

**MASTODON ROAD LOG**  
**John Chiment, Cornell University**

**Actual directions are in boldface**, points of interest in regular typeface. These are **not** stops!

**Geneva to Demonstration site via P.R.I.**

- 0.0 Hobart and William Smith Colleges. The corner of Pulteney and Rts. 5 and 20.  
**Turn right on Rts. 5/20.**
- 0.5 Ramada Inn. **Follow Rts. 5/20 east.**
- 0.8 Lakeshore Park. "The Geneva" lake tour boat on the right. To the left, the Fingerlakes Railroad (a privately owned railroad with 100 miles of track).
- 2.5 **Take Rt. 96a right to Ovid/Ithaca. Proceed south on Rt. 96a.**
- 3.3 Crows Nest Restaurant
- 3.8 Rose Hill Mansion. Greek revival style mansion. Built in the early 1800s. Site of many early agricultural experimental plantings.
- 4.1 Historical Marker commemorating the Clinton-Sullivan Campaign of the Revolutionary War. In August 1779 four thousand soldiers of the Continental Army marched out of Pennsylvania against the Iroquois. **The Drain Tile Museum**, just behind the marker, commemorates the introduction of drain tiles to the western hemisphere.
- 7.6 New Land Winery
- 9.1 The white plastic tanks are connected to **natural gas wells.**
- 9.9 Seneca Army Depot. Decommissioned, **former home of nuclear warhead missiles.** Now the home of Kids Peace organization and N.Y. State Correctional Facility. Home to a herd of albino deer.
- 13.8 Sampson State Park. Former Navy and Air Force training area.
- 14.2 Old Seneca Army Airbase. Reported to have the longest runway on the East Coast.
- 15.2.1 Kendai-i, site of an Iroquois village destroyed by the Clinton-Sullivan Campaign.

- 17.5 Willard. Originally a hospital during the Civil War (War of Northern Aggression). In 1864 it became the first N.Y. State Land Grant University. Later it was a psychiatric hospital and is now a prison for drug offenders (don't pick up hitchhikers).
- 19.9 **Ovid. Turn right at the flashing red light/stop sign. IGNORE the Ithaca sign. Go straight ahead to Ovid. Stay on Rt. 96a to Watkins Glen.**
- 20.2 Look at the cute County Buildings on the left. The courthouse, Sheriff's office and library are known as "the three bears".
- 20.5 **Continue south on Rts. 96a/414.** Keep an eye out for horse-drawn Amish conveyances.
- 24.5 **Lodi. Turn left on Rt. 96a at the Eagle Hotel.**
- 26.1 Drainage divide between Seneca and Cayuga Lakes. Notice the flat horizon of the Devonian seabeds.
- 29.1 Interlaken. **Summer home of the Westinghouse family and Rod Serling. Site of the infamous sponge fossil find at Mike Potts' service station** (see exhibit at PRL).
- 29.5 **Turn right on Rt 96 south.**
- 31.1 Interlaken. Across the lake is Milliken Power Plant. Coal-fired plant supplied by a train from Pennsylvania.
- 33.3 Hamlet of Covert. Covert Bed & Breakfast.
- 35.5 Trumansburg. Tompkins County Line.
- 37.5 Smith Woods. Large trees in an old-growth forest.
- 37.7 **Turn left at Taughannock Falls State Park onto Taughannock Park Road.** See Taughannock creek on the right.
- 38.3 Former home of Ithaca College Professor Moog. Father of the Moog Synthesizer, used by the Beatles on the Abbey Road album.
- 38.5 **Kimberlite dikes** intersect the creek bedrock. These were discovered following the flood of 1935. Diamond mine opened in 1935-36. Sorry folks, no diamonds.
- 38.8 Follow the road to the right noting how the creek's path is joint-controlled.
- 38.9 **Turn left into Taughannock State Park.**

- 39.5 Taughannock Falls overlook on the right (restrooms, water fountain). The bumper-stops are concretions from the Tully Limestone. **Continue downhill.**
- 40.3 **Turn right on Rt. 89 south.**
- 40.4 Taughannock Creek Delta.  
Quick! Look right to see
- 40.5 Lower Taughannock Falls, spilling over the Tully Limestone.  
**SHARP RIGHT, NOW!**
- 40.6 **Turn right on Gorge Road.** As you climb, be sure to notice the precipitous drop into the gorge on your right.
- 42.3 **Turn left onto Jacksonville Road at the stop sign.** This area was settled by Quakers in the 1820s.
- 43.7 **Turn left onto Rt. 96S.** The houses on your left were temporarily abandoned because of well contamination.
- 45.6 **Spikes BBQ. Best BBQ in the area.** Pick up a bumper sticker that says, "You Can't Beat Spike's Meat".
- 46.0 **Bellwether Hard Cider** (you can stop for a sample...)
- 46.7 **ISA Babcock Chicken Hatcheries.** Currently owned by a French company, this small hatchery produces a large portion of the world's laying hens.
- STOP#1 PRI**
- 48.6 **Turn Left onto road IMMEDIATELY after the traffic light at the hospital.** Park at the first brick and stone building. This is the **Paleontological Research Institution**, a former International Order of Odd Fellows orphanage, where you will meet such odd fellows as Cornell's **Big Red Mastodon** (aka the Chemung Gilbert Mastodon), PRI's **Hyde Park Mastodon**, and the skeleton of a Right Whale.  
**Continue south on Rt. 96.**
- 49.2 View of Cornell University on Ithaca's East Hill.
- Hill. 49.9 View of Ithaca College on Ithaca's South Hill.
- 5017** Welcome to the Octopus! **Proceed to the junction of Rt. 13 (Fulton St.) and Rt. 96. Turn right onto Rt. 13.**

- 51.0 **Follow Rt. 13 south- bear right.** During the flood of '94 the Tops/Wegman's parking lot to your right was a fishing and water-skiing paradise for about a day and a half.
- 52.5 To the right is the proposed site of a "big box" store.
- 52.7 To the left is the entrance to Buttermilk Falls State Park
- 53.2 To the right is the site of a **Tutelo Indian village**. The Tutelo were subject to the Iroquois, and were granted a sort of "reservation" here. The Clinton-Sullivan Campaign wiped out the village in 1779.
- 54.1 The entrance to R.A. Treman State Park. **Stay in the right lane; follow Rt. 13 south toward Elmira.**
- 54.4 On the left, the building with the amazing color and architecture is the Gables Inn. It was originally called **"Sunny Sides" and was the home of the founder of The Agway and P&C stores**. It has survived several incarnations as a restaurant.
- 57.4 Town of Newfield. Devonian shale exposed in road cuts.
- 58.7 On the right Arnot Forest, Cornell research facility.
- 60.2 On the right, Connecticut Hill, highest point in Tompkins County. **In the 1780s the subject of a land dispute between New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.**
- 63.9 On the left- almost anything you can imagine in plaster or concrete for your lawn!
- 65.7 On the right is old-growth forest that has never been logged.
- 66.7 **Continue south on Rt. 13 at the traffic light, BUT BE PREPARED TO TURN RIGHT SOON!** New Harley-Davidson dealership on your left.
- 66.8 **Turn right on Schuyler County Road 14.** This is the old Hinman Turnpike. Don't worry- they don't charge anymore.
- 70.2 This 3-WAY intersection is known as "The Corners". It marks the boundary of the Watkins-Flint purchases of 1795. **Continue south on C.R. 14.**
- 73.9 **Go left at the stop sign onto Rt. 14.**
- 74.4 On the right is **Catherine Creek, a world famous trout stream**. It used to be the Chemung Canal, the only canal in this area to cross the Susquehanna/St. Lawrence drainage divide.

## STOP #2 DEMONSTRATION SITE

Look for sign and Cornell Van (dark blue van)

**76.4 Turn left and park at the [Demonstration Site for GPR, GPS, and Coring Demonstrations](#).** This is an open grassy area on the left.

**This is the official southern end of the field trip. If you continue south on Rt. 14, you will reach Elmira/Horseheads. If you go north on Rt. 14, you will reach Watkins Glen and eventually, Geneva.**

**To go back to Watkins Glen and Geneva (Hobart-William Smith)**

**7.64 Proceed north on Rt. 14**

78.9 Montour Falls. **Do not turn right. Continue on Rt. 14.**

79.1 To the right is Havana Glen.

79.2 Crossing Catherine Creek.

79.4 The Fire Academy. Formerly Cook's Academy, one of Cornell's competitors for land grant university in 1864.

79.9 **Turn left at the traffic light and follow the business district signs.** Straight ahead is She-Qua-Ga falls.

80.2 **On the right are two unusual all-brick Greek Revival buildings. Turn left (south on Genesee st.), park and visit [She-Qua-Ga Tumbling Waters](#). Go north on Genesee St. to Catherine St. Follow Catherine and turn left at the intersection with Rt. 14.**

80.7 On the left, Devonian shale in the road cuts and waterfalls. On the right, Queen Catherine Marsh.

81.2 Chefs Restaurant.

82.1 Watkins Glen. **Stay on Rt. 14 north.**

82.3 Pizza Hut.

82.6 Entrance to Watkins Glen State Park.

82.7 The **[original finish line for the Watkins Glen Grand Prix](#).**

83.0 **On the right, Glen Mountain Market and the Watkins**

Hotel. Start the Seneca Lake Wine Trail.

- 85.4 Cascada Winery. **Stay on Rt. 14 north to Geneva.**
- 86.6 Lakewood Vineyards.
- 87.2 Arcadian Winery.
- 89.0 Yates/Schuyler County line. Earliest European settlement in the Seneca Lake Area. Jemima Wilkins religious sect settled in the late 1700s.
- 91.2 Fulkerson Winery.
- 91.8 Glenora Winery.
- 92.9 Freedom Village.
- 93.3 Barrel People Winery
- 96.9 Weimar Winery
- 98.3 **Meadery** (F. Y. I. if you've never attended a Renaissance Fair: mead is a drink made from fermented honey).
- 101.0 Torrey Ridge Winery
- 101.5 Prejean Winery.
- 101.6 River cobble house
- 102.5 Longpoint. Salvation Army camp.
- 103.0 Look out in the lake. The **U.S. Navy's Underwater Sonar Testing Research Facility.**
- 104.5 Dresden Power Plant. Coal-fired plant supplied by Pennsylvania Coal.
- 106.8 Anthony Road Winery
- 107.6 Seneca Shore Wine Cellar
- 108.6 Fox Run Winery
- 108.9 Cobblestone house

- 111.1 Historical Marker. Clinton-Sullivan Campaign.
- 104.7 Spinnakers (Seafood- good food, good view).
- 106.1 Bellhurst Castle (hotel & restaurant).
- 106.8 Geneva on the Lake (hotel & 4 star restaurant).
- 107.5 Hobart and William Smith Colleges.