



The Wetumpka Crater Profile Tour (~4.5 miles, ~1-1.5 hours including viewing). The Red Line Tour on the Map.

First Stop--Starting Point and View of the Rim

Beginning here at the Sports Complex, we see a great 1-3 miles distant view of the curving West Rim of the Crater rising up from the flat ground you see in every other direction (photo above).

This Rim is the highest surviving part of the Crater, rising to 587 feet at its maximum, estimated to be about half its original height. It curves around out of sight to the left, north end while the south end is essentially eroded away, a few hillocks remaining, but also out of sight from this vantage point. We are in the local total destruction zone, where ejecta rained down upon the seascape all those millions of years ago.

What we want to do is approach the Crater as linearly as we can from here, up to near its highest rim point, and view across the Crater's center to the far rim. So our next three stops are closer inwards to the elevated rim, in stages, viewing parts of the Crater's external anatomy.

Second Stop—Exposed Ejecta Field

We will be going through the residential, west-of-the-river part of Wetumpka, crossing the bridge over the Coosa River, and parking in the commercial eastern part of the town.



Exit the Sports Complex turning left onto busy AL-14, traveling west for 0.8 miles to a traffic light at Holtville Road (Route 111) where you will turn left (South).

In 0.7 miles the road veers a little to the right and changes name to North Bridge Street.

In 0.5 miles it reaches its end at a traffic light at the west end of the bridge over the river, where North, East and West Bridge Streets all meet.

Turn left at the light and go over the bridge (named the Bibbs Graves Bridge).

Go straight-slightly left at the end of the bridge and find a parking spot. Do not turn right at the end of the bridge!

Walk back towards the bridge and go onto it. The view over the Coosa River is nice, with the flat west side and its church steeples on one side and commercial buildings nestled up against the rising foothills leading up to the Crater's Rim on the other, eastern side. As you get near the center of the bridge span, look down; you will see linear rock features in the river, especially on the East side. These are exposed materials that had