

Jon Clement continued

When I hiked the trail in 1974, it measured about 2050 miles in length. Federal legislation in the mid '80s enabled the Appalachian Trail Conservancy to coordinate the acquisition of private lands along the route and provide a corridor to protect it and get it off roads where possible. The trail is now about 130 miles longer than when I did it.

In the 1970's, 770 people hiked the trail end-to-end in one year. I was solo for most of the trip, but my former wife hiked about 500 miles with me in Georgia, portions of Virginia, the state of NY, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont, a portion of New Hampshire, and the final five miles in Maine. The following year she completed a solo hike of the Long Trail in Vermont.

A more in depth account of Jon's journey can be seen on our website as part of "The Journal Project" at <http://www.atmuseum.org/1974-clement.htm>



*Early April along the trail in the south
Photo courtesy Jon Clement*



*Jon strolls over the bald of North Carolina and encounters a cow.
Photo courtesy Jon Clement*