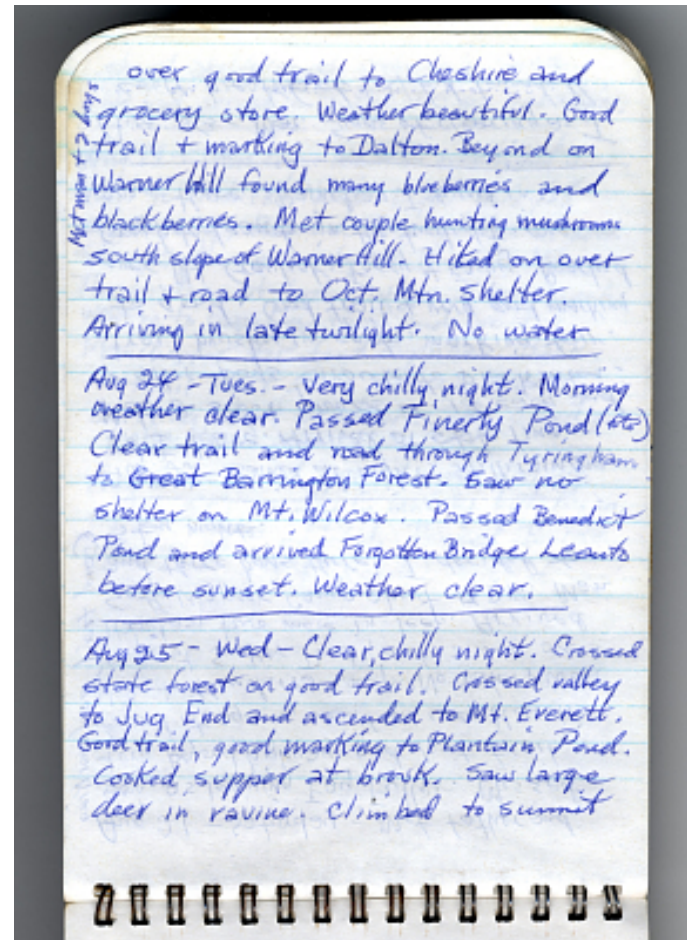
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over good trail to Cheshire and grocery store. Weather beautiful. Good trail & marking to Dalton. Beyond on Warner Hill found many blueberries and blackberries. Met couple hunting mushrooms south slope of Warner Hill. Hiked on over trail & road to Oct. Mtn. shelter. Arriving in late twilight. No water
[[left margin]] Met man + 2 boys [[/left margin]]

Aug 24 - Tues. - very chilly night. Morning weather clear. Passed Finerty Pond (foto) Clear trail and road through Tyringham to Great Barrington Forest. Saw no shelter on Mt. Wilcox. Passed Benedict Pond and arrived Forgotten Bridge Leanto before sunset. Weather clear.

Aug 25 - Wed - Clear, chilly night. Crossed state forest on good trail. Crossed valley to Jug End and ascended to Mt. Everett. Good trail, good marking to Plantain Pond. Cooked supper at brook. Saw large deer in ravine. climbed to summit [[end page]]



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of Bear Mtn. and slept near memorial. Sunset beautiful - forecast rain-

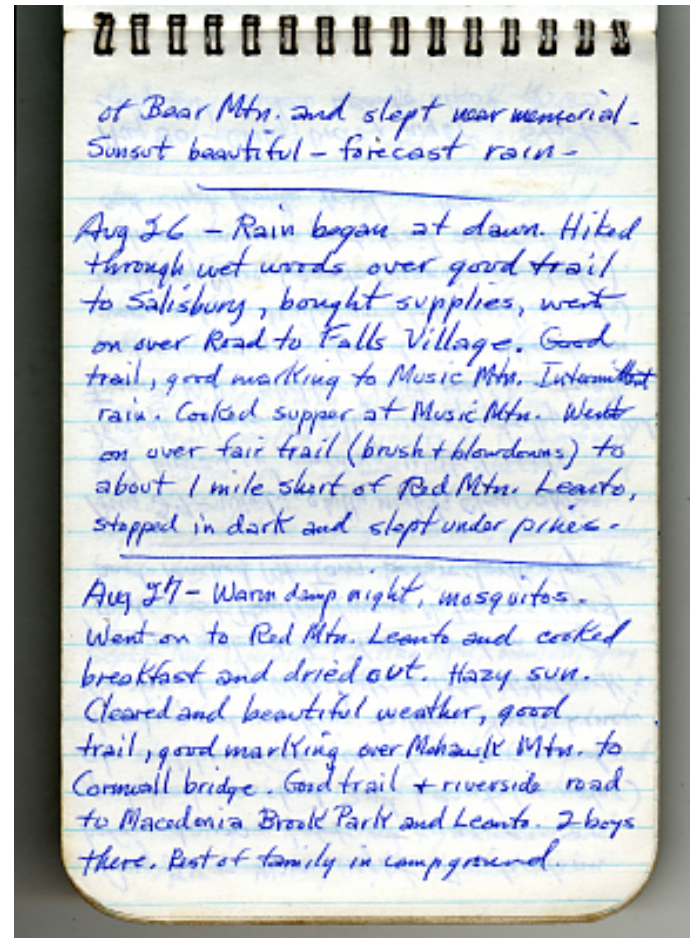
[[dividing line]]

Aug 26 - Rain began at dawn. Hiked through wet woods over good trail to Salisbury, bought supplies, went on over Road to Falls Village. Good trail, good marking to Music Mtn. Intermittent rain. Cooked supper at Music Mtn. Went on over fair trail (brush & blowdowns) to about 1 mile short of Red Mtn. Leanto, stopped in dark and slept under pines.

[[dividing line]]

Aug 27 - Warm damp night, mosquitos. Went on to Red Mtn. Leanto and cooked breakfast and dried out. Hazy sun. Cleared and beautiful weather, good trail, good marking over Mohawk Mtn. to Cornwall bridge. Good trail & riverside road to Macedonia Brook Park and Leanto. 2 boys there. Rest of family in campground.

[[end page]]



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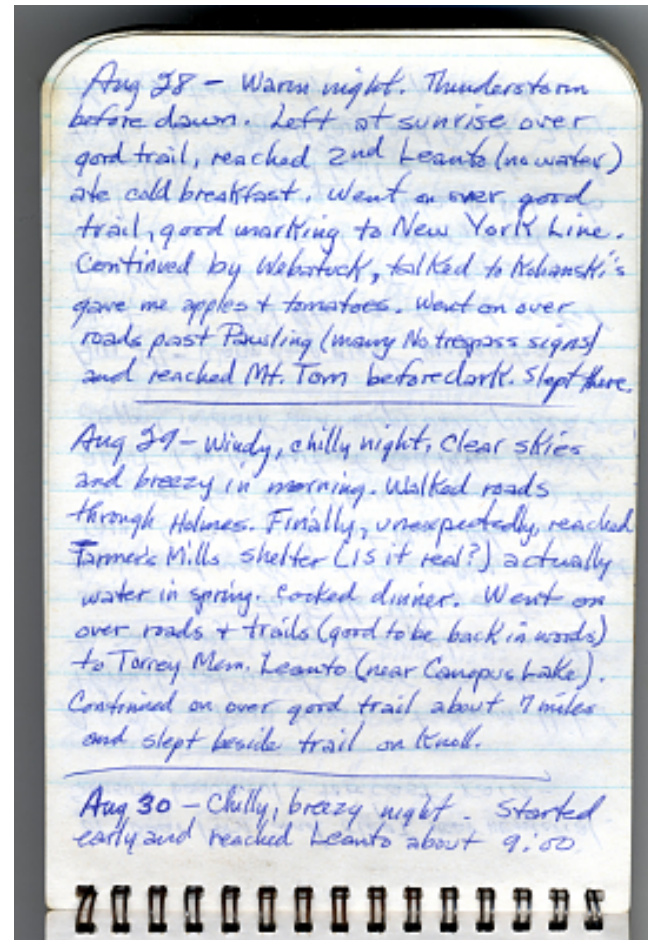
Aug 28 - Warm night. Thunderstorm before dawn. Left at sunrise over good trail, reached 2nd Leanto (no water) ate cold breakfast. Went on over good trail, good marking to New York Line. Continued by Webatuck, talked to Kolanski's gave me apples & tomatoes. Went on over roads past Pawling (many No trespass signs) and reached Mt. Tom before dark. Slept there.

[[dividing line]]

Aug 29 - Windy, chilly night, clear skies and breezy in morning. Walked roads through Holmes. Finally, unexpectedly, reached Farmer's Mills shelter (is it real?) actually water in spring. Cooked dinner. Went on over roads & trails (good to be back in woods) to Torrey Mem. Leanto (near Canopus Lake). Continued on over good trail about 7 miles and slept beside trail on knoll.

[[dividing line]]

Aug 30 - Chilly, breezy night. Started early and reached Leanto about 9:00



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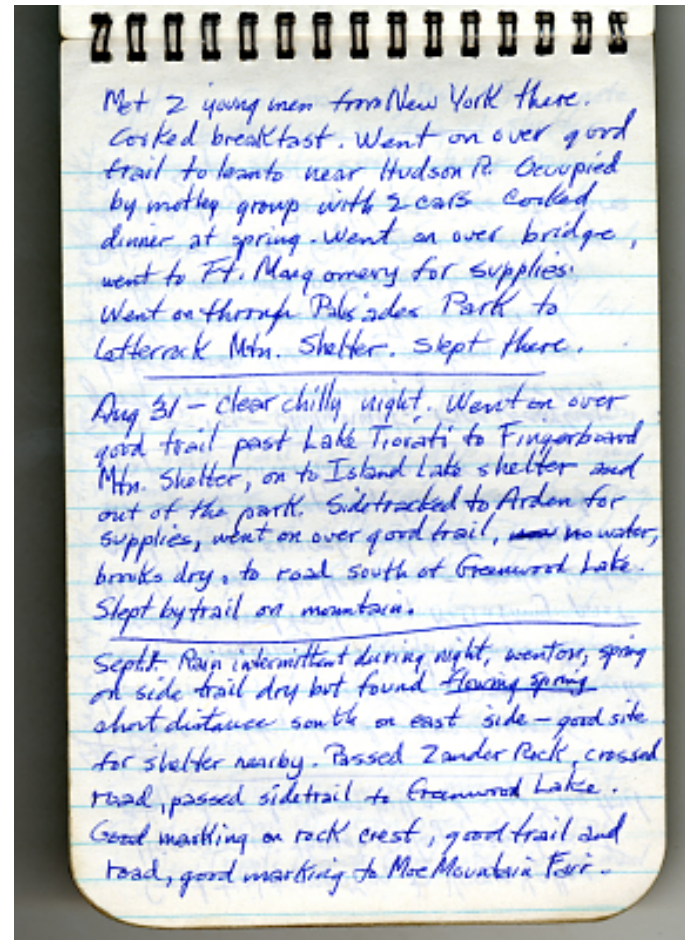
Met 2 young men from New York there. Cooked breakfast. Went on over good trail to leanto near Hudson R. Occupied by motley group with 2 cars. Cooked dinner at spring. Went on over bridge, went to Ft. Montgomery for supplies. Went on through Palisades Park to Letterrock Mtn. Shelter. Slept there.

[[dividing line]]

Aug 31 - clear chilly night. Went on over good trail past Lake Tiorati to Fingerboard Mtn. Shelter, on to Island Lake shelter and out of the park. Sidetracked to Arden for supplies, went on over good trail, ~~now~~ no water, brooks dry, to road south of Greenwood Lake. Slept by trail on mountain.

[[dividing line]]

Sept. 1. - Rain intermittent during night, went on, spring on side trail dry but found flowing spring short distance south on east side - good site for shelter nearby. Passed Zander Rock, crossed road, passed sidetrail to Greenwood Lake. Good marking on rock crest, good trail and road, good marking to Moe Mountain Fair.



Met 2 young men from New York there.
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Good trail + marking to Vernon Valley. Heavy rain through valley. Eased as I stopped at dark on hill and slept by trail.

[[line]]

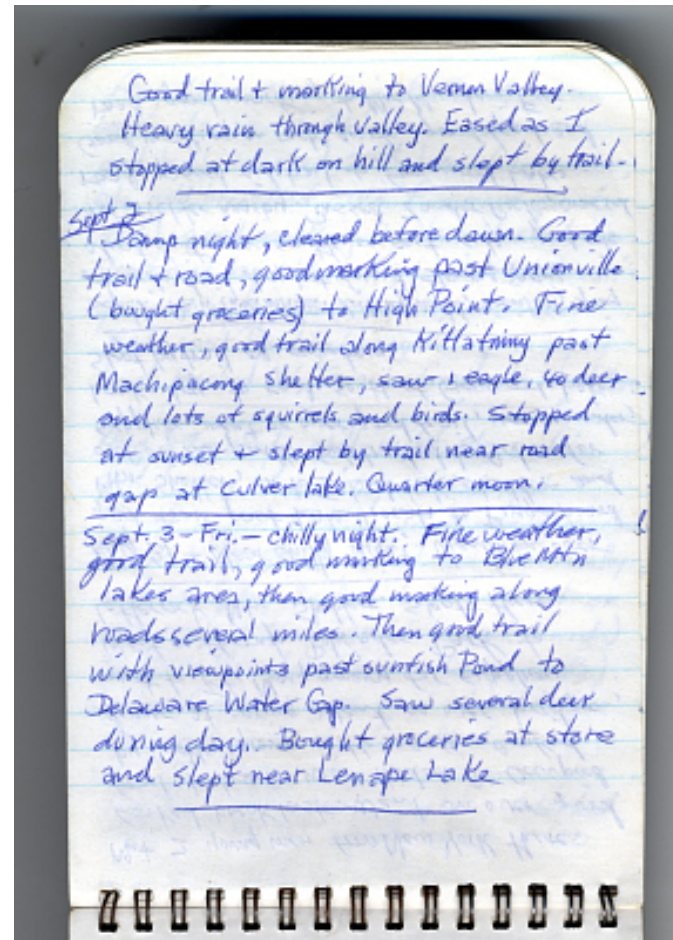
Sept. 2 [[underlined]]

Damp night, cleared before dawn. Good trail + road, good marking past Unionville (bought groceries) to High Point. Fine weather, good trail along Kittatminy [[?]] past Machipacong shelter, saw 1 eagle, 40 deer and lots of squirrels and birds. Stopped at sunset + slept by trail near road gap at Culver Lake. Quarter moon.

[[line]]

Sept. 3 - Fri. - Chilly night. Fine weather, good marking to Blue Mtn lakes area, then good marking along roads several miles. Then good trail with viewpoints past sunfish Pond to Delaware Water Gap. Saw several deer during day. Bought groceries at store and slept near Lenape Lake

[[line]]

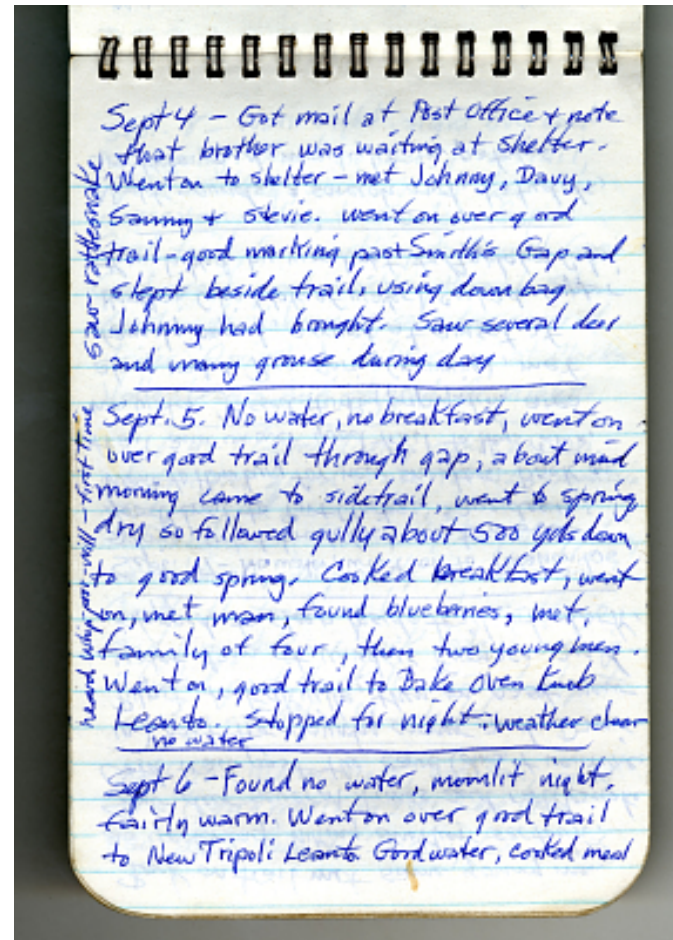


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Sept 4 - Got mail at Post Office + note that brother was waiting at Shelter. [[vertical note, left hand margin: "saw rattlesnake"]] Went on to shelter - met Johnny, Davy, Sammy + Stevie. Went on over good trail - good marking past Smith's Gap and slept beside trail, using down bag Johnny had brought. Saw several deer and many grouse during day

[[vertical note, left hand margin: "heard Whip-poor-will--first time"]]
Sept. 5. No water, no breakfast, went on over good trail through gap, about mid morning came to a sidetrail, went to spring, dry so followed gully about 500 yds down to good spring. Cooked breakfast, went on, met man, found blueberries, met family of four, then two young men. Went on, good trail to Bake Oven Knob Leanto. Stopped for night. Weather clear no water

Sept 6 - Found no water, moonlit night. Fairly warm. Went on over good trail to New Tripoli Leanto. Good water, cooked meal



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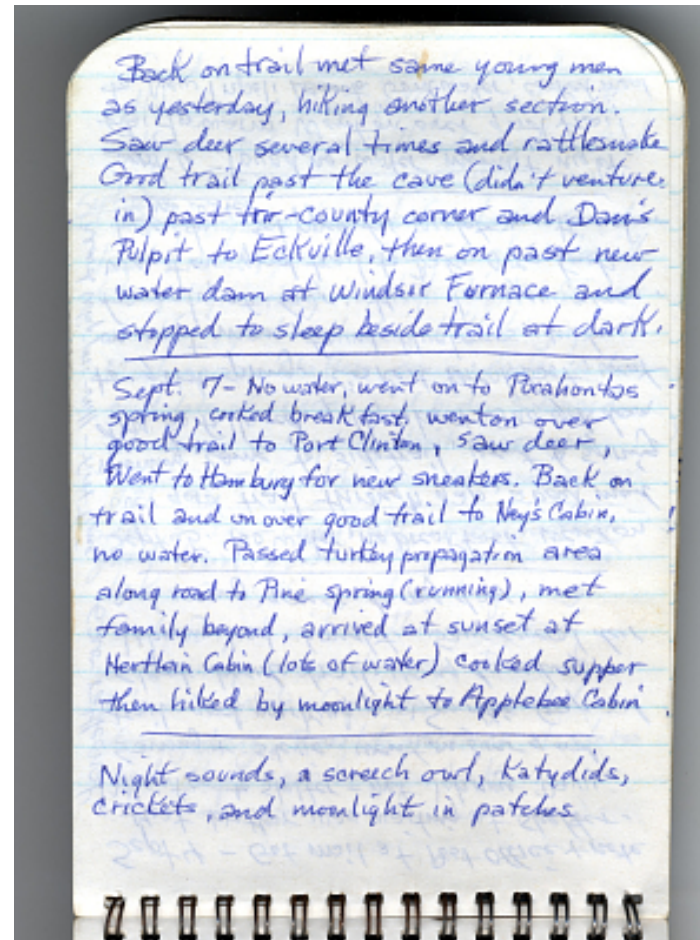
Back on trail met same young men as yesterday, hiking another section. Saw deer several times and rattlesnake Good trail past the cave (didn't venture in) past tri-county corner and Davis Pulpit to Eckville, then on past new water dam at Windsor Furnace and stopped to sleep beside trail at dark.

[[line]]

Sept. 7 - No water, went on to Pocahontas spring, cooked breakfast. went on over good trail to Port Clinton, saw deer, went to Hamburg for new sneakers. Back on trail and on over good trail to Ney's Cabin, no water. Passed turkey propagation area along road to Pine spring (running), met family beyond, arrived at sunset at Hertlein Cabin (lots of water) cooked supper then hiked by moonlight to Applebee Cabin

[[line]]

Night sounds, a scratch owl, Katydids, crickets, and moonlight in patches.



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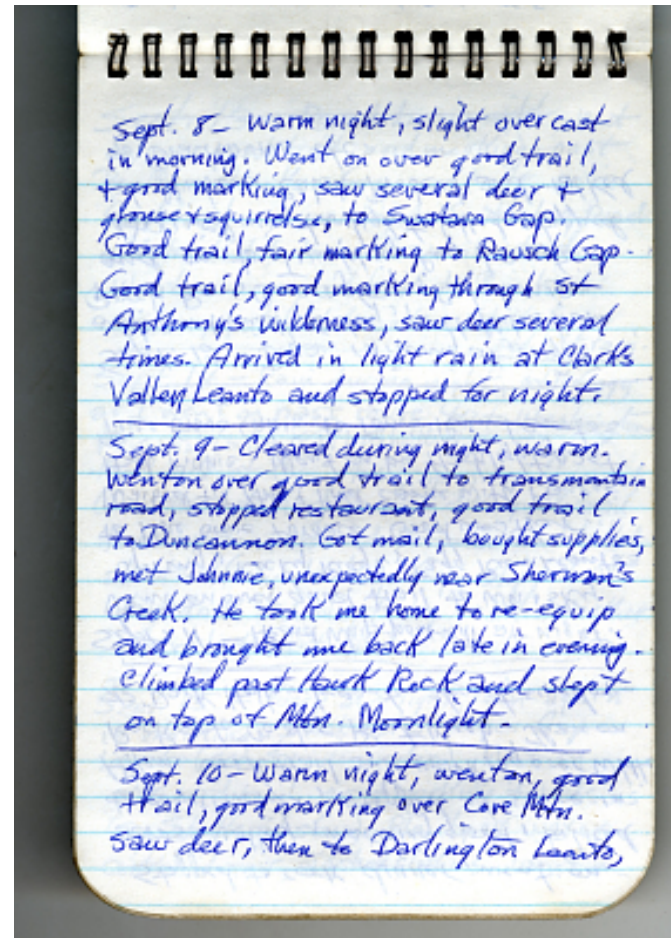
Sept 8 - warm night, slight over cast in morning. Went on over good trail, + good marking, saw several deer + grouse + squirrels, to Swatara Gap. Good trail, fair marking to Rausch Gap. Good trail, good marking through St Anthony's wilderness, saw deer several times. Arrived in light rain at Clark's Valley Leanto and stopped for night.

[[line]]

Sept. 9 - Cleared during night, warm. Went on over good trail to transmountain road, stopped restaurant, good trail to Duncannon. Got mail, bought supplies, met Johnnie, unexpectedly near Sherman's Creek. He took me home to re-equip and brought me back late in evening. Climbed past Hawk Rock and slept on top of Mtn. Moonlight.

[[line]]

Sept. 10 - Warm night, went on, good trail, good marking over Cove Mtn. Saw deer, then to Darlington Leanto, [[end page]]



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Stopped to cook dinner, went on across valley, marking good, talked to power linemen, stopped at store in Allen. Good trail and marking over White Rocks to Center Point Knob. Then on to Dark Hollow Leanto about sundown.

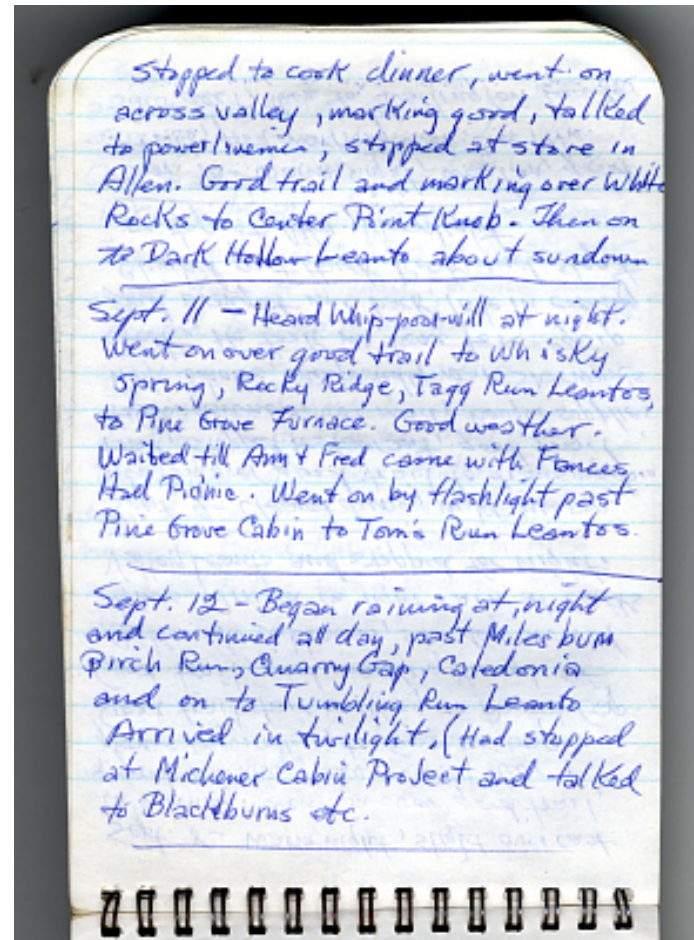
[[line]]

Sept. 11 - Heard Whip-poor-will at night. Went on over good trail to Whisky Spring, Rocky Ridge, Tagg Run Leantos, to Pine Grove Furnace. Good weather. Waited till Ann + Fred came with Frances. Had picnic. Went on by flashlight past Pine Grove Cabin to Tom's Run Leantos.

[[line]]

Sept. 12 - Began raining at night and continued all day, past Milesburn [[?]], Birch Run, Quarry Gap, Caledonia and on to Tumbling Run Leanto. Arrived in twilight. (Had stopped at Michener Cabin Project and talked to Blackburns etc.

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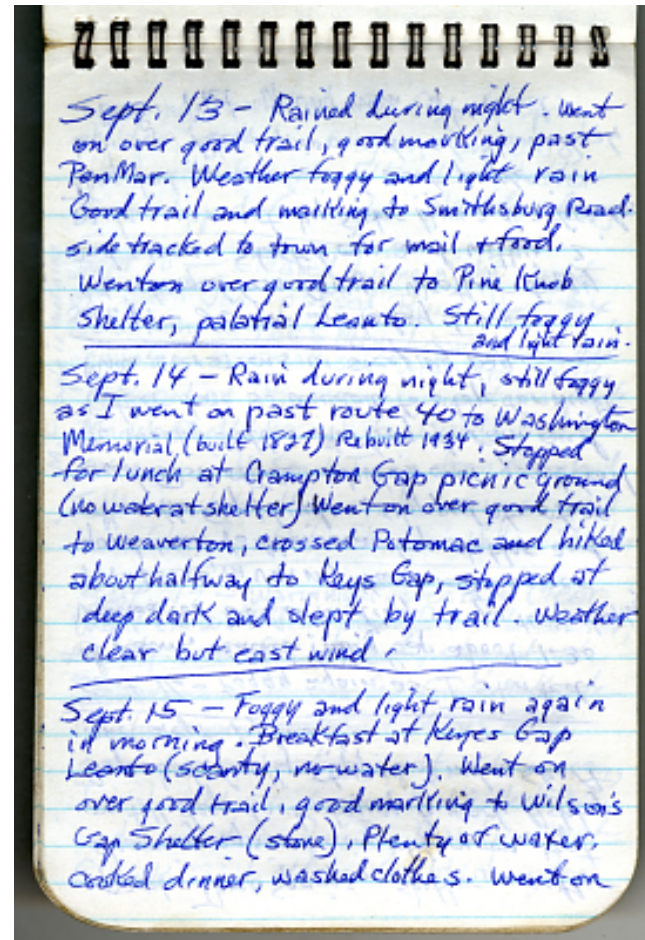


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Sept. 13 - Rained during night. Went on over good trail, good marking, past PenMar. Weather foggy and light rain Good trail and marking to Smithsburg Road. Side tracked to town for mail + food. Went on over good trail to Pine Knob Shelter, palatial Leanto. Still foggy and light rain.

Sept. 14 - Rain during night, still foggy as I went on past route 40 to Washington Memorial (built 1827) Rebuilt 1934. Stopped for lunch at Crampton Gap picnic ground (no water at shelter) Went on over good trail to Weaverton, crossed Potomac and hiked about halfway to Keys Gap, stopped at deep dark and slept by trail. Weather clear but east wind.

Sept. 15 - Foggy and light rain again in morning. Breakfast at Keyes Gap Leanto (scanty, no water). Went on over good trail, good marking to Wilson's Gap Shelter (stone). Plenty of water, cooked dinner, washed clothes. Went on



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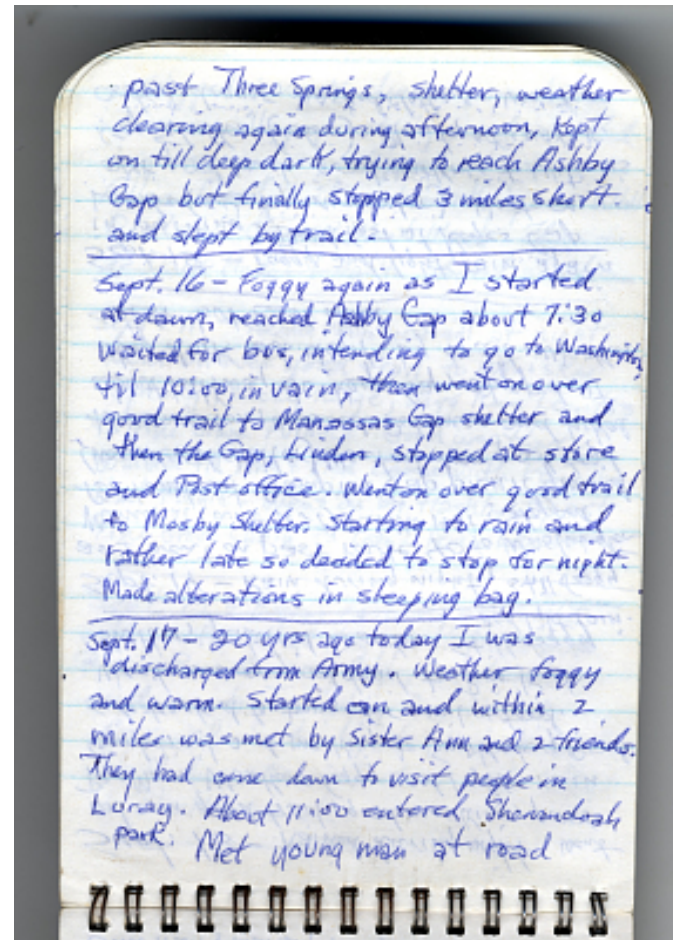
past Three Springs, shelter, weather clearing again during afternoon, kept on till deep dark, trying to reach Ashby Gap but finally stopped 3 miles short and slept by trail.

[[line]]

Sept. 16 - Foggy again as I started at dawn, reached Ashby Gap about 7:30 waited for bus, intending to go to Washington til 10:00, in vain, then went on over good trail to Manassas Gap shelter and then the Gap, Linden, stopped at store and post office. Went on over good trail to Mosby Shelter. Starting to rain and rather late so decided to stop for night. Made alterations in sleeping bag.

[[line]]

Sept. 17 - 20 years ago today I was discharged from Army. Weather foggy and warm. Started on and within 2 miles was met by sister Ann and 2 friends. They had come down to visit people in Luray. About 11:00 entered Shenandoah park. Met young man at road



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crossing; went on to Gravelly Spring shelter, met Jim Wagner, from Ohio, hiked with him to Elkwallow Shelter and stopped for night. Weather foggy

[[vertical note in left hand margin: "Met couple in morning"]]

Sept 18 - Cleared during night, went on with Jim, passed Byrd's Nest #4, went on to Pass Mtn. Leanto and met couple with small son, man from Seattle. Stopped at Panorama, went on past Mary's Rock (hazy) to Byrd's Nest #3. Overrun with Scout Troop from Maryland. Talked a while, then cooked supper, went on after dark to Shaver's Hollow Shelter

Sept. 19 - Warm night, weather clear. Went on with Jim ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ past Pass Mts. Shelter, family there for weekend, stopped at Panorama, in Thornton Gap for snack, etc. Went on and stopped at Mary's Rock, some haze, went on past ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ Stoneman, Jim turned off toward Byrd's Nest #2 and I went on to Big Meadow. Met G. Walker and others from Washington

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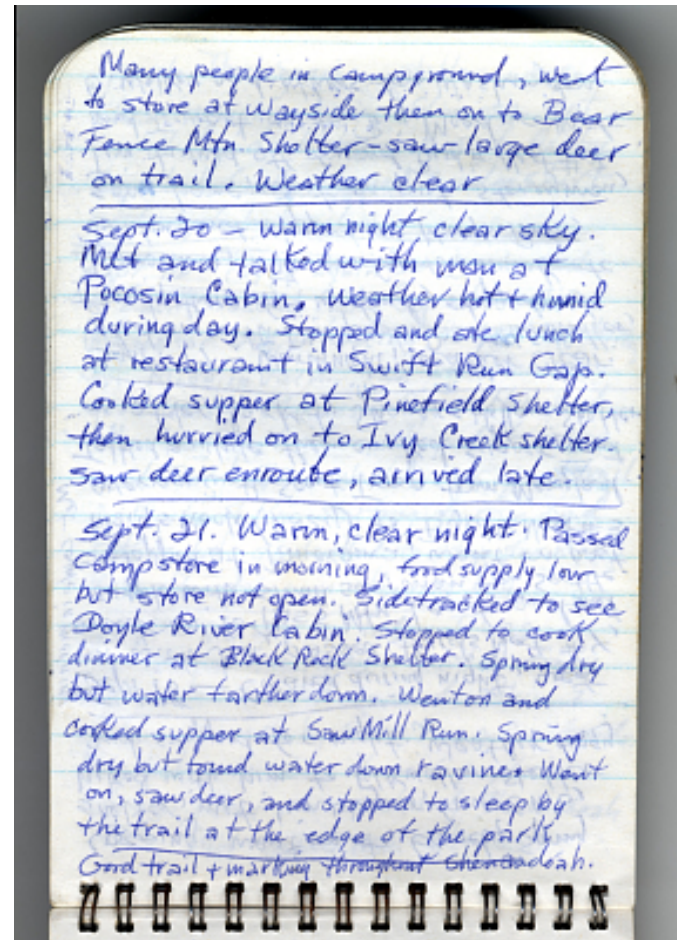
Many people in campground, went to store at wayside then on to Bear Fence Mtn. Shelter - saw large deer on trail. Weather clear

Sept. 20 - Warm night, clear sky. Met and talked with man at Pocosin Cabin. Weather hot & humid during day. Stopped and ate lunch at restaurant in Swift Run Gap. Cooked supper at Pinefield Shelter, then hurried on to Ivy Creek Shelter. Saw deer enroute, arrived late.

Sept. 21. Warm, clear night. Passed Campstore in morning, food supply low but store not open. Sidetracked to see Doyle River Cabin. Stopped to cook dinner at Black Rock Shelter. Spring dry but water farther down. Went on and cooked supper at Saw Mill Run. Spring dry but found water down ravine. Went on, saw deer, and stopped to sleep by the trail at the edge of the park

Good trail & marking throughout Shenandoah.

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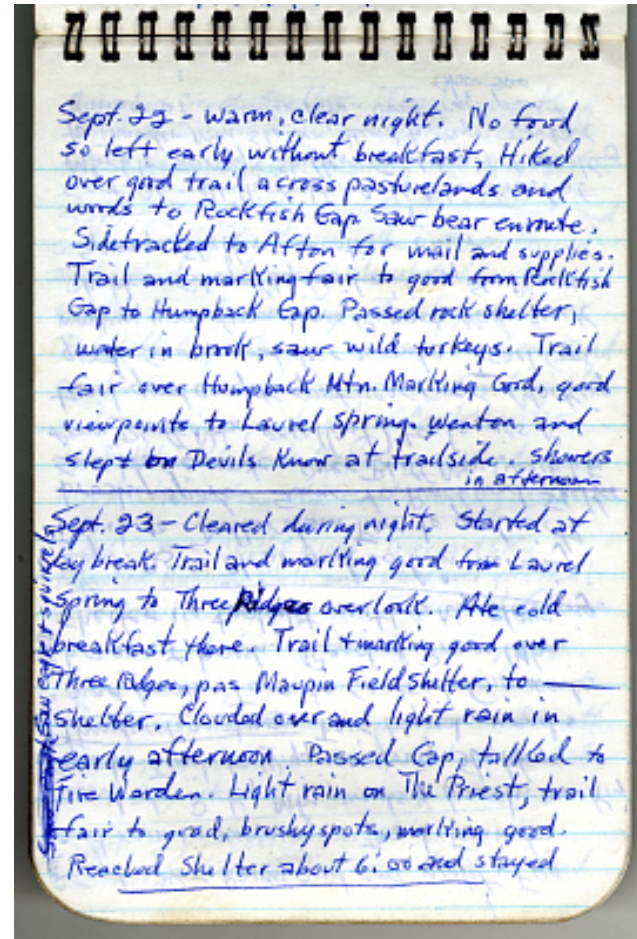
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Sept. 22 - Warm, clear night. No food so left early without breakfast. Hiked over good trail across pasturelands and woods to Rockfish Gap. Saw bear enroute. Sidetracked to Afton for mail and supplies. Trail and marking fair to good from Rockfish Gap to Humpback Gap. Passed rock shelter, water in brook, saw wild turkeys. Trail fair over Humpback Mtn. Marking Good, good viewpoints to Laurel Spring. Went on and slept on Devils Know at trailside. Showers in afternoon.

[[left margin note: ~~[[strike through]]~~ Saw eagle ~~[[/strike through]]~~ Saw eagle & squirrels]]

Sept. 23 - Cleared during night. Started at day break. Trail and marking good from Laurel Spring to Three Ridges overlook. Ate cold breakfast there. Trail & marking good over Three Ridges, pas Maupin Field Shelter, to ---- shelter. Clouded over and light rain in early afternoon. Passed Gap, talked to Fire Warden. Light rain on The Priest, trail fair to good, brushy spots, marking good. Reached shelter about 6:00 and stayed

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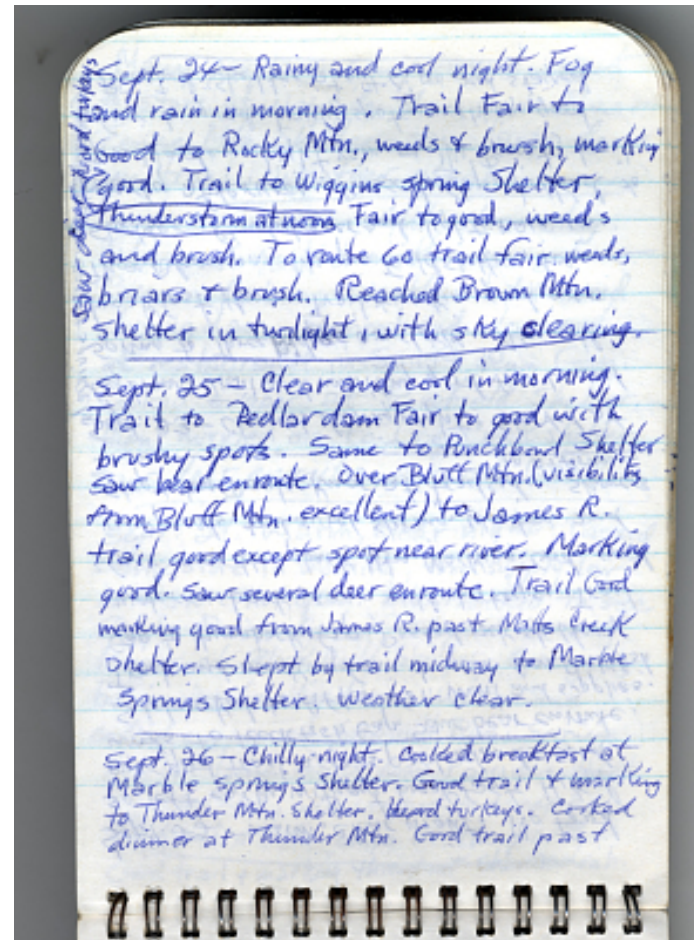
[[left margin note: saw deer heard turkeys]]

Sept. 24 - Rainy and cool night. Fog and rain in morning. Trail Fair to Good to Rocky Mtn., weeds & brush, marking good. Trail to Wiggins Spring Shelter, ~~thunderstorm at noon~~ Fair to good, weeds and brush. To route 60 trail fair. weeds, briars & brush. Reached Brown Mtn. Shelter in twilight, with sky clearing.

Sept. 25 - Clear and cool in morning. Trail to Pedlar dam Fair to good with brushy spots. Same to Punchbowl Shelter saw bear enroute. Over Bluff Mtn. (visibility from Bluff Mtn. excellent) to James R. trail good except spot near river. Marking good. Saw several deer enroute. Trail Good marking good from James R. past Matts Creek Shelter. Slept by trail midway to Marble Springs Shelter. Weather clear.

Sept. 26 - Chilly night. Cooked breakfast at Marble Springs Shelter. Good trail & marking to Thunder Mtn. Shelter. Heard turkeys. Cooked dinner at Thunder Mtn. Good trail past

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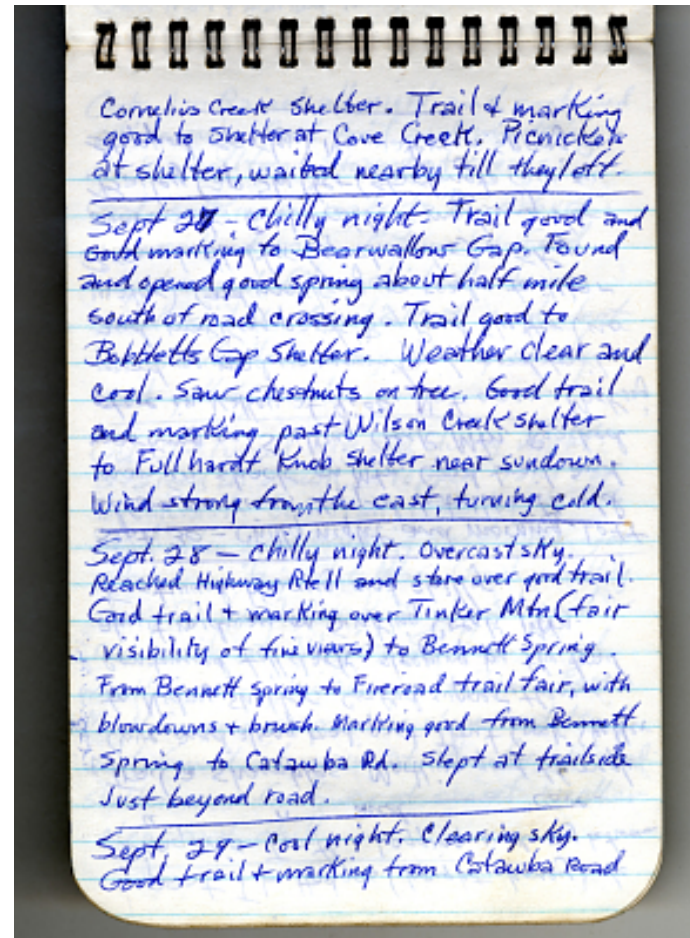
Cornelius Creek Shelter. Trail + marking good to Shelter at Cove Creek. Picnickers at shelter, waited nearby till they left.

Sept. 27 - Chilly nights. Trail good and good marking to Bearwallow Gap. Found and opened good spring about half mile south of road crossing. Trail good to Bobblets Gap Shelter. Weather clear and cool. Saw chestnuts on tree. Good trail and marking past Wilson Creek shelter to Fullhardt Knob Shelter near sundown. Wind strong from the east, turning cold.

Sept. 28 - chilly nights. Overcast sky. Reached Highway Rte 11 and store over good trail. Good trail & marking over Tinker Mtn. (fair visibility of fine views.) to Bennett Spring. From Bennett Spring to Fireroad trail fair, with blowdowns & brush. Marking good from Bennett Spring to Catawba Rd. Slept at trailside just beyond road.

Sept. 29 - Cool night. Clearing sky. Good trail & marking from Catawba Road

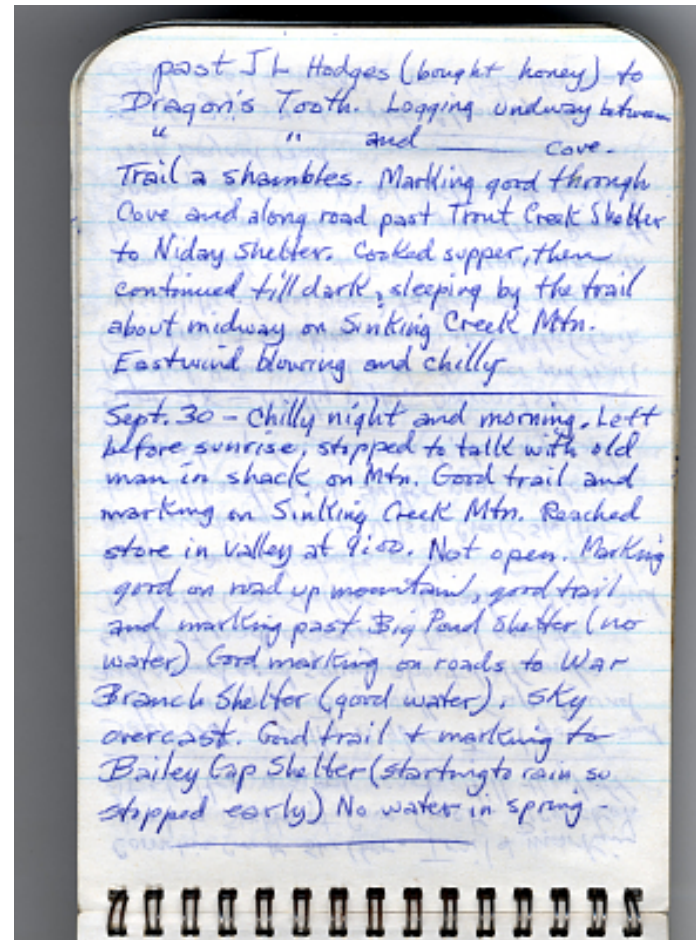
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past J L Hodges (bought honey) to Dragon's Tooth. Logging underway between " " [[ditto marks referring to Dragon's Tooth]] and _____ Cove. Trail a shambles. Marking good through Cove and along road past Trout Creek Shelter to Niday Shelter. Cooked supper, then continued till dark, sleeping by the trail about midway on Sinking Creek Mtn. East wind blowing and chilly

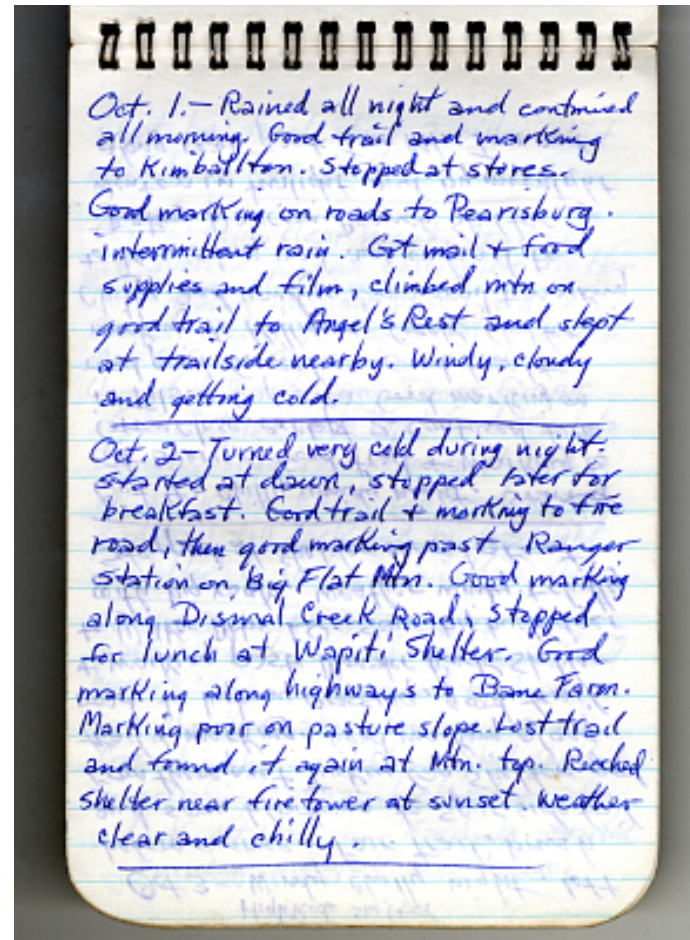
Sept. 30 - Chilly night and morning. Left before sunrise, stopped to talk with old man in shack on Mtn. Good trail and marking on Sinking Creek Mtn. Reached store in valley at 9:00. Not open. Marking good on road up mountain, good trail and marking past Big Pond Shelter (no water). Good marking on roads to War Branch Shelter (good water). Sky overcast. Good trail + marking to Bailey Gap Shelter (starting to rain so stopped early) No water in spring.



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Oct. 1. - Rained all night and continued all morning. Good trail and marking to Kimballton. Stopped at stores. Good marking on roads to Pearisburg. intermittent rain. Got mail + food supplies and film, climbed mtn on good trail to Angel's Rest and slept at trailside nearby. Windy, cloudy and getting cold.

Oct. 2 - Turned very cold during night. Started at dawn, stopped later for breakfast. Good trail + marking to fire road, then good marking past Ranger station on Big Flat Mtn. Good marking along Dismal Creek Road, stopped for lunch at Wapiti Shelter. Good marking along highways to Bane Farm. Marking poor on pasture slope. Lost trail and found it again at Mtn. top. Reached shelter near fire tower at sunset. Weather clear and chilly.

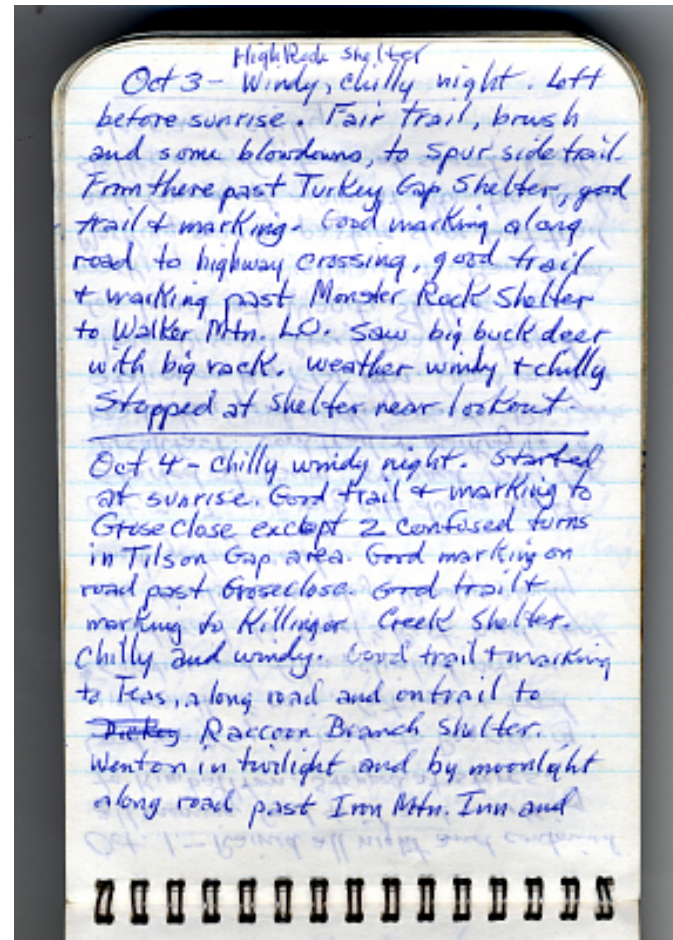


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High Rock Shelter

Oct 3 - Windy, chilly night. Left before sunrise. Fair trail, brush and some blowdowns, to spur side trail. From there past Turkey Gap Shelter, good trail & marking. Good marking along road to highway crossing, good trail & marking past Monster Rock Shelter to Walker Mtn. L.O. Saw big buck deer with big rack. Weather windy & chilly stopped at shelter near lookout.

Oct 4 - chilly windy night. Started at sunrise. Good trail & marking to Groseclose except 2 confused turns in Tilson Gap area. Good marking on road past Groseclose. Good trail + marking to Killinger Creek Shelter. Chilly and windy. Good trail & marking to Teas, along road and on trail to ~~Dickey~~ Dickey ~~Raccoon Branch~~ Raccoon Branch Shelter. Went on in twilight and by moonlight along road past Iron Mtn. Inn and

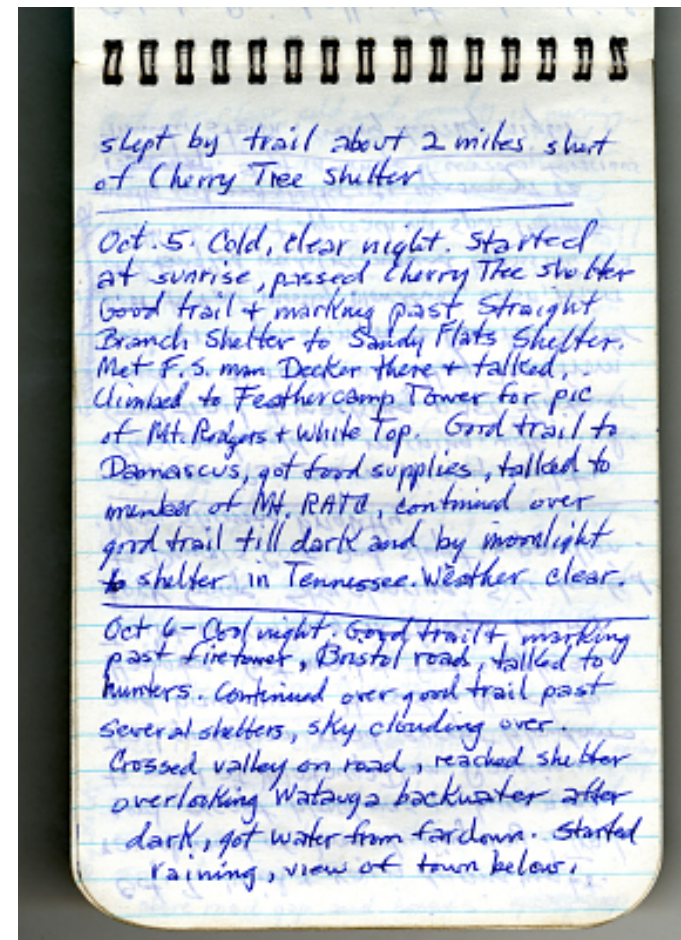


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slept by trail about 2 miles short
of Cherry Tree shelter

Oct. 5. Cold, clear night. Started
at sunrise, passed Cherry Tree shelter
Good trail & marking past Straight
Branch Shelter to Sandy Flats Shelter.
Met F.S. man Decker there & talked.
Climbed to Feathercamp Tower for pic
of Mt. Rodgers & White Top. Good trail to
Damascus, got food supplies, talked to
member of Mt. RATC, continued over
good trail till dark and by moonlight
to shelter in Tennessee. Weather clear.

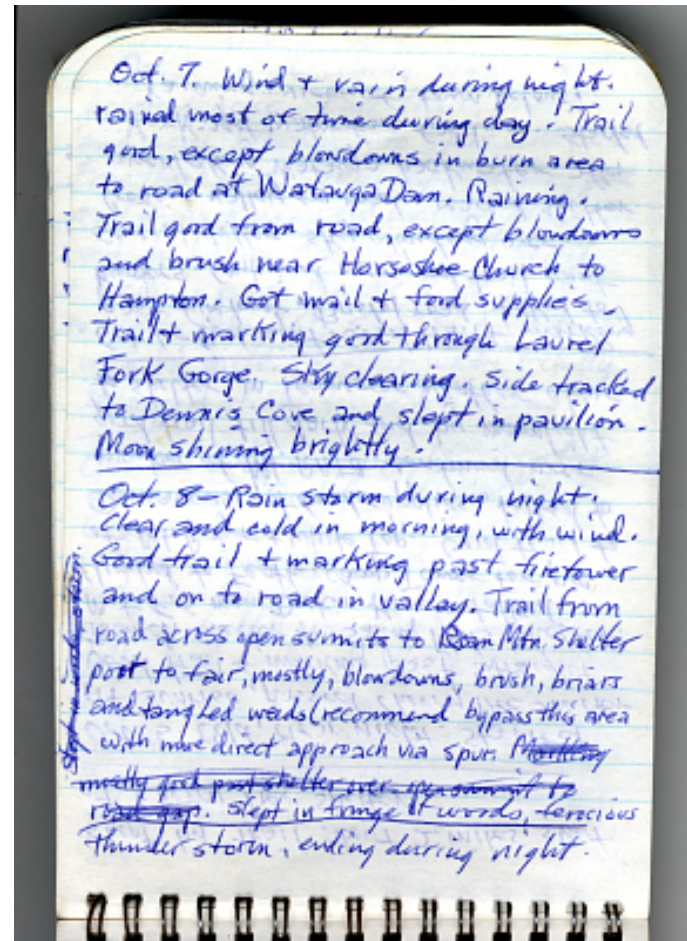
Oct 6 - Cool night. Good trail & marking
past firetower, Bristol road, talked to
hunters. Continued over good trail past
several shelters, sky clouding over.
Crossed valley on road, reached shelter
overlooking Watauga backwater after
dark, got water from far down. Started
raining, view of town below.



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Oct. 7. Wind & rain during night.
rained most of time during day. Trail
good, except blowdowns in burn area
to road at Watauga Dam. Raining.
Trail good from road, except blowdowns
and brush near Horseshoe Church to
Hampton. Got mail & food supplies.
Trail & marking good through Laurel
Fork Gorge. Sky clearing. Side tracked
to Dennis Cove and slept in pavilion.
Moon shining brightly.

Oct. 8 - Rain storm during night.
Clear and cold in morning, with wind.
Good trail & marking past firetower
and on to road in valley. Trail from
road across open summits to Roan Mtn Shelter
poor to fair, mostly, blowdowns, brush, briars and tangled weeds
(recommend bypass this area with more direct approach via spur.
[[striketthrough]] Marking
mostly good past shelter over, open summit to
road gap. [[/striketthrough]]
Slept in fringe of woods, ferocious
thunder storm, ending during night.
[[striketthrough along left margin]] slept in unto storm [[/striketthrough]]

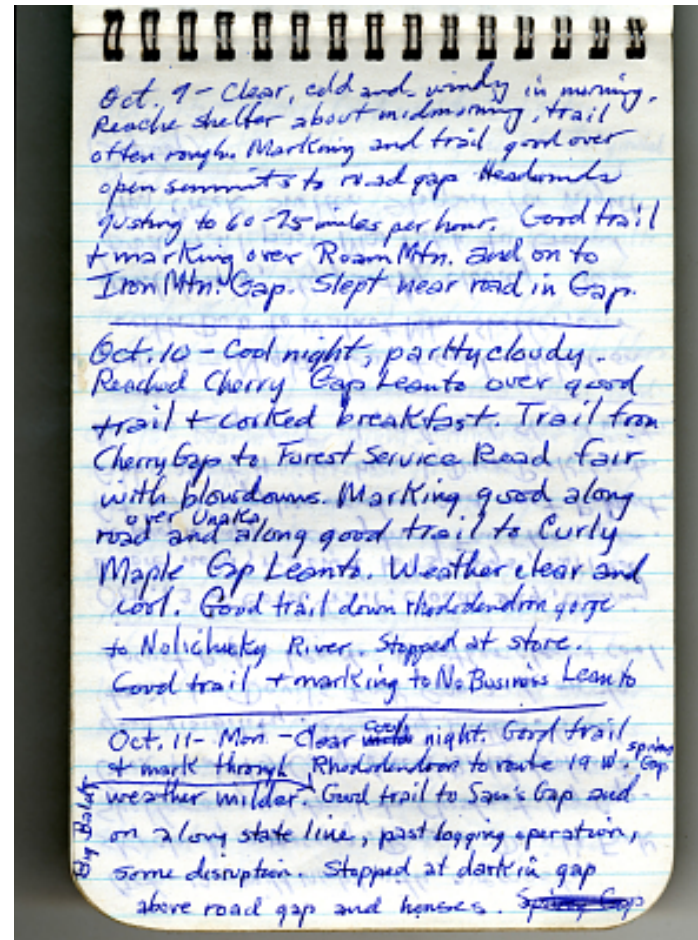


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Oct. 9 - Clear, cold and windy in morning. Reached shelter about midmorning, trail often rough. Marking and trail good over open summits to road gap. Headwinds gusting to 60-75 miles per hour. Good trail & marking over Roam Mtn. and on to Iron Mtn. Gap. Slept near road in Gap.

Oct. 10 - Cool night, partly cloudy - Reached Cherry Gap Leanto over good trail & cooked breakfast. Trail from Cherry Gap to Forest Service Road fair with blowdowns. Marking good along road over Unaka and along good trail to Curly Maple Gap Leanto. Weather clear and cool. Good trail down rhododendron gorge to Nolichucky River. Stopped at store. Good trail & marking to No Business Leanto

Oct. 11 - Mon - Clear ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ mild ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ cool night. Good trail & mark through. Rhododendron to route 19 W. Spiney Gap. Weather milder. ~~[[from left margin - Big Bald]]~~. Good trail to Sam's Gap and on along state line, past logging operation, some disruption. Stopped at dark in gap above road gap and horses. ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ Spivey Gap ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~



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Oct. 10 - Cool night, partly cloudy. Reached Cherry Gap Leanto over good trail & cooked breakfast. Trail from Cherry Gap to Forest Service Road fair with blowdowns. Marking good along road over Unaka and along good trail to Curly Maple Gap Leanto. Weather clear and cool. Good trail down rhododendron gorge to Nolichucky River. Stopped at store. Good trail & marking to No Business Leanto

Oct. 11 - Mon - Clear ^{cool} night. Good trail & mark through. Rhododendron to route 19 W. ^{Spiney} Gap. Weather milder. Good trail to Sam's Gap and on along state line, past logging operation, some disruption. Stopped at dark in gap above road gap and horses. ~~Spivey Gap~~

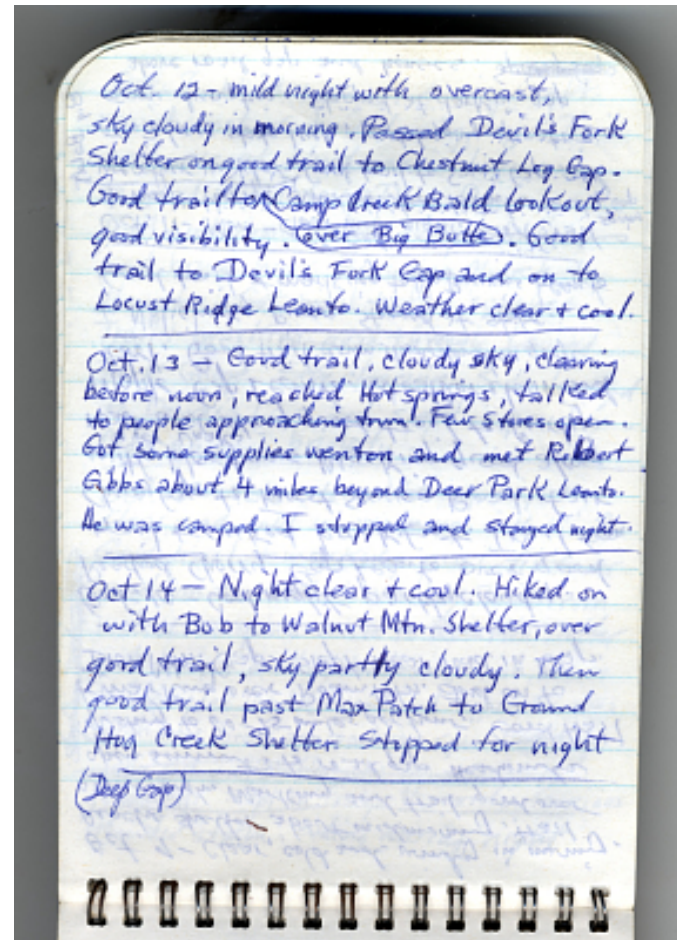
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Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Aug-18-2014 03:42:06

Oct. 12 - mild night with overcast, sky cloudy in morning. Passed Devil's Fork Shelter on good trail to Chestnut Log Gap. Good trail to Camp Creek Bald Lookout, good visibility. [[phrase circled with arrow pointing to previous line, between "to" and "Camp": "over Big Butte"]]. Good trail to Devil's Fork Gap and on to Locust Ridge Leanto. Weather clear + cool.

Oct. 13 - Good trail, cloudy sky, clearing before noon, reached Hot springs, talked to people approaching town. Few stores open. Got some supplies went on and met Robert Gibbs about 4 miles beyond Deer Park Leanto. He was camped. I stopped and stayed night.

Oct 14 - Night clear + cool. Hiked on with Bob to Walnut Mtn. Shelter, over good trail, sky partly cloudy. Then good trail past Max Patch to Ground Hog Creek Shelter. Stopped for night

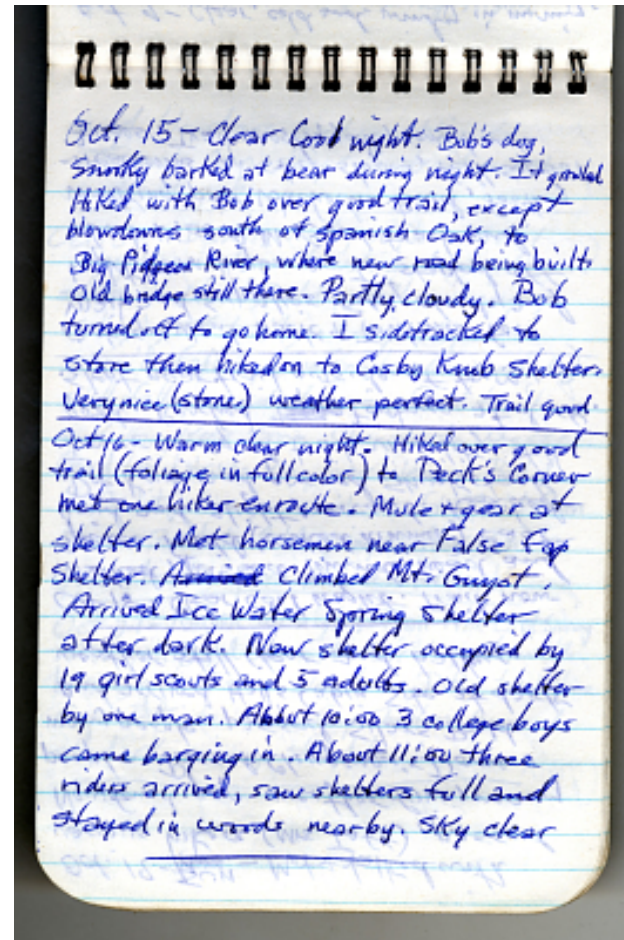
(Deep Gap)



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Oct. 15 - Clear Cool night. Bob's dog, ~~[[unclear-Smoky??]]~~ barked at bear during night. It growled. Hiked with Bob over good trail, except blowdowns south of Spanish Oak, to Big Pidgeon River, where new road being built. Old bridge still there. Partly cloudy. Bob turned off to go home. I sidetracked to store then hiked on to Cosby Knob Shelter. Very nice (stone) weather perfect. Trail good

Oct 16 - Warm clear night. Hiked over good trail (foliage in full color) to PEck's Corner met one hiker enroute. Mule + gear at shelter. Met horsemen near False Gap Shelter. ~~[[Arrived]]~~ Climbed Mt. Guyot. Arrived Ice Water Spring Shelter after dark. New shelter occupied by 19 girl scouts and 5 adults. Old shelter by one man. About 10:00 3 college boys come barging in. About 11:00 three riders arrived, saw shelters full and stayed in woods nearby. Sky clear



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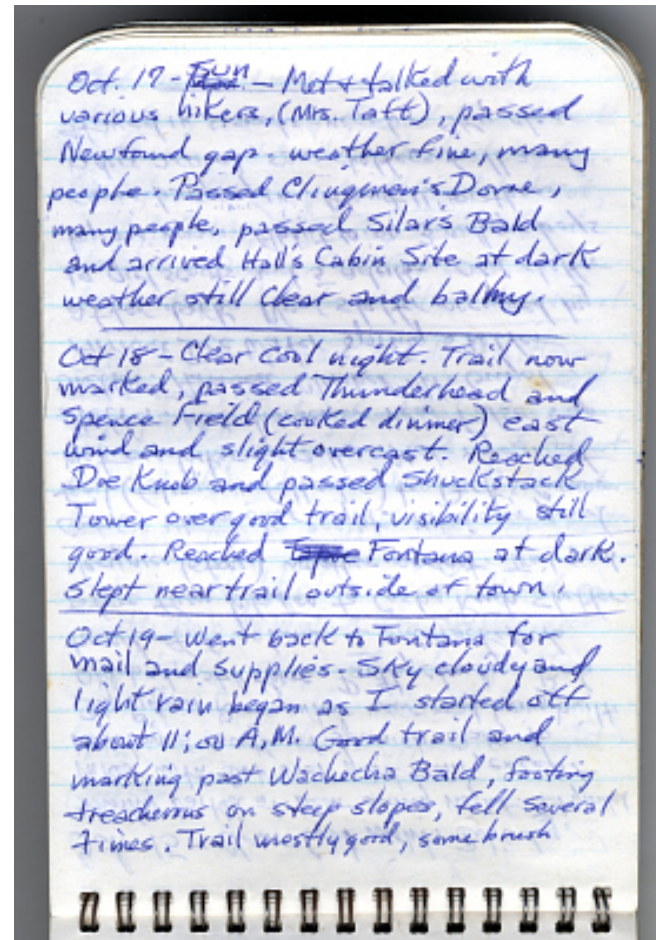
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Oct. 17 - ~~Mon.~~ Sun - Met + talked with various hikers, (Mrs. Taft), passed Newfound gap. weather fine, many people. Passed Clingman's Dome, many people, passed Silar's Bald and arrived Halls' Cabin Site at dark weather still clear and balmy.

Oct 18 - Clear cool night. Trail now marked, passed Thunderhead and Spence Field (cooked dinner) east wind and slight overcast. Reached Doe Knob and passed Shuckstack Tower over good trail, visibility still good. Reached Fontana at dark. Slept near trail outside of town.

Oct 19 - Went back to Fontana for mail and supplies. Sky cloudy and light rain began as I started off about 11:00 A.M. Good trail and marking past Wachecha Bald, footing treacherous on steep slopes, fell several times. Trail mostly good, some brush

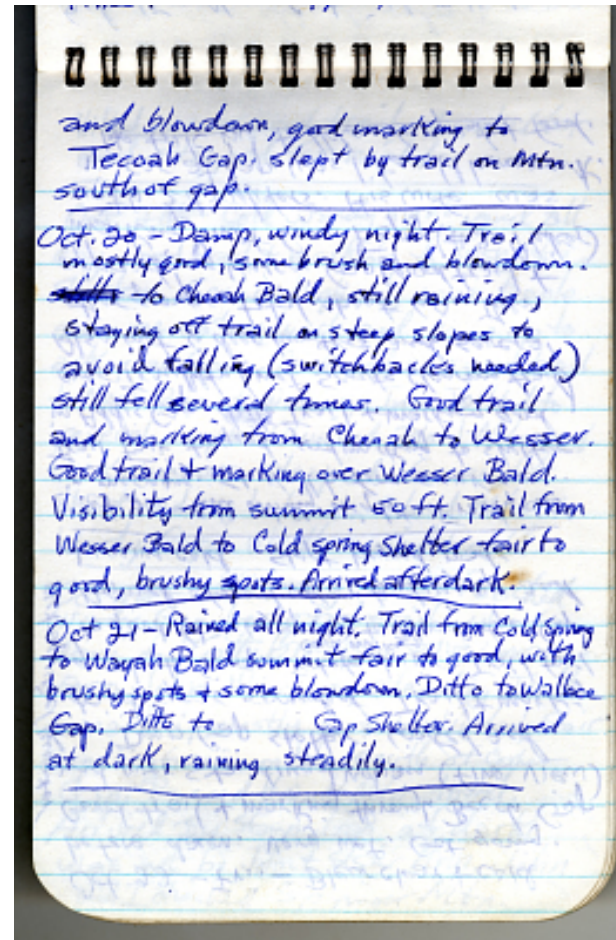


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and blowdown, good marking to Tecoah Gap. Slept by trail on Mtn. south of gap.

Oct. 20 - Damp, windy night. Trail mostly good, some brush and blowdown to Cheoah Bald, still raining, staying off trail on steep slopes to avoid falling (switchbacks needed) still fell several times. Good trail and marking from Cheoah to Wesser. Good trail + marking over Wesser Bald. Visibility from summit 50 ft. Trail from Wesser Bald to Cold Spring Shelter fair to good, brushy spots. Arrived after dark.

Oct 21 - Rained all night. Trail from Cold Spring to Wayah Bald summit fair to good, with brushy spots + some blowdown. Ditto to Wallace Gap Ditto to [[large blank space]] Gap Shelter. Arrived at dark, raining steadily.



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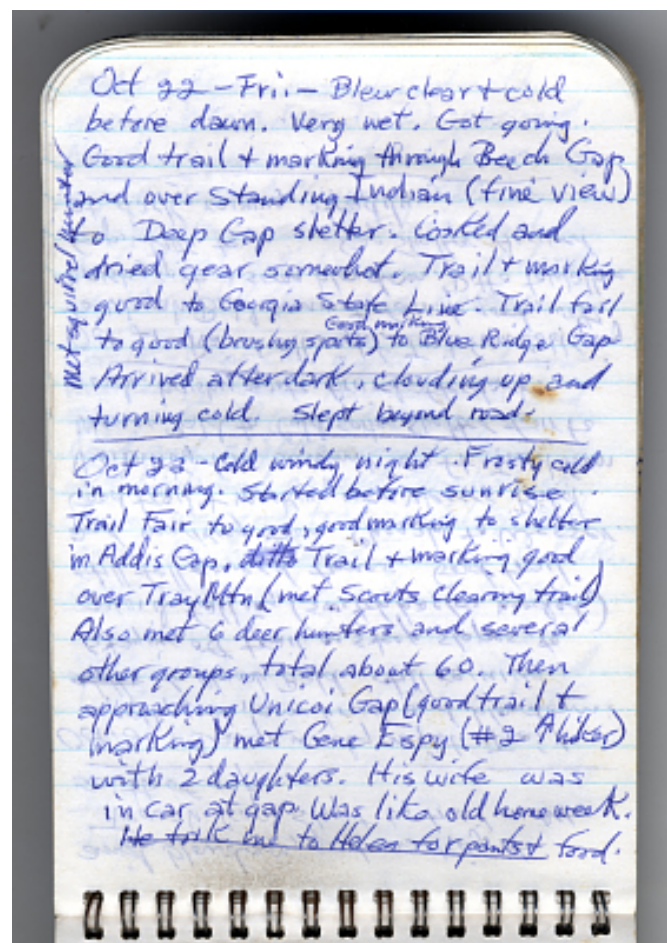
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Oct 22 - Fri. - Blew clear + cold before dawn. Very wet. Got going.
 [[vertical note in left hand margin: "met squirrel hunter"]] Good trail + marking through Beech Gap and over Standing Indian (fine view) to Deep Gap Shelter. Cooked and dried gear somewhat. Trail + marking good to Georgia State Line. Trail fair to good (brushy spots ["good marking" superscripted])) to Blue Ridge Gap. Arrived after dark, clouding up and turning cold. Slept beyond road.

Oct 23 - Cold windy night. Frosty cold in morning. Started before sunrise. Trail Fair to good, good marking to shelter in Addis Gap. ~~ditto~~ Trail + marking good over Tray Mtn (met scouts clearing trail) Also met 6 deer hunters and several other groups, total about 60. Then approaching Unicoi Gap (good trail + marking) met Gene Espy (#2 ^{capital letter A over capital letter T - symbol for Appalachina Trail} hiker) with 2 daughters. His wife was in car at gap. Was like old home week.
He took me to Helen for pants + food.

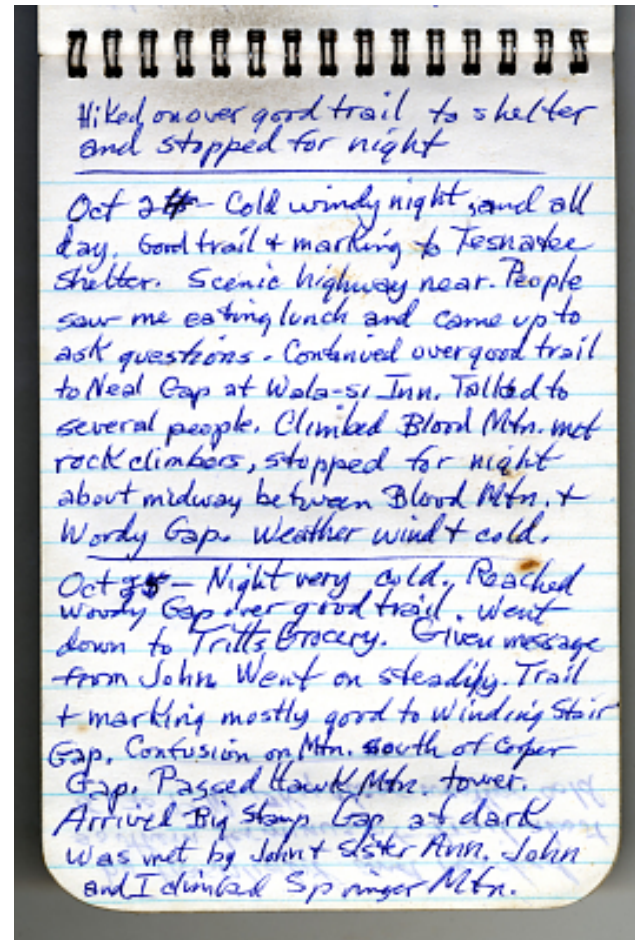


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Hiked on over good trail to shelter and stopped for night

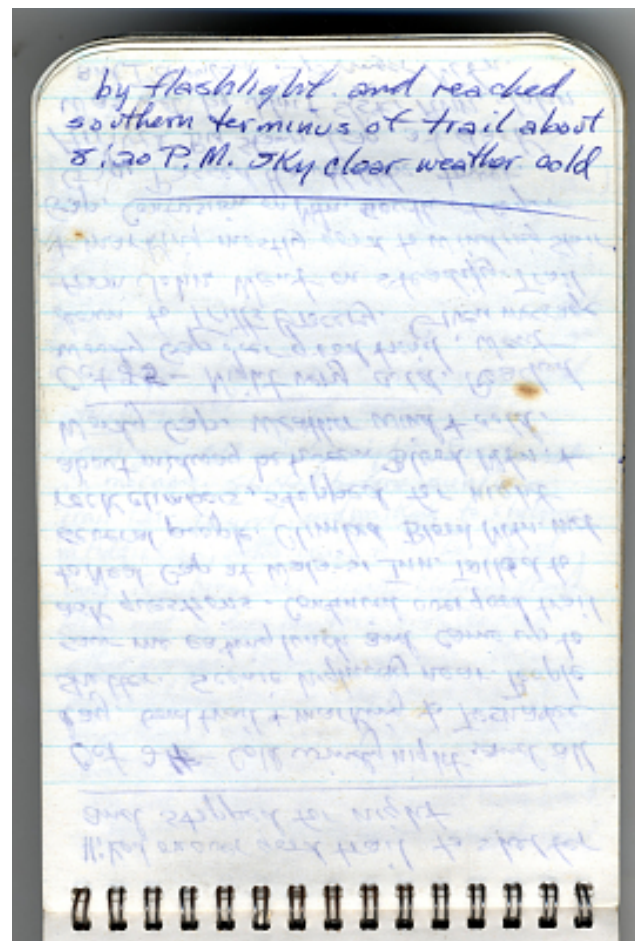
Oct 24 - Cold windy night, and all day. Good trail + marking to Tesnatee Shelter. Scenic highway near. People saw me eating lunch and came up to ask questions. Continued over good trail to Neal Gap at Wala-si Inn. Talked to several people. Climbed Blood Mtn. met rock climbers, stopped for night about midway between Blood Mtn. + Woody Gap. Weather wind + cold.

Oct 25 - Night very cold. Reached Woody Gap over good trail. Went down to Tritts Grocery. Given message from John. Went on steadily. Trail + marking mostly good to Winding Stair Gap. Confusion on Mtn. south of Cooper Gap. Passed Hawk Mtn. tower. Arrived Big Stamp Gap at dark was met by John + sister Ann. John and I climbed Springer Mtn.



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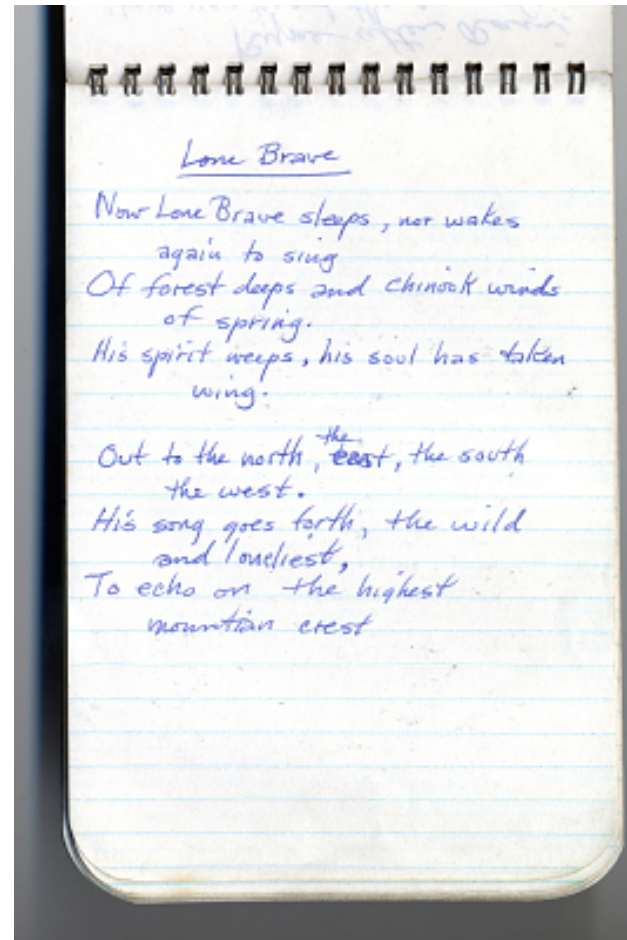
by flashlight and reached southern terminus of trail about 8:30 P.M. Sky clear weather cold



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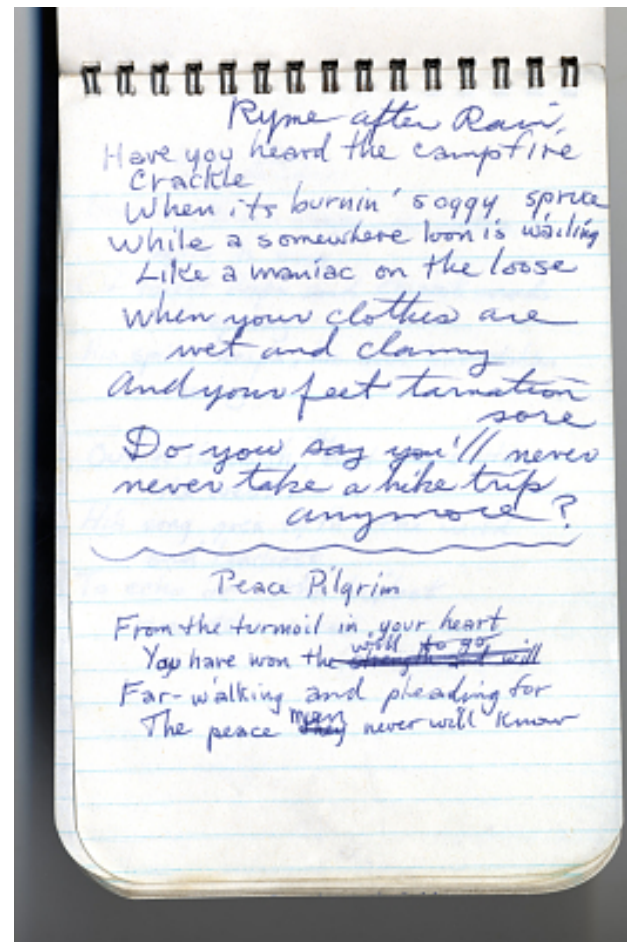
Lone Brave
Now Lone Brave sleeps, not wakes again to sing
Of forest deeps and Chinook winds of spring.
His spirit weeps, his soul has taken wing.

Out to the north, the east, the south the west.
His song goes forth, the wild and loneliest,
To echo on the highest mountain crest



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Ryme after Rain
 Have you heard the campfire
 crackle
 When its burnin' soggy spruce
 While a somewhere loon is wailing
 Like a maniac on the loose
 When your clothes are
 wet and clammy
 And your feet tarnation
 sore
 Do you say you'll never
 never take a hike trip
 anymore?
 [[page separated by wavy line]]
 Peace Pilgrim
 From the turmoil in your heart
 You have won the will to go ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ strength and will
~~[[/strikethrough]]~~
 Far-walking and pleading for
 The peace men ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ they ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ will never know

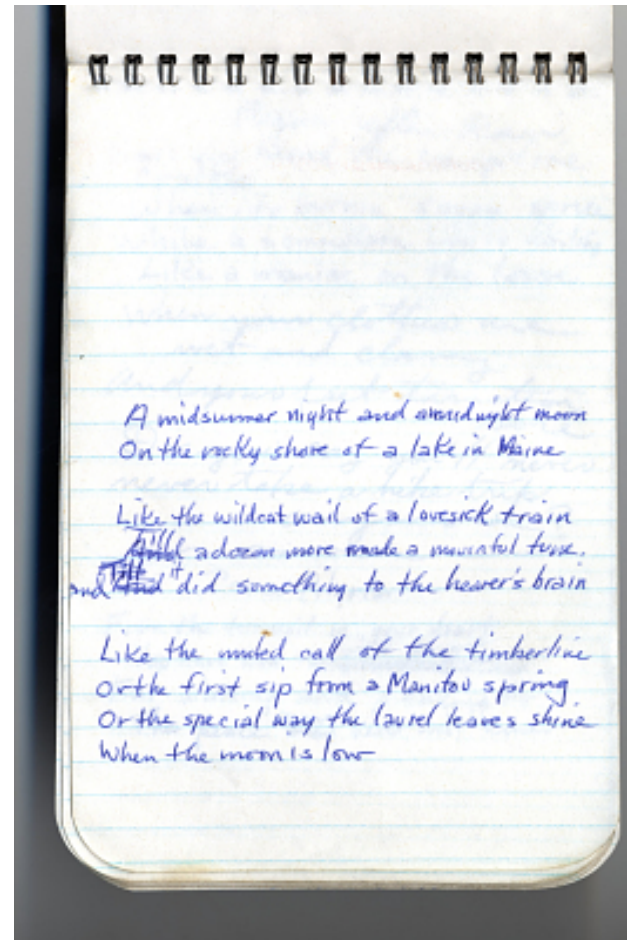


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A midsummer night and a midnight moon on the rocky shore of a lake in Maine

Like the wildcat wail of a lovesick train
~~And~~ Till a dozen more made a mournful
tune. and ~~Till~~
~~And~~ it did something to the hearer's
brain

Like the muted call of the timberline or the first sip from a Manitou spring
or the special way the laurel leaves shine when the moon is low

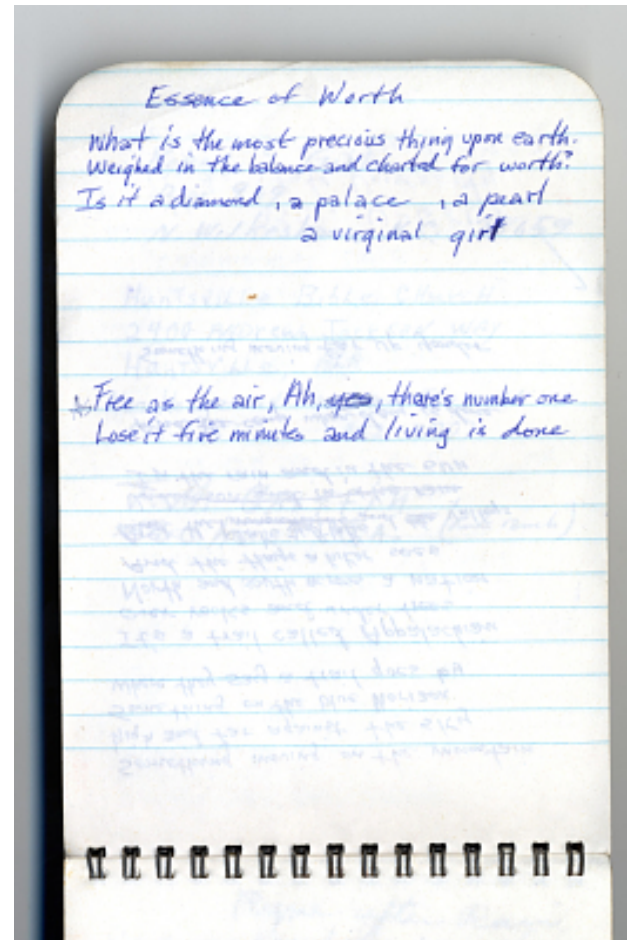


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Essence of Worth

What is the most precious thing upon earth. Weighed in the balance and charted for worth? Is it a diamond, a palace, a pearl a virginal girl

As Free as the air, Ah, ~~yes~~, there's number one
Lose it five minutes and living is done



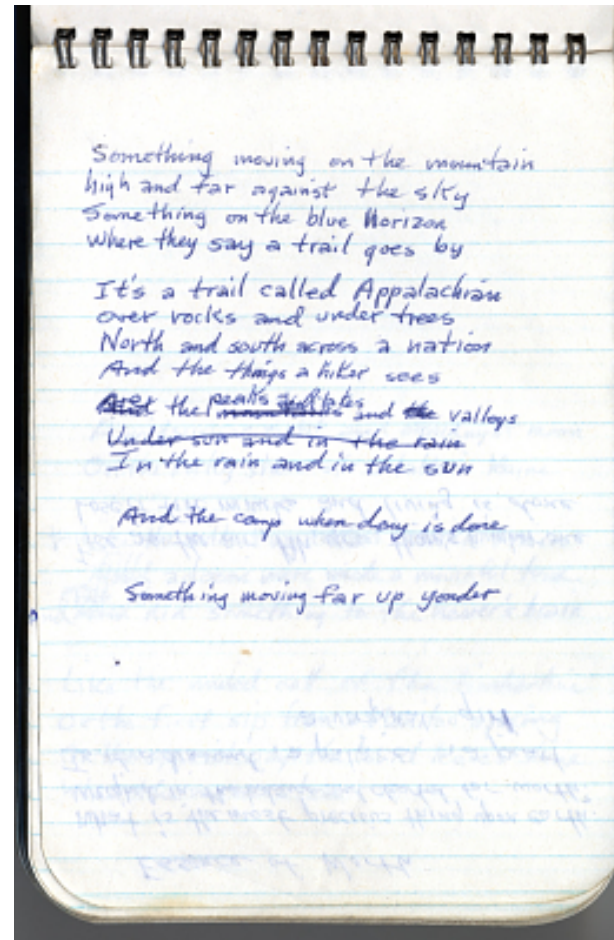
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Something moving on the mountain high and far against the sky
Something on the blue Horizon where they say a trail goes by

It's a trail called Appalachian over rocks and under trees
North and south across a nation
And the things a hiker sees
Are the peaks and lakes ~~mountains~~ and
~~the~~ valleys
~~Under sun and in the rain~~
In the rain and in the sun

And the camp when day is done

Something moving far up yonder



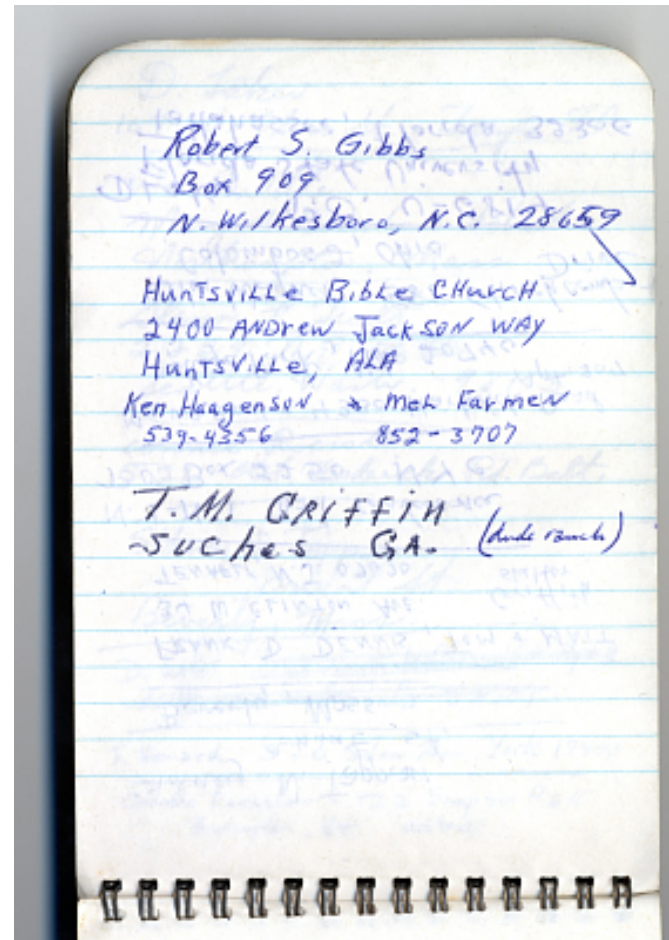
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Robert S. Gibbs
Box 909
N. Wilkesboro, N.C. 28659

Huntsville Bible Church
2400 Andrew Jackson Way
Huntsville, ALA

Ken Haagenson & Mel Farmer
539-4356 852-3707

T.M. Griffin
Suches GA. (dude ranch)



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Sidney N. Tappan
Conant St.
Beverly, Mass
[[line drawn across page]]

Frank D. Dennis, Tom & Matt
34 W. CLINTON AVE. Griffith shelter
TENAFLY, N.J. 07670
[[line drawn across page]]

N.Y. - N.J. Trail conference
P.O. Box 2250 NYC
[[line drawn across page]]

Mrs. WR Roessler 4330 Hartwick Road
Apt. 307
College Park, Md. 20740
[[line drawn across page]]

Jim Wagner 588 Stinchcomb Drive
Columbus, Ohio
[[line drawn across page]]

D. Laker P.O. U-6814
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306

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D. Laker
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Wm Biddle
Mary A. Burnham School
Northampton, Mass.
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Glenn F. Freelt
2229 N.E. 80th
Seattle, Wash. 98115
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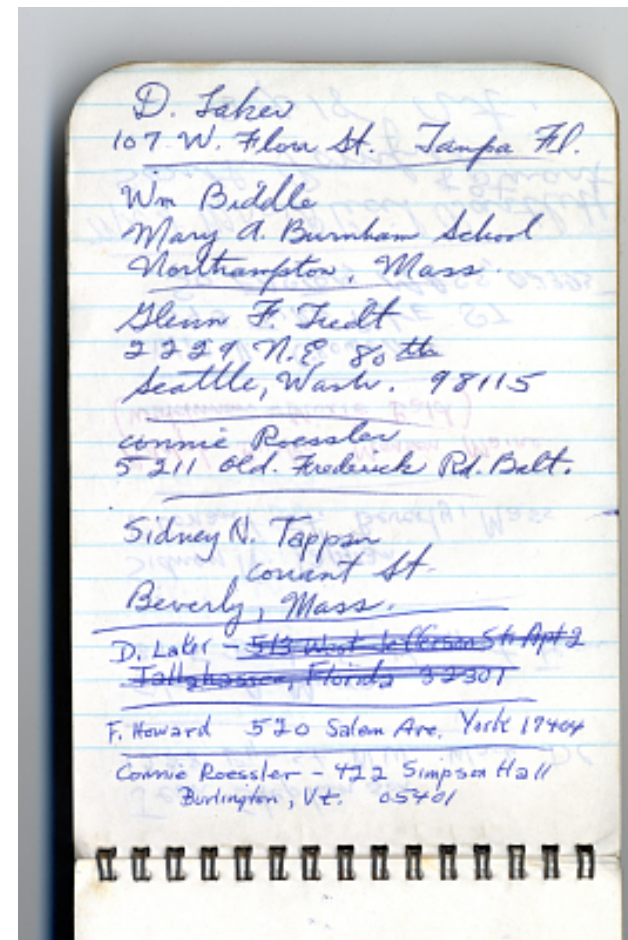
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5211 Old. Frederick Rd. Balt.
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D. Laker ~~513 West Jefferson St. Apt 2~~
~~Tallahassee, Florida 32301~~
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F. Howard 520 Salem Ave. York 17404
[[line drawn across page]]

Connie Roessler- 422 Simpson Hall
Burlington, Vt. 05401



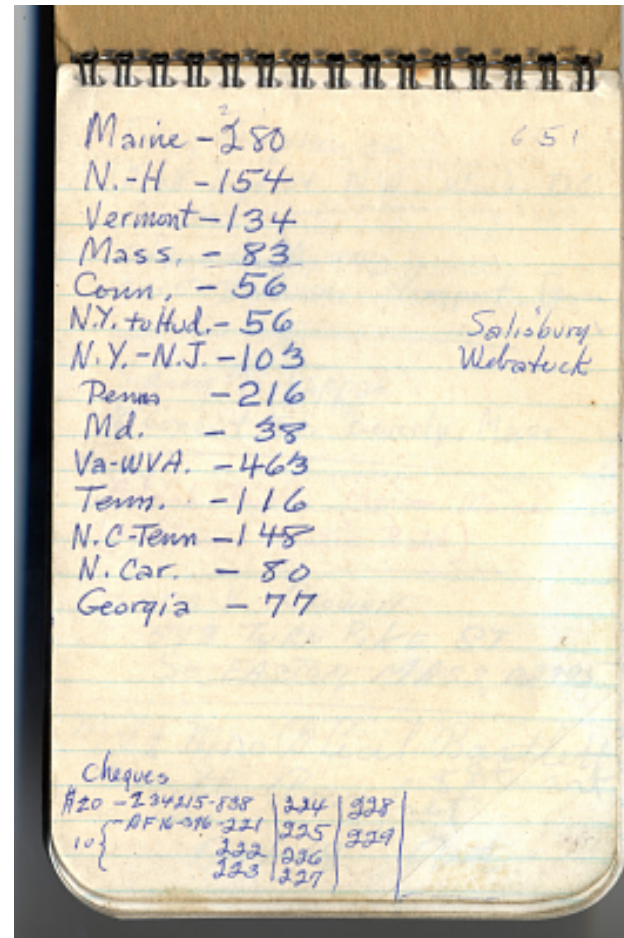
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Maine - 280
 N.-H - 154
 Vermont - 134
 Mass. - 83
 Conn. - 56
 N.Y. to Hud. - 56
 N.Y. to N.J. - 103
 Penn - 216
 Md. - 38
 Va-WVA. - 463
 Tenn. - 116
 N.C.-Tenn - 148
 N.Car. - 80
 Georgia - 77

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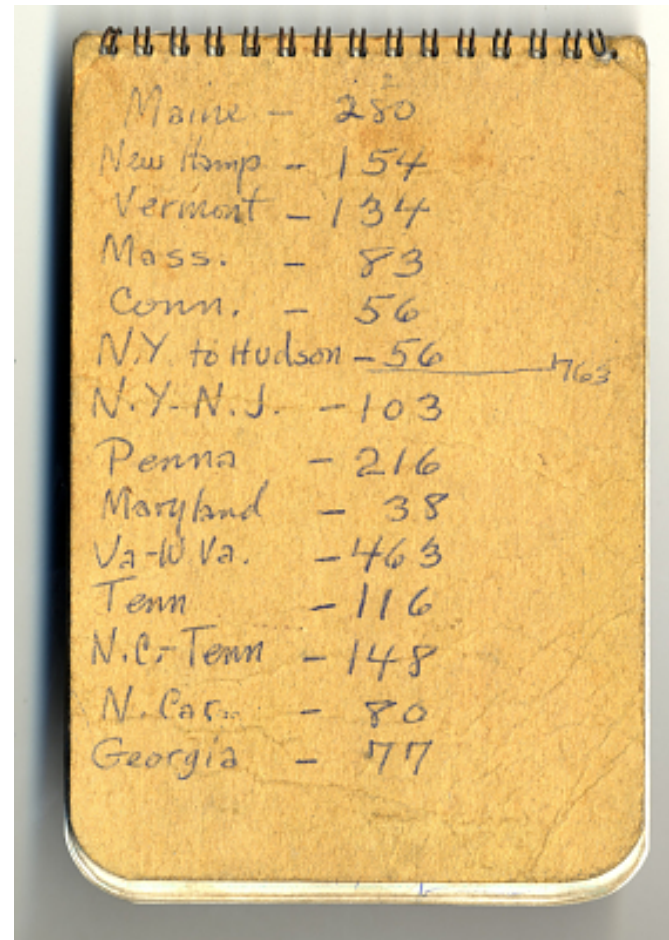


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