

CUEVA DE VILLA LUZ

Tabasco, Mexico

COMPASS and TAPE SURVEY By:

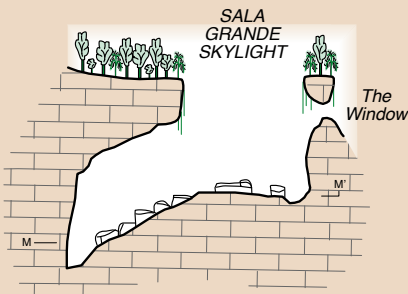
Jim Pisarowicz, Louise Hose, Kelly Mathis, Abby Wines, Noel Daniels, Chris Long, Dave Lester, Chuck Porter, Bob Addis, Fred Luiszer, Alda Del Porto, Mike Taylor, Carl Allen, Ricki Sheleon, Alan Cressler, Steve Alvarez, Doug Soroka, Lynn Kleina and Bob Richards.

SURVEYED DATES: January 1997, January & April 1998, January & August 2000.

CARTOGRAPHY BY: Bob Richards and Louise Hose

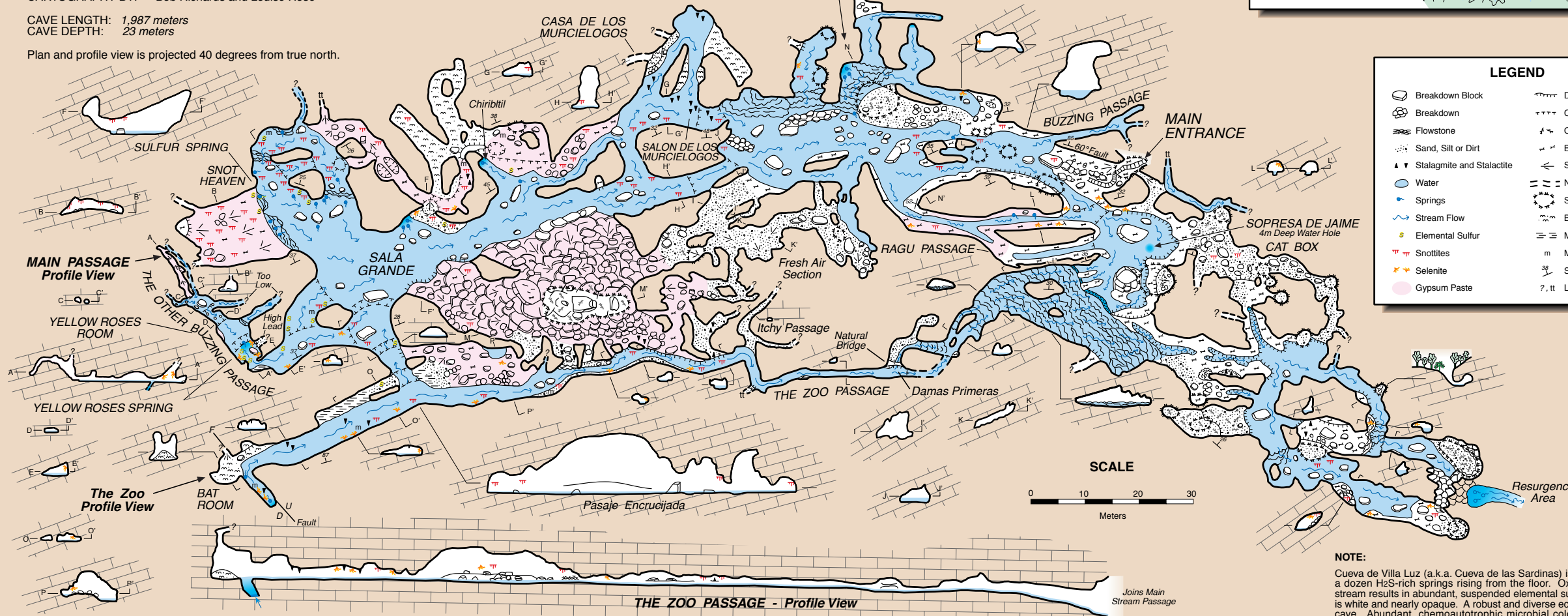
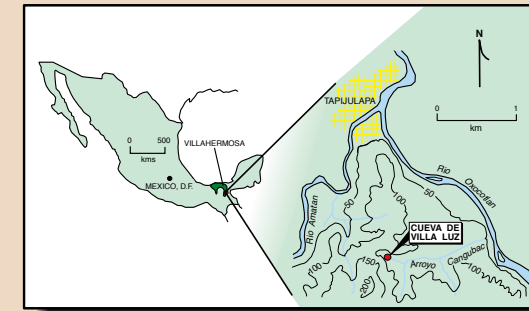
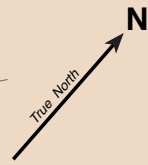
CAVE LENGTH: 1,987 meters
CAVE DEPTH: 23 meters

Plan and profile view is projected 40 degrees from true north.

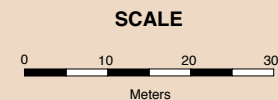


Midway Springs

PLAN VIEW



LEGEND



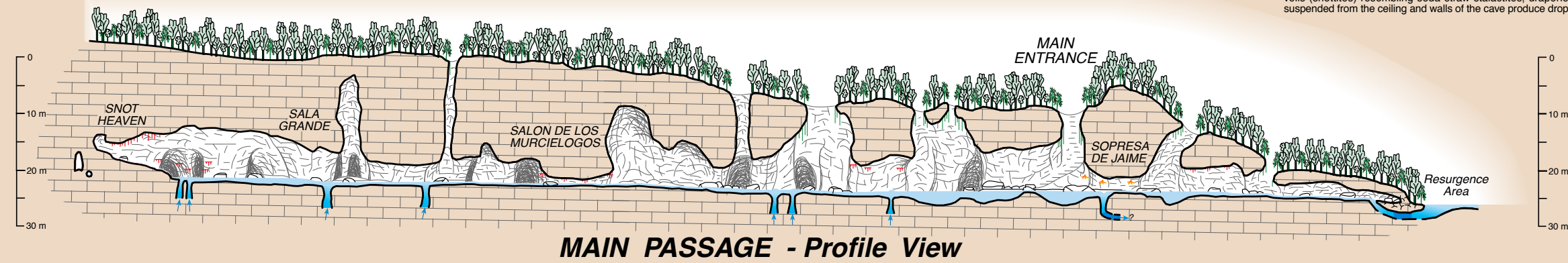
MAIN PASSAGE Profile View

THE ZOO Profile View

The Zoo Profile View

BAT ROOM Profile View

THE ZOO PASSAGE - Profile View



NOTE:
Cueva de Villa Luz (a.k.a. Cueva de las Sardinas) is a stream cave with over a dozen H₂S-rich springs rising from the floor. Oxidation of the H₂S in the stream results in abundant, suspended elemental sulfure in the stream, which is white and nearly opaque. A robust and diverse ecosystem thrives within the cave. Abundant, chemoautotrophic microbial colonies are ubiquitous and apparently act as the primary producers to the cave's ecosystem. Microbial veils (snottites) resembling soda straw stalactites, draperies, and "u-loops" suspended from the ceiling and walls of the cave produce drops of sulfuric acid.

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