

18 MODERN CABINS

All cabin rental reservations must be made through the park ranger. Rates are for a maximum of four persons.

Daily \$15.00 per cabin
Weekly \$75.00 per cabin

Cots are supplied for additional guests for an additional charge of 50 cents per day.

The cabins accommodate four comfortably. Renter must provide own bedding, pillows and linens. The rental of cabins does not entitle tenant to free use of beach or boating privileges. Arrangements for these may be made with the concessionaire at the boat house.

CAMPING RATES AND REGULATIONS

All camping permits are issued by the park ranger. The Commission has fixed the fees for tent and trailer camping as follows:

Non-Modern Area \$2.50 Per Night Per Basic Unit
Modern Area \$3.00 Per Night Per Basic Unit
Modern Area W-Elect \$4.00 Per Night Per Basic Unit

Upper camp area is non-modern, lower camp area is modern.

A basic camping unit is the portable shelter used by one to six persons. Only one vehicle may be used for transportation in the camp area. All other motor vehicles will be parked in the visitor parking area and so marked. Any persons over the basic unit of six will be charged 25 cents per person.

All prices include State Sales Tax.

For chaperoned, organized youth groups, 25 cents per person per night is charged. There is a minimum charge of \$3.00 per night in a modern area.

SURROUNDING TOWNS

Strawberry Point, 5 miles from the park, has most denominations of churches, a bowling alley, and shopping center.

Lamont and Dundee, both 7 miles from the park have good shopping centers.

EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: *All persons are entitled to full and equal enjoyment of the recreational opportunities, privileges and advantages available in Iowa's great outdoors.*

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WALLACE STATE OFFICE BLDG.
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

Backbone State Park was dedicated October 1, 1919, with an area of 1,300 acres. Since then, it has grown to include 1,600 of the most scenic acres in the Middle West. Visitors not acquainted with Iowa beauty spots are due for a considerable surprise in Backbone.

The park gets its name from a high ridge of rock in the approximate center of the area. It bumps along for a quarter of a mile, closely resembling a huge backbone, with boulders and rocky humps to form its vertebrae.

Formerly called "The Devil's Backbone", it is bounded by the Maquoketa River. The river flows southeast along the rock ledge, continues the length of it until it finds a saddle, goes through this and turns to flow back almost northwest along the opposite side of the ledge. At times it's only a few hundred feet from the portion of the current flowing south. The Backbone is fully as high as the level of the country surrounding the park and is the highest part of northeast Iowa.

Covered with vegetation, the Backbone supports some fine pines and other trees. Wind-blown pines resembling the famous Cypress Point trees of California jut over the cliffs at several points.

There are many rocky staircases and caverns. The walls of the ledges are so precipitous that mountain climbers come here to practice.

The romance of the past is strong with tales of Indian massacres, train and bank robbers, cattle rustlers, and horse thieves, all of whom may have used the Backbone for hiding. These tall tales, some true, make good listening when told by those who have visited the park for several years.

Within Backbone's borders will be found recreation including hiking at its very best, climbing, nature study, and a lake for swimming, boating, and fishing. There are trout streams, a trout hatchery well worth a visit, an auditorium capable of seating a few hundred; cabins, shelters, natural beauty galore for camera color shots, and picnic tables. All these and even more accommodations are here to make your stay pleasant whether it's for two weeks or a day's outing.

Just outside the park, there is a Conservation Commission pine forest attractive to photographers and, in season, bow hunters.

A park ranger and his assistant, as well as fish hatchery personnel, live in the park all year to care for the park and its visitors. Campers must register with the park ranger or his assistant. Those desiring to rent cabins should contact the park ranger.

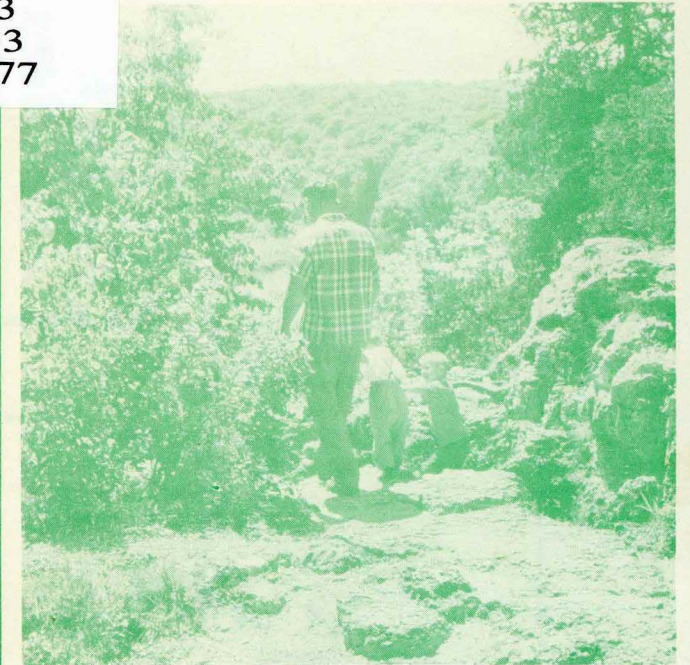
Space does not permit a detailed description of all the trails Backbone has to offer; however, many of them are marked, and hikers will have no trouble finding one to their liking.

There is a nine-hole golf course located immediately adjacent to the northern limits of the park managed by the Backbone Golf and Country Club and open to all. Green fee is charged. The park ranger will gladly supply you with a booklet describing the trout streams of Iowa free of charge.

BACKBONE

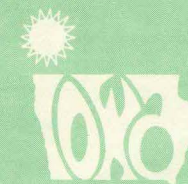
STATE PARK

F
627
.D3
B33
1977



PARK RANGERS ADDRESS

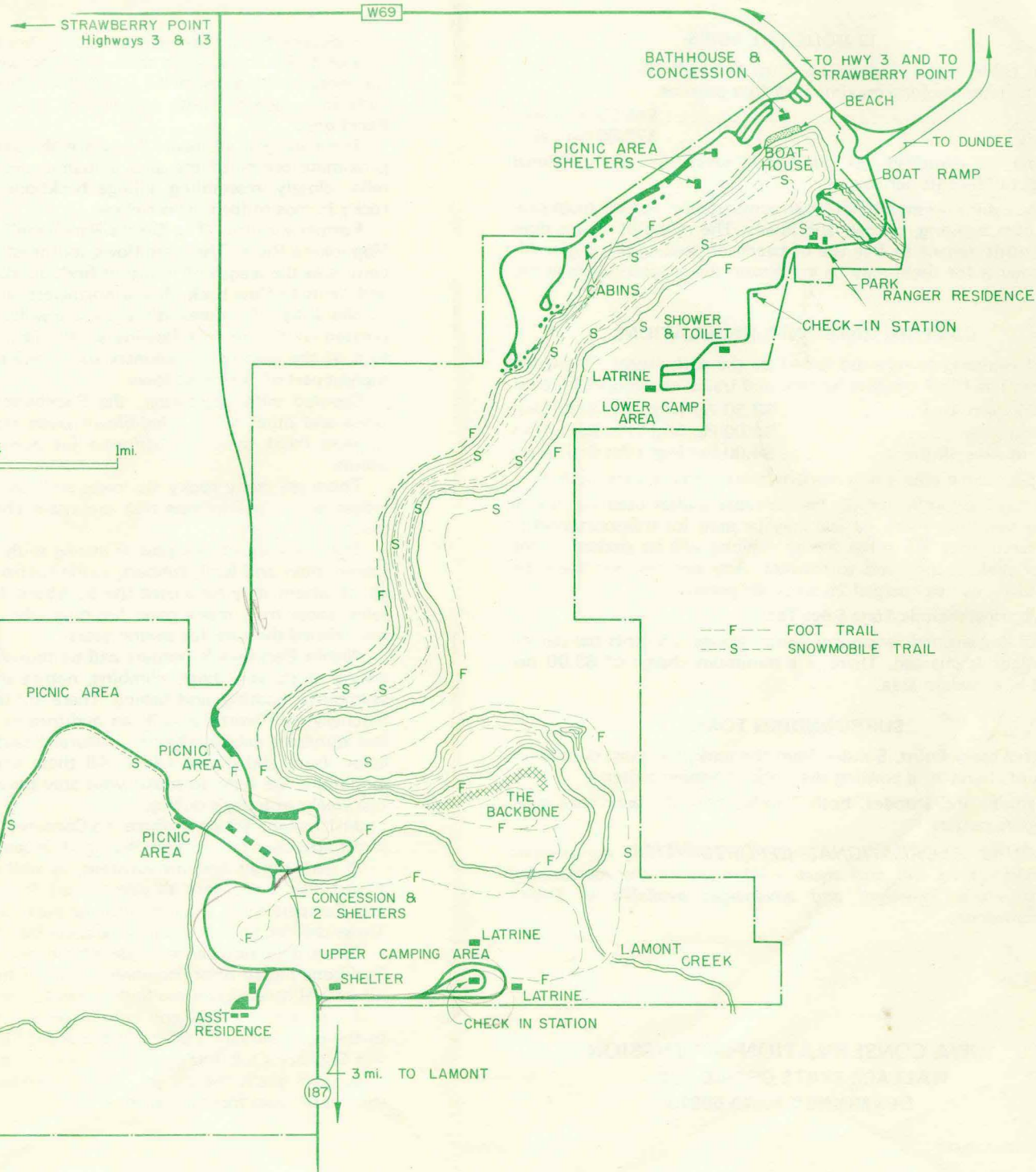
Backbone State Park
Dundee, Iowa 52038
Telephone 319-924-2527



State Library of Iowa
State Documents Center
Miller Building
Des Moines, Iowa

CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

45
 29
 41
 14
 37
 18
 12
 14
 19
 227
 28
 215



State Documents Center
 Miller Building
 Des Moines, Iowa