

## THE GULLY


What was the gully to you? (the boundaries) So: 17th So West: top of the gully edge North: probably about Browning  
East: top of the Gully as far as we dared go. Sheep grazed there when I was little.

Where did you go in the gully? (play, hide, explore, etc) see attached map.

What was it like on the edge of the gully? mostly tall grass (for making hidden pathways in, or bushes or people's property and their yards, and some desert-like ground.  
Was the edge part of your gully experience?

Yes, especially when I was very small and not allowed down into the gully. It was also my best place to catch horny toads

What did the gully look like? Full of bushes, trees, water (creek) space, rocks, pathways, <sup>tumble weeds</sup> - See attached map.


(plants, animals, land formations) We saw lots of insects, but I remember very few animals. Perhaps honey toads and mice were the most prevalent.  the  
What do you remember being allowed to do in the gully? also some snakes and many birds.

Play, discover, wander, hide, run, climb, imagine, concoct, slide, etc, etc.  
Who did you go (play, etc.) with in the gully? Mostly brothers and sisters - and some friends who lived close around.

Who else did you meet in the gully? Sometimes groups of kids from areas further away. The prisoners from the jail worked there sometimes. With black/white stripped clothes and ball and chains.

How often were you in the gully? Many times per week. But not on Sunday's.

Did you go into the gully year round? Yes. We found as much to do in the snow and ice as we did in the sun.

 the clay cliffs are no longer there, but we adored playing on them and making pathways around them. (hard to explain)

Was there anything special about the gully to you? *To me — the gully was my extended home. When I was older I was even known as "Gully Girl."*  
Anything else?

I have always loved, loved, loved the gully!!!

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Y Further explanation for attached map.

pencil = map showing land, streets, <sup>and some</sup> buildings that were not there when I was little.

pen = general places where we played some games, etc.  
(in reality we played many more things than are mentioned here.) see over this page

blue = creek

green = bushes, etc.  
willows  
trees

Map drawn by Alice Cannon Schmidt  
age 77

Jan. 2007

\* possible correlated map, <sup>of gully</sup> drawn by me at @ age 13

Note: #1 explanation of 'Beau Geste.' . Movie about French Foreign Legion in forts fighting the desert Arabs. We acted this out — usually boys against girls.

Note: #2

list of remembered experiences the gully afforded me, particularly nature in "real" — not just books.

- .. picked watercress
- .. admired sego and sand lilies.
- .. collected rock, leaf, bug and flower specimens.
- .. observed nature as the yearly seasons changed.
- .. lay back against the hill to watch cloud formations change forms.
- .. watched birds (up close) eat, sing, build nests, protect eggs, hatch babies.
- .. observed nature's endless variety of leaves and grasses.
- .. found out the effects of stinging nettle and poison ivy (the hard way.)
- .. be tutored by observing nature's ways of adapting to adverse conditions.
- .. blew dandelion and milkweed seeds into the wind.
- .. made mud pies
- .. developed physical skills of using my body on various terrains and climbing trees.
- .. waded and played in the water (creek)
- .. made various types of huts.
- .. helped put out <sup>grass</sup> fire once with neighborhood bucket brigade.
- .. sailed leaves, pods (even written messages) down creek to see how far they would go.

\*#6 Cave area

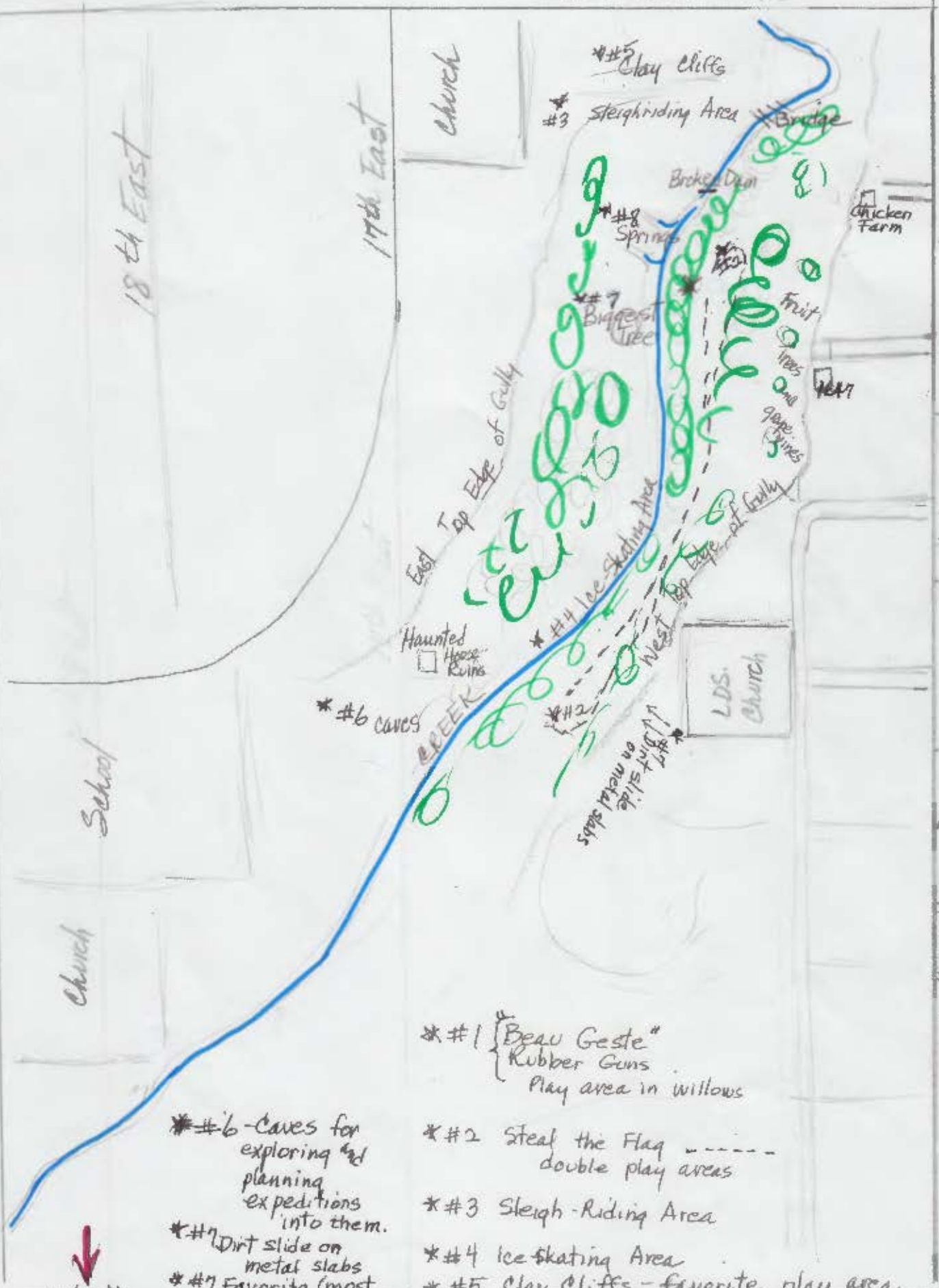
17th East

19th East

18th East

17th East

16th East



\*#1 { "Beau Geste"  
Rubber Guns  
Play area in willows

\*#6 - Caves for exploring and planning expeditions into them.  
\*#7 Dirt slide on metal slabs

\*#2 Steal the Flag -----  
double play areas

\*#3 Sleigh-Riding Area

\*#7 Favorite (most challenging) tree for climbing  
\*#8 Springs - discovery of nature area

\*#4 Ice-skating Area

\*#5 Clay Cliffs - favorite play area

18th East