

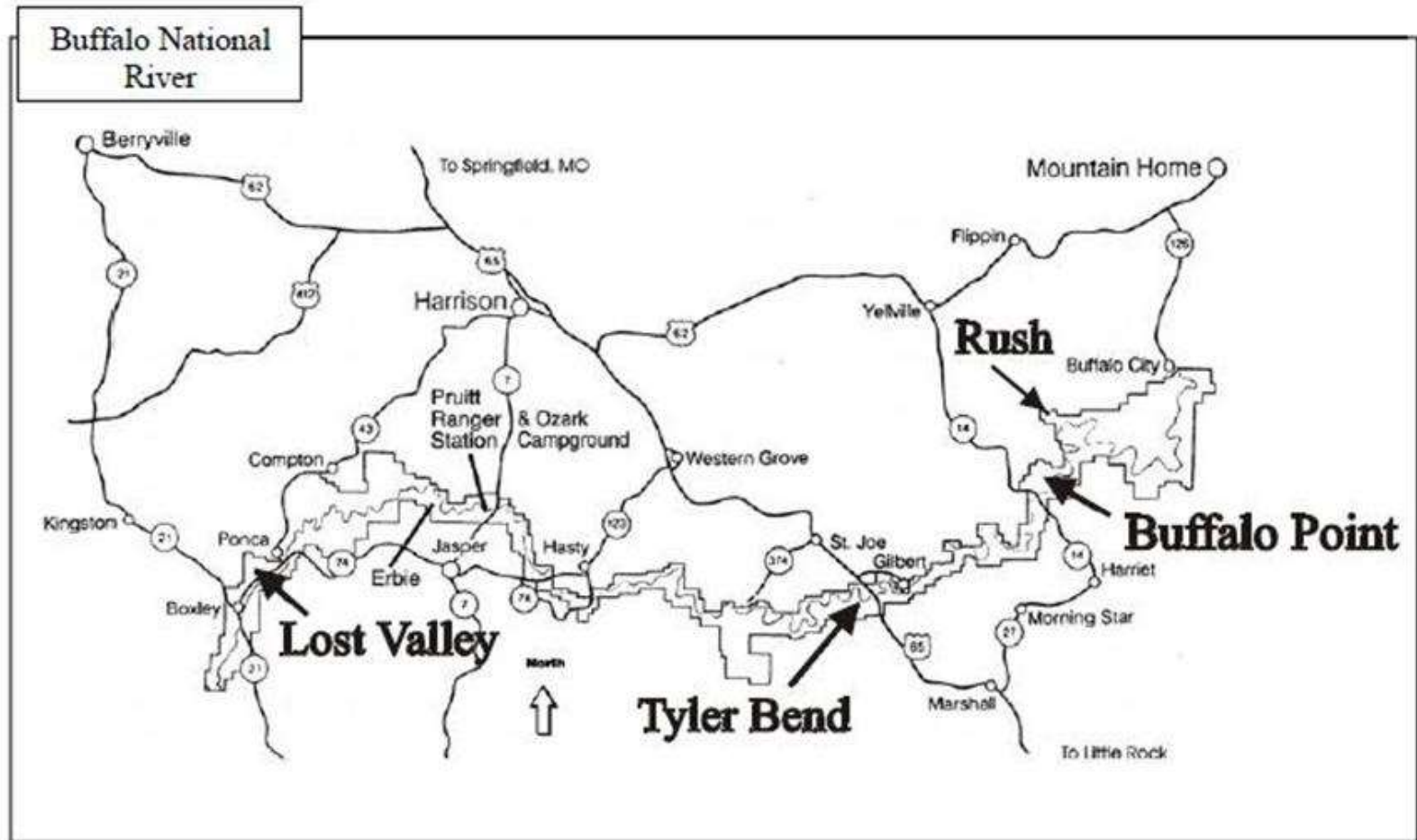
“Beaver Jim” Homesite and Jim



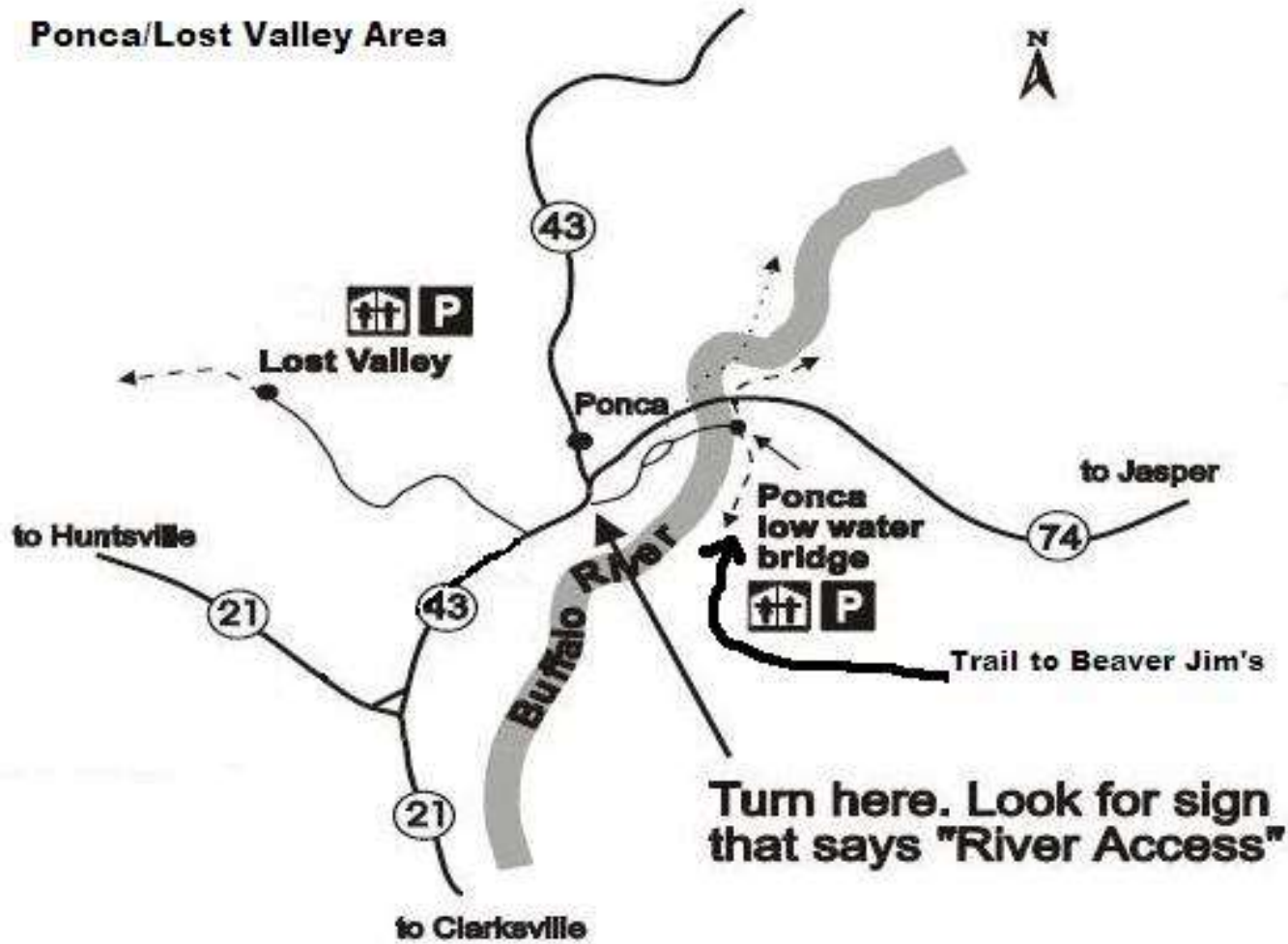
Exploring Beaver Jim's Homestead





- A short hike up from the river leads to the homesite. Explore the home, barn and farm to learn about the pioneering ways of the Ozark region's earliest settlers. What is revealed in the clues you can find here?

Beaver Jim Villines' cabin is in the Ponca area near Lost Valley



Ponca/Lost Valley Area



-  Paved state road
-  Unpaved road
-  Hiking trail
-  Horse/biking trail



Settlers first arrived in the Buffalo River valley in the 1830's to discover little more than narrow pathways made by those who preceded them. As more and more settlers arrived they began to settle the "benches" overlooking the river and one of these settlers was James Villines, soon to become known as "Beaver Jim" because of his talent for trapping beaver.

Homesites like the one built by James Villines provided clues to a former way of life, and evidence of the persistence of pioneers who paved the way for others.



Evidence of the way the settlers lived can be seen on the cabin walls.



“Beaver Jim” and his wife Sarah’s homesite is protected and preserved by the National Park Service to ensure the faces, names, and traditions of early settlers are not forgotten.

