



January 2, 1996

Mr. Paul J. Harris, Jr.
3923 Seeley Ave.
Down ers Grove, Il 60515

Dear Paul,

Looking back at our exchange of letters, the last I have from you was dated March 6, 1992 and my response of March 14. Even though I was busy with our church renovation and as Council President here at Thomas House, I did not want to close our correspondence. I do hope that you were able to make adjustments with those issues you were finding so stressful. You may now be living elsewhere because of your work. I was in Florida with Grace and family for Christmas and would have written but did not have your address along.

I do want to see your home archives and do appreciate all you have done regarding our family records. This coming summer I will be in Illinois for our Smith family reunion which is to be held at Giant City Park near Carbondale on July 19-21. Carbondale is where my parents first settled and three of us were born, as you know.

If feasible for you to come for that, I do extend an invitation so that you and I could have time to explain to the whole group the records you now have and what further useful steps we should be able to take with you. I enclose information sent out to our group and will ask Steve and Sam to add you to the list when full details and reservation forms go out this Spring. Of course your children would also be welcome to join us.

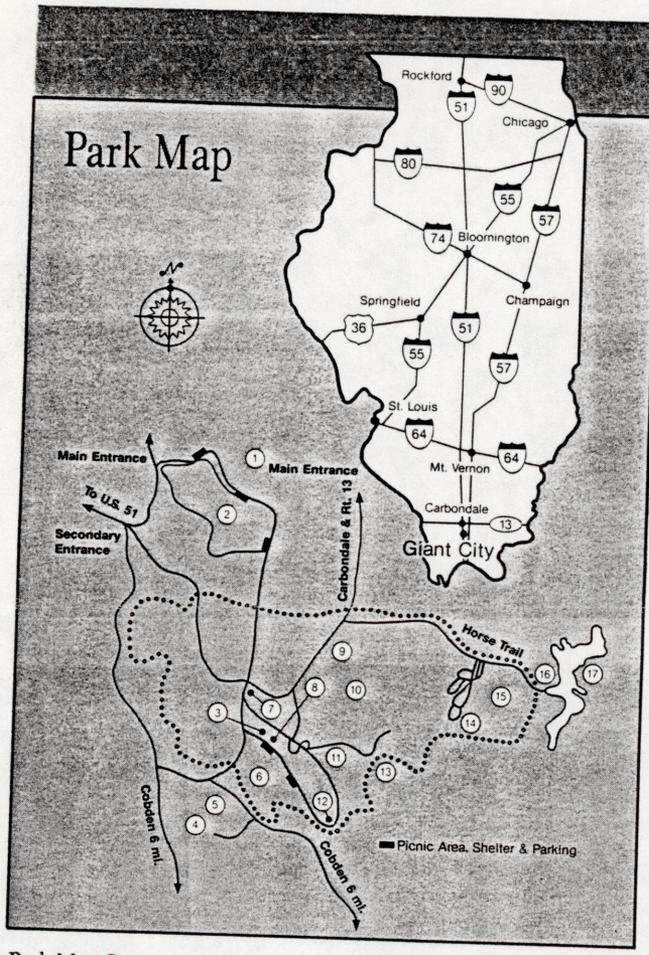
By the way, despite many problems with the 130 year-old Sanctuary, the renovation of it and the fine pipe organ was completed successfully and many compliments have come. My two terms as Council Chair are past and I have more time for other things. Our Smith family continues to grow with more marriages and births than deaths. What suggestions do you have for me to explore before the year 2,000? Do let me hear from you!

Sincerely,

Malcolm L. Smith

SMITH FAMILY REUNION UPDATE---OCT. 1, 1995

Giant City State Park, 12 miles southeast of Carbondale, Ill., has been selected as the location for the 1996 Smith Family Reunion, July 19-21. It's a lovely place with modern, air-conditioned cabins, central lodge, rustic environment, swimming and other recreational facilities; camping available. Mark your calendars now--we'll send full details and reservation forms early in 1996. We look forward to seeing you!



Park Map Sites

1. Stone Fort Nature Trail
2. Fern Rock Nature Preserve
3. Devils Standtable Nature Trail
4. Horse Campground
5. Pond
6. Giant City Nature Trail
7. Park Office
8. Post Oak Trail
9. Horse Riding Stable
10. Indian Creek Shelter Nature Trail
11. Softball Diamond
12. Lodge, Cabins & Parking
13. Group Campground
14. Tent Camping
15. Family Campground
16. Boat Launch & Parking
17. Little Grassy Lake

Lodge and Park Facilities

- 12 Historic Cabins
- 18 Prairie Cabins
- 4 Bluff Cabins
- Sheltered Swimming Pool
- Children's Pool
- Video Game Room
- Restaurant
- Cocktail Lounge & Bar
- Gift Shop
- Conference and Banquet Facilities
- Class A Campgrounds
- Horse Stables
- Hiking Trails & Scenic Overlooks
- Picnic Areas

Giant City Lodge
 P.O. Box 70, Makanda, IL 62958
 For Reservations Call 618-457-4921
 Open Mid-February Thru Mid-December

Photos By Greg Laun and Terry Farmer.
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