

CARL L. CHINNERY

Nature Trail

at Unity Village



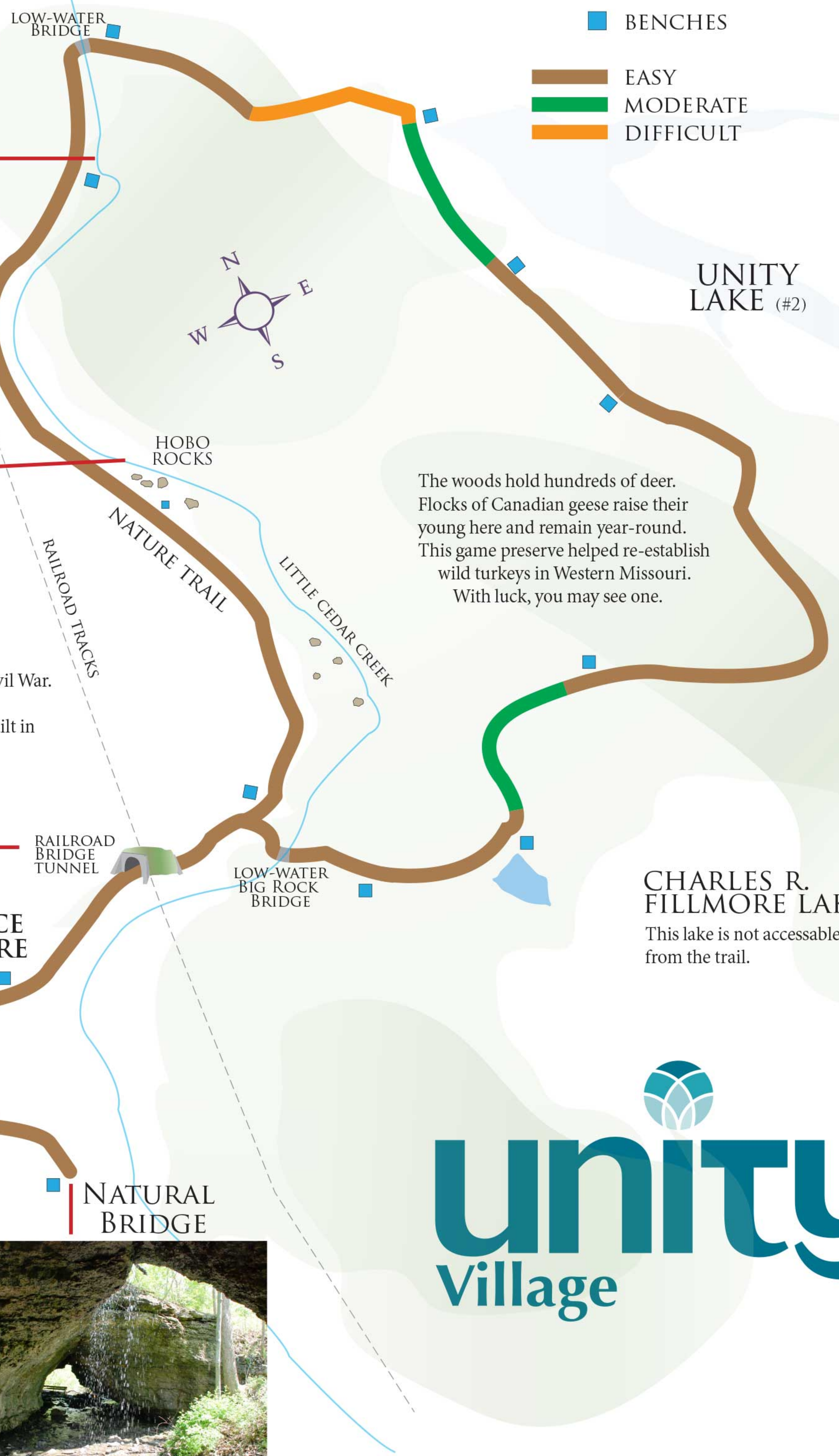
HOBOLYPHICS OR HOBO CODE ROCKS

These rock carvings were created during the Great Depression (1929-1941) by nomadic workers (Hobos) who traveled by train. They carved codes and their names at each train stop. The codes contain information on places to camp, find a meal, or dangers that lay ahead. Look carefully to see the names and symbols carved in these stones.



RAILROAD HISTORY

Railroad activity in this area has links to the time of the Civil War. The original railroad track is the current trail you walk that follows Little Cedar Creek. This railroad bridge was built in 1945, approximately the same time the railroad track was moved to where it is now.



Little Cedar Creek merges with Little Blue River a few miles north of this trail. The stream goes underground around Colbern Road.

The woods hold hundreds of deer. Flocks of Canadian geese raise their young here and remain year-round. This game preserve helped re-establish wild turkeys in Western Missouri. With luck, you may see one.

CHARLES R. FILLMORE LAKE (#1)
 This lake is not accessible from the trail.

ENTRANCE TO NATURE TRAIL

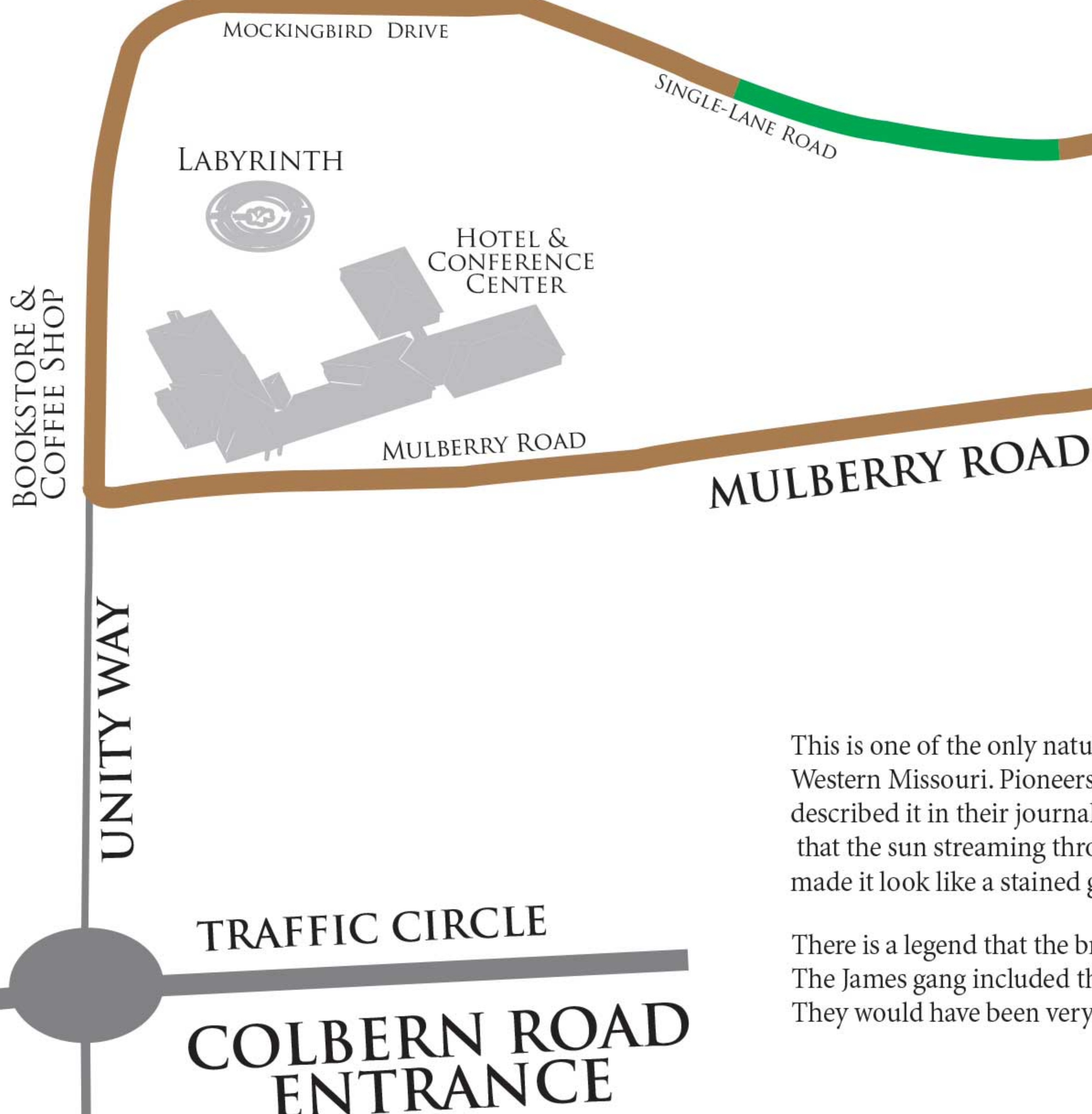


This is one of the only natural bridges in Western Missouri. Pioneers traveling west described it in their journals. One writer said that the sun streaming through the opening made it look like a stained glass window.

There is a legend that the bridge was a hideout for the outlaw Jesse James. The James gang included the Younger brothers, whose father owned a nearby farm. They would have been very familiar with the surrounding countryside.



The length of the entire trail, as shown, is 3.56 miles.



TRAFFIC CIRCLE

COLBERN ROAD ENTRANCE