

OLD ROADS

by Oliver Jervis

The Nickajack Trail is part of the Cisca Trail that went from St Augustine, Florida to near Manchester (probably Stone Fort). There may have been a connecting trail from that point to the Natches Trace. The Nickajack portion of the trail begins near Bridgeport, Alabama. The trail comes up Cave Cove on the south slope of the mountain crosses the top of the plateau and descends the north slope east of Forrest Point into Layne's Cove. Parts of the trail on the north slope are discernable. The trail is depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey Map of Burrow Cove Quadrangle.

The Hardbarger or "Hardboggin" road is the same as the Moffat Road or County Road 2. It went from the Big Spring (later Wonder Cave) across Layne's Cove up the north slope of the mountain to the North Gate of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly. Parts of it are incorporated into a Monteagle Sunday School nature trail complex on the north slope of the mountain. There is a red bar gate at U.S. Highway 41 above the horseshoe curve where a part of the old road remains. Canvas pipes were laid along the side of this road to transport water from the Big Spring to reservoirs on top of the mountain at Warren Point.

Braggs Defeat Road may have been the Moffat Road, but more likely was a road that went up the mountain at Sunset Rock which is also known as "Bragg's Point". (see page 107 "John Gamp or Coves and Cliffs of the Cumberlands" by Elizabeth Wilkins Purnell, 1901 Gospel Advocate)