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Explore Mackinac's Forgotten Features by Bicycle August 5

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. — Mackinac State Historic Parks will host Mackinac's Forgotten Features, a guided bike ride, at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 5.

While Mackinac Island has many well-known natural attractions, like Arch Rock and Sugarloaf Rock, there are several "forgotten" sites the island has to offer. This guided bike ride, led by Kyle Bagnall, Mackinac State Historic Parks' Park Naturalist, will allow guests to learn about features that are long lost or forgotten, such as the Musical Well or Dousman's Distillery. Guests will also hear unfamiliar tales of familiar locations, such as Skull Cave and Friendship's Altar.

"This special bicycle tour highlights forgotten features which have faded from memory, no longer exist, or have simply been forgotten," Bagnall said. "Some people may know of old attractions such as Deer Park, Fairy Arch, or Scott's Cave, but few have listened for drowsy tinklings at Cow-Bell Point or drank sweet tunes from the Musical Well."

Bagnall will share these tales and many more over a bike ride of about seven miles. The starting point of the ride is the Fort Mackinac Avenue of Flags, behind Fort Mackinac, on Huron Road. Participants will need a good working bike, a drink of water, and a sense of adventure. The tour will end back downtown at Marquette Park around 7:30 p.m.

More information can be found at mackinacparks.com. The picture included is a Stereoview of Thimble Cave under Fairy Arch, credited to Mackinac State Historic Parks. Additional pictures are available upon request.

Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, the Biddle House, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, Historic Downtown Mackinac, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or online at www.mackinacparks.com.

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