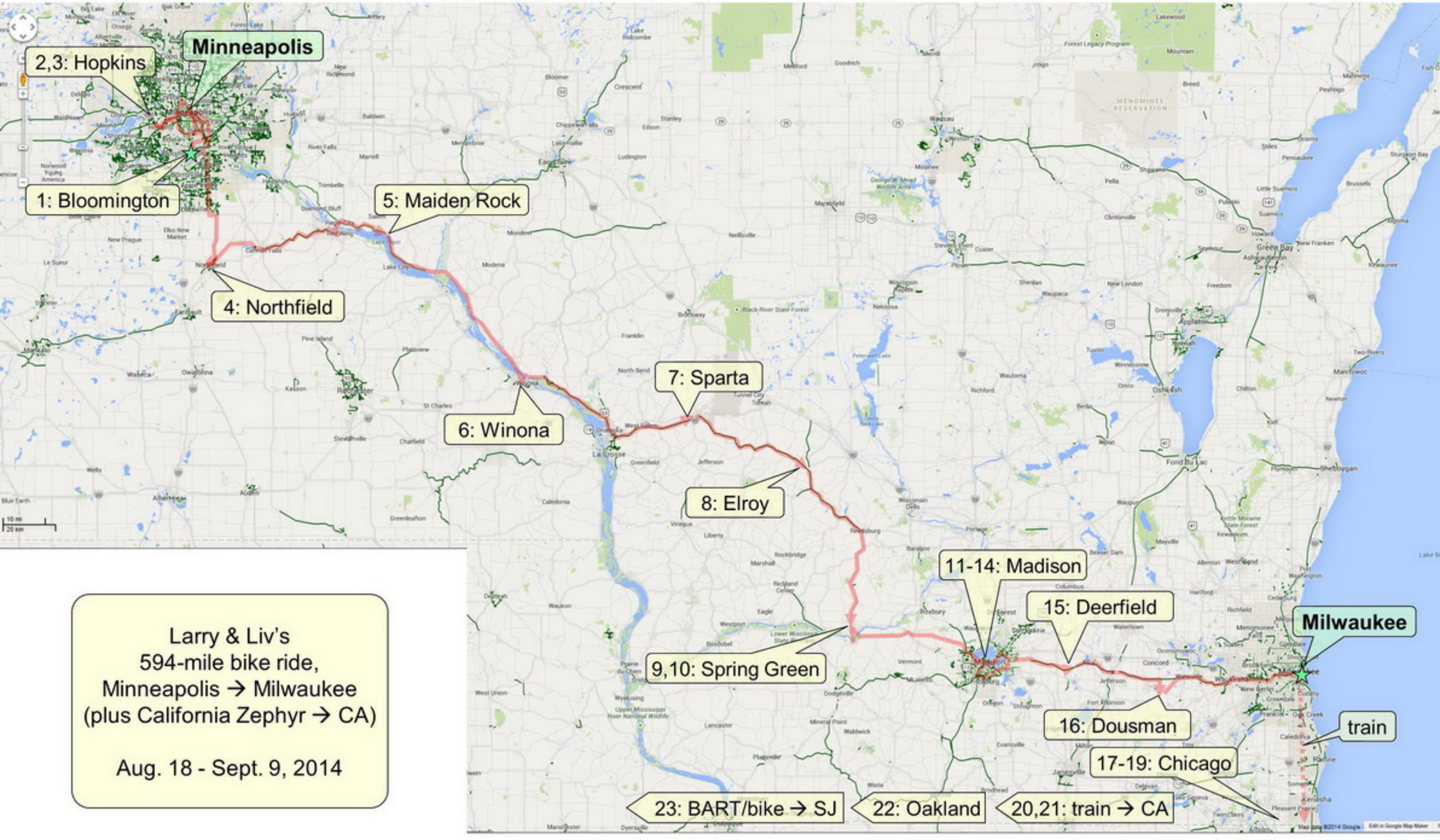


Larry & Liv's
594-mile bike ride,
Minneapolis → Milwaukee
(plus California Zephyr → CA)

Aug. 18 - Sept. 9, 2014

Day 1: fly to Minneapolis

arrive after dark.

Day 2: assemble bikes, ...

... try to find way around town, ...

... along broad trails and parkways ...

... past a waterfall ...

... and thru strange neighborhoods ...

... and beyond downtown ...

... to visit Linda and Peter

(and their cat)

Day 3: explore Minneapolis

(our travels were monitored by a drone...)

the University of Minnesota

the old flour-milling district

and a revitalized warehouse district

bike lanes downtown

and bike paths

separated bike and pedestrian paths.

Minneapolis has lakes ...

... that are well-enjoyed.

a nice stream-side trail ...

... leads to a Russian art museum.

a very nice city.

Day 4: head out for Northfield.

cycle _thru_ town

to see the old Grain Exchange

cycle down along the Mississippi River

Hey! the Midwest is supposed to be flat!

SPEED
LIMIT
55

Rebecca and Andrew.

Day 5: swing into action

tour downtown Northfield on the way out

RIVER SUITES
FOGGY BOTTOMS PUB
FOGGY BOTTOMS PUB

fields of corn:
typical Minnesota countryside

lunch at a small-town diner

the start of the Cannon Valley Trail

trail crosses a number of old trestles.

people (and their beer) tubing down the Cannon River

the Cannon River

We return to the Mississippi River ...

... in Red Wing, MN.

NO WAKE
We'll cross the Mississippi on that bridge.

you get a great view of the Mississippi from it.

We're in Wisconsin now.

Wisconsin has corn, too!

TABOR

Lake Pepin on the Mississippi

stay in Maiden Rock, WI, ...

... at a converted schoolhouse Bed-n-breakfast.

The bedrooms were halves of a classroom.

This way
to the
Roof

The teachers' lounge?

the cafeteria?

price included free beers

Day 6: back on the road.

STOCKHOLM
TOWN
MUTUAL
INSURANCE CO.
Established 1872
out of the blue
GALLERY
POST OFFICE
Stockholm, WI
54769
LIMIT
30
GALLERY
Tribune

bluffs along the river

we followed "the Great River Road"

as did a number of motorcylists

... and trains!

waterlilies in the ponds

FUN 'N THE SUN XIV
HOUSEBOAT VACATIONS 888-343-5670 www.funsun.com

small-town Wisconsin

a bald eagle

cross the Mississippi back to Minnesota

and stay in Winona.

Day 7: back in Wisconsin.

house-boats on the Mississippi

Google maps recommends _this_ as the way to the main road?!

(but the main road has more traffic...)

his & hers

the start of 4 consecutive trails!

Coors Light
MARLBORO
Newport
$7.09
ZOOM
NEXT REGISTER PLEASE.
CHEESE CHASE
Winona Daily News
no fancy sit-down lunch here!

frog

bug

fish

B
1
5

the trails follow old railroad routes.

WEST SALEM
WELCOME

some of the railroad routes were quite straight

WISCONSIN
OFFICIAL MARKER
ELROY-SPARTA STATE TRAIL
This 32 mile state trail was formerly the mainline of the Chicago and North Western Railway. The conversion from "rail to trail" represented a new concept in recreational development. Utilizing the abandoned railbed, it was the first trail of its kind in the United States to be designated a National Recreation Trail by the United States Department of Interior. The trail is primarily used for bicycling, hiking and snowmobiling. Passing through scenic areas, it links the communities of Elroy, Kendall, Wilton, Norwalk and Sparta. Added attractions are its three tunnels, the longest being 3,833 feet. Train service began in 1873 as steam locomotives hauled grain, livestock and passengers. Rail service ended in 1964. The trail was established by the Department of Natural Resources in 1965 and opened to the public in 1967.
Erected 1979
Day 8

Sparta Wisc. embraces bicycling

Welcome
to
Sparta
Bicycling
Capital of America

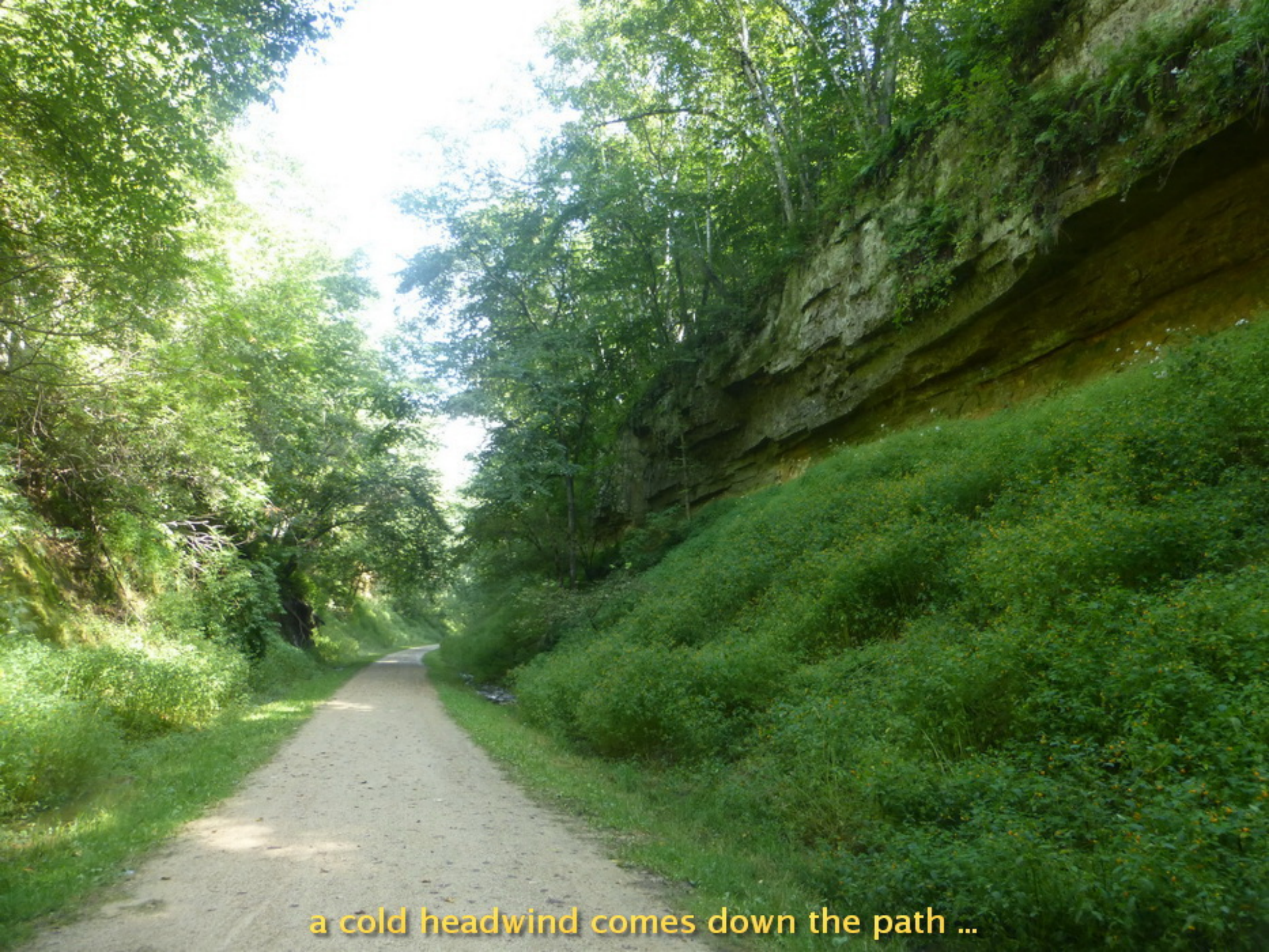
Ben Bikin'
Sparta, Wis.

MUSEUM
HIS
TORY
LIVES
HERE

bicycle sculpture

the Elroy-Sparta bike trail

cycling past cornfields on a hot-and-humid lazy day


a cold headwind comes down the path ...

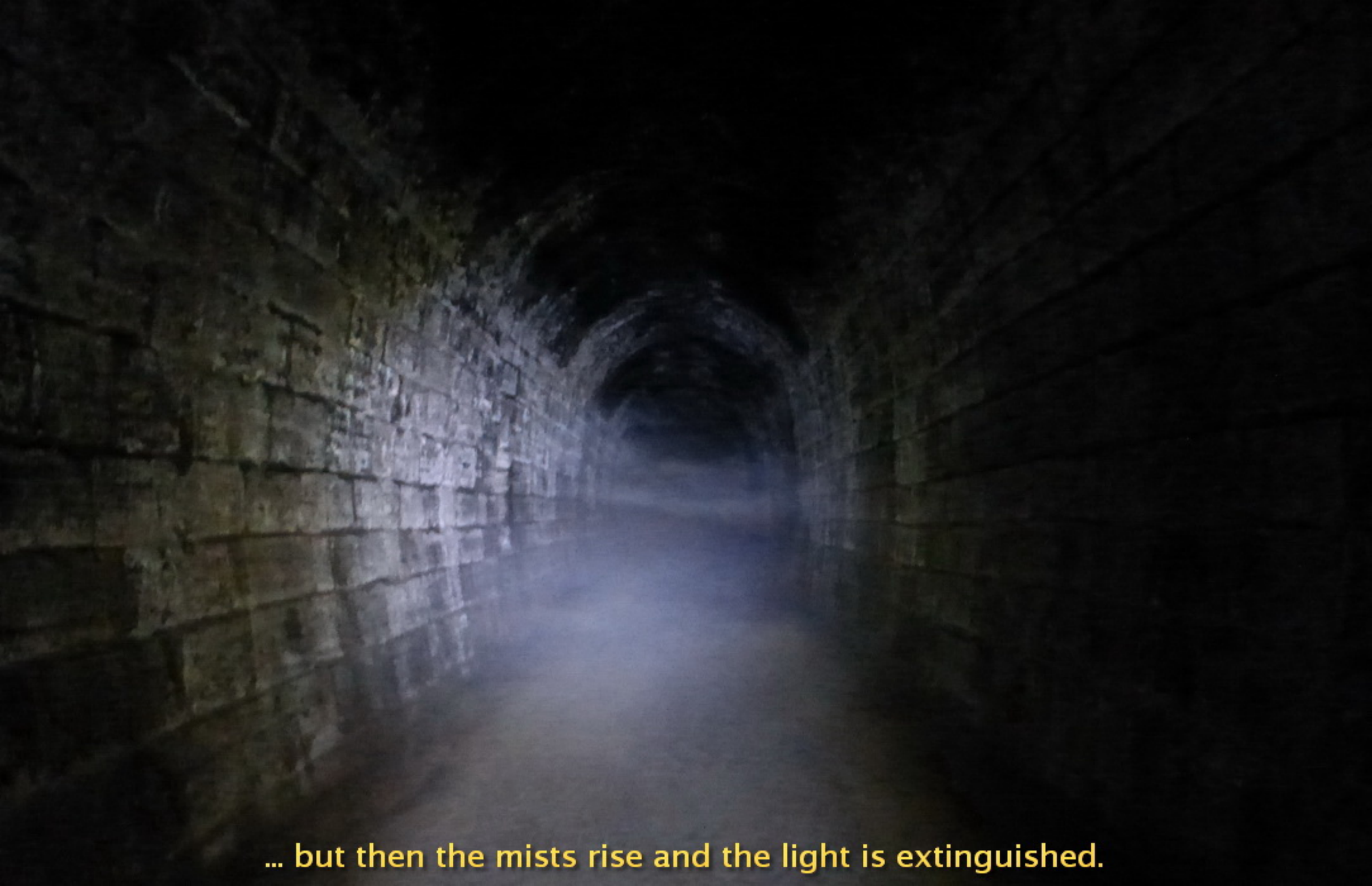
... cold air from the 1st of 3 tunnels

the tunnel-door-keeper's shack

every town is famous for something!

tunnel #2

we can see light at the end of the tunnel ...



... but then the mists rise and the light is extinguished.

emerging from the misty darkness.

corn.

more corn.

and more corn! Hey, where are the famous Wisconsin dairy cows?!

that's them?!

tunnel #3

... and more mists chasing us out as we leave.

the small town of Elroy
(so small, the only bar closed at 8 PM!)

Day 9:
the last of the 4 connected trails

the trail goes past a town

the towns welcome the bicyclists

the Baraboo River

a trail-side rest area

truckloads of corn!

end of the trails: back on the road again!

those aren't dairy cows!

our Norwegian friends will appreciate the Wisc. Highway naming system...

good local small-town beer

Day 10:
Stay in Spring Green to tour Taliesin

TALIESIN

Frank Lloyd Wright's gravestone, where he is not buried...

sandhill cranes

the Wisconsin River

cooling our feet after the tour

fancy digs for small-town Wisconsin!

Day 11: heavy rains are forecast, so we make a mad dash for Mad-City

Liv finally gets to see a bald eagle for herself

made it! (now, where are those forecast rains?)

Days 11-14 in Madison

new buildings on the Univ. of Wisc. campus

the marching band had left the field...

State Street -- always under construction!

our home-away-from-home: the new Fluno Center on campus.

we catch up with Gail for a visit on the Union Terrace

Ideal! Fine weather, no mosquitos, good beer!

some things haven't changed ...

100 BLOCK
100 BLOCK
NO TURN ON RE
MUSEUM

our first appartment: 642 State St.

our 2nd appartment: 525 State St.

(they did finally get a new fire escape out back!)

Sterling Hall, (former) home of the Physics Dept.

the Physics Museum

very well-designed bike racks!

"Revolution Cycles" -- aptly named for Mad-City!

Madison's Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Convention Center
(built decades after his death)

we joined Paul & Millie
for lunch

Madison has a number of beautiful bike paths in and around town!

1818

a peregrine falcon alongside the trail

an artfully designed bike/ped overcrossing
(note the corn motif in the railing)

a typical Madison street

a lakeside neighborhood park

Nick, a new student on campus, recognizes us (!) from his visit in Calif.

the Lakeshore Path on the UW campus

meet up w/ Frank at the place of his choosing: a wine-tasting.

Sarah

Madison is growing! (Note how the storefronts are designed to match...)

Saturday: Farmer's Market!

"Lady Wisconsin" faces Washington DC

the rain will just freshen the produce...

I'd been carrying that umbrella for 500 miles!

it's more fun to watch the rain from inside, say, the State Historic Museum

the original Union Terrace chairs are now in the museum...

site of many cheap dinners during grad school.

TATTOOS

NO
STOPPING
STANDING
PARKING
fresh
MADISON
MARKET

SCIENCE HALL

another perfect evening out on the Union Terrace

corner
600
BLOCK
600
BLOCK
DO NOT
ENTER
DO NOT
ENTER

w/ Frank & Gail at the top of the Fluno Center

Cherie & Mary Kay: just kids when I last saw them at Rolf & Diane's

Sunday: great day for a ride around the lake!

a wet muskrat by the lake

a wet Larry in the lake

the channel between lakes

the "A Taste of Madison" festival

corn!

RED ROCK
SALOON

Mifflin St, famous for its block-parties.

Day 15: take a few last photos before heading out of town ...

a-tractor-ive colors: John Deere green, Allis-Chalmers orange and yellow.

get your ducks in a line.

the chapel on State St. where we got married

DAILY ROSARY
6:00 PM
IN THE CHAPEL

203 211
exiles from Burning Man?

a small lending library...

Madison is a bike-friendly city!

SHARED ROAD
YIELD TO
BIKES
NO PARKING
10:30AM - 2PM
TUESDAYS
MAY 1 - NOV 15

BIKE BOULEVARD
E Wilson St

vacation traffic
headed for Chicago
(sure glad we're on bikes!)

the Glacial Drumlin Trail

visiting Ed & Jan

... and it _pours_ within an hour of our arrival!

it's cozy and dry inside!

want to eat? then help cook!

Ed & _some_ of his used vehicle collection...

Day 16: and we're off again!

another small town in Wisconsin

Hey! What happened to the road?!

Yay! After weeks and hundreds of miles in Wisconsin,
we _finally_ see some dairy cows!

Dave was off on business travel, but we get to visit w/ Brenda

Day 17: Bye, Brenda!
We're off for the big city!

bike trail goes thru a working foundry...

the New Berlin Trail (near Milwaukee)

trail crosses 6-lane highways,
at grade and without signals ...

Robin Rd
SPEED LIMIT 40
PENSKE
EAST 94
TO 894
45
100
JCT 59
Greenfield Ave
... very busy 6-lane highways!

home of the Milwaukee Brewers!

Milwaukee is proud of their plans for trails!

crossing the Menomonee River

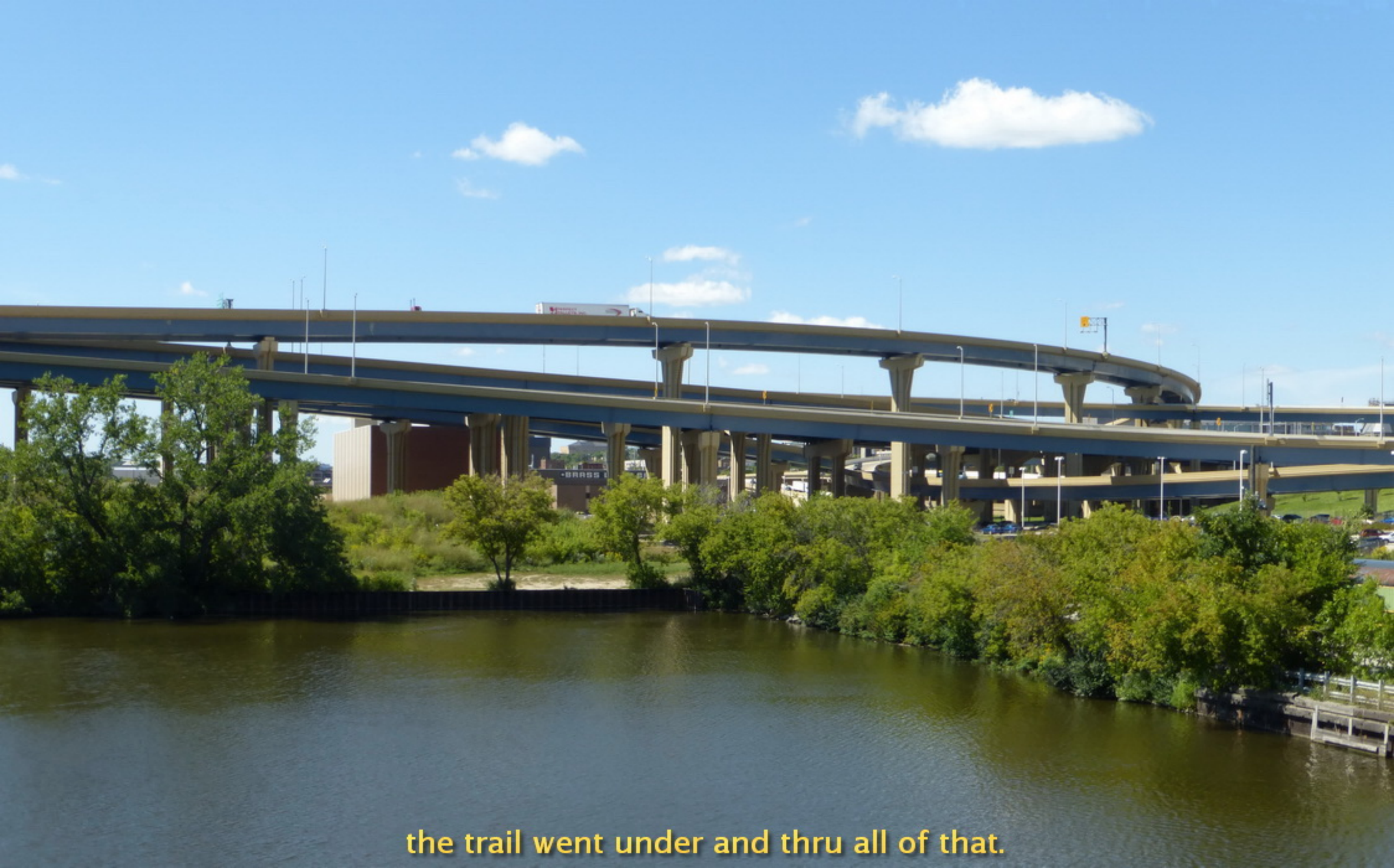
a community gateway on the Hank Aaron State Trail

a very clean and clear Menomonee River in downtown Milwaukee

sure miss that off-road trail!

under I-43

the Harley-Davidson museum


the trail went under and thru all of that.

pack the bikes up and ship them to Chicago

and then reassemble them again an hour later in Chicago.

Days 17-19: Chicago

HOTEL
PALOMAR
ILLINOIS ST
500 N
BED BATH & BEYOND
ONE WAY

sunset and moonrise on Trump Tower

TRUMP
DIVY

TRUMP

IMTS 2014
IMTS.com
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
CHICAGO
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
CHICAGO

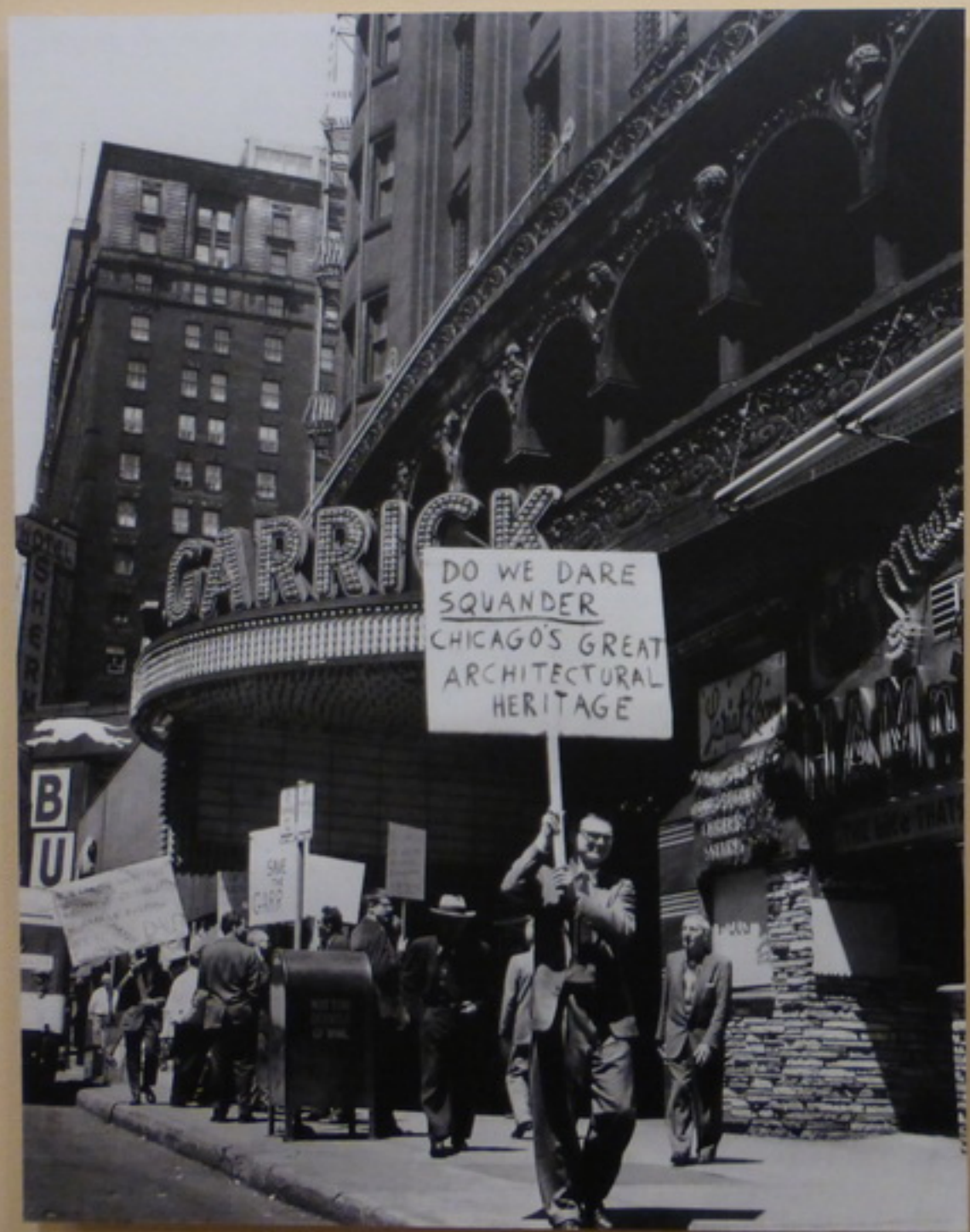
STAND UP FOR LANDMARKS!

Protests, Posters, and Pictures

Saving landmarks in Chicago has always been a lively challenge. Over the years, this challenge has become a medley of public activism, governmental legislation, and creative outreach campaigns that have produced eye-catching graphic designs and striking photographs.

Chicago is a place of special buildings and places. It takes a special kind of creativity to preserve and celebrate them.

fighting for historic preservation


GARRICK
DO WE DARE
SQUANDER
CHICAGO'S GREAT
ARCHITECTURAL
HERITAGE

1960
GARRICK THEATER
BUILDING
COMPLETED 1892

1973

MARQUETTE BUILDING COMPLETED 1895

120 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET

During a contentious battle to preserve the Marquette Building in 1973, protestors were joined by costumed actors portraying the 17th century French voyageurs whose Midwest explorations were reflected in the building's name and decorative features.

LEGACY The unusual protest helped gain public attention for the building and its history-based decorative motifs. The Marquette Building finally gained protected landmark status in 1975 and has been extensively restored.

glad this old building was saved!

BACON
MILTON
BUNYAN
DRYDEN
NEWTON

CHICAGO PVBLIC LIBRARY
NEWSPAPERS

HALLIDAY
WORKS
CHICAGO ILL

CNA
MOTOROLA
BorgWarner

we went on a guided tour of Millennium Park

CNN

SYMPHONY CENTER
tesori
dine
NITHIN
ART INSTITUTE CHICAGO
HISTORIC
ILLINOIS
US
66
ROUTE
BEGIN
MILLER'S
RESTAU
Russian tea tim
PAY AT PAY BOX
513 508
NO STOPPING
NO STANDING
TOW ZONE
ONE WAY
P10 6456

Route 66

even Chicago has room for decent bike-lanes downtown!

CHASE
CHICAGO
OFFREY BALLET
36 BROADWAY
LoopChicago.com
STAY

inside Macy's

WSPAPERS
$1.00 DAILY
$1.50 SUNDAY
Obama warns Russia
y Herald
Skylin
Newcity
DAILY PROPHET
NEWCITY
BOY WHO LIVED
THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR
Jobs Weekly
CS
MAGAZINE
Hoy
'Que cumpla'
Hoy
GRATIS
DIARIO
Windy City Times
LGBT-friendly housing to open by mid-Sept.
CLOTHES CALL
Cars.com
Chicago Jewish Star
Today's Chicago Woman

colorful bikes & flowers

we visited the Chicago Art Museum: amazing.

view of the skyline from the art museum

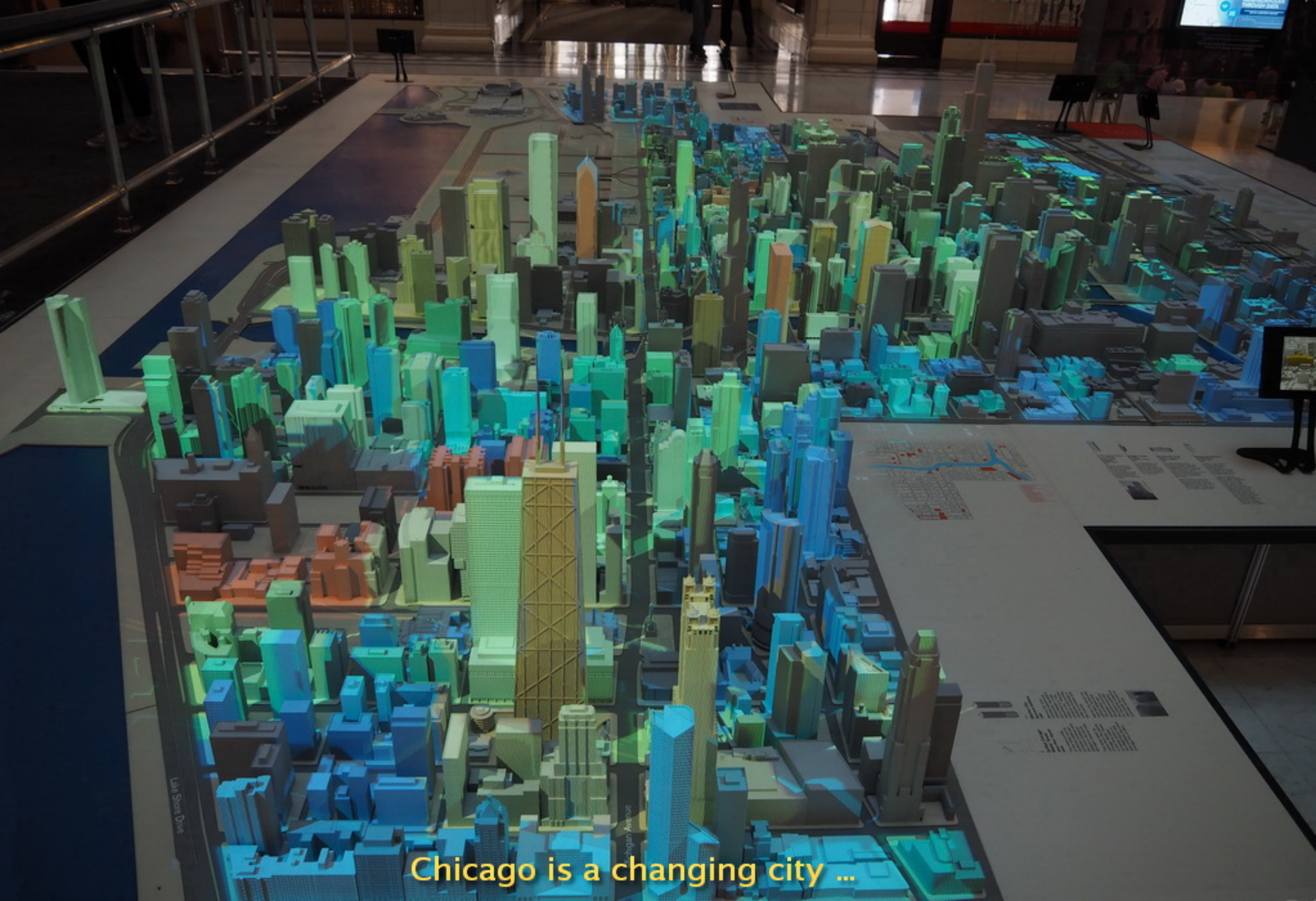
Chicago at night

ONE WAY

let's get a pint at that waterfront bar...

... and we can watch the ships on the Chicago River ...

MSC8902
POSEIDON


Chicago is a changing city ...

... and you can watch the change happen.

Another Frank Lloyd Wright tour ...

CHICAGO FOUNDATION

two gas lawnmowers and a gas edger start up just as our guide begins talking.

Unity Temple in Oak Park, IL

view of skyline from busride back at end of the tour

"Cloudgate" (aka "the Bean") at Millennium Park

(go under it and look up!)

a great place for formal photos!

the Pritzker Pavilion

"the Picasso"

rain's coming!

not all architecture in Chicago is beautiful...

I wonder what type of food they serve...?

671

the Water Tower Station --
one of the few survivors of
the great Chicago fire of 1871

30

the founder of "Chicago Style" deep-dish pizza

RESTROOM

Day 20: pack up and leave for Calif.
(how did all that fit on the bikes?!)

but we have time for a quick
bike ride around town...

Chicago is developing their own "River Walk"

... complete w/ Urban Kayaking

POLICE

POLICE
POLICE

Harrison
HOTEL
Travelodge
ESSEX
INN

view of "the Navy Pier"

they sure have big bugs in Chicago!

one way of dealing with dead trees...

Buckingham Fountain

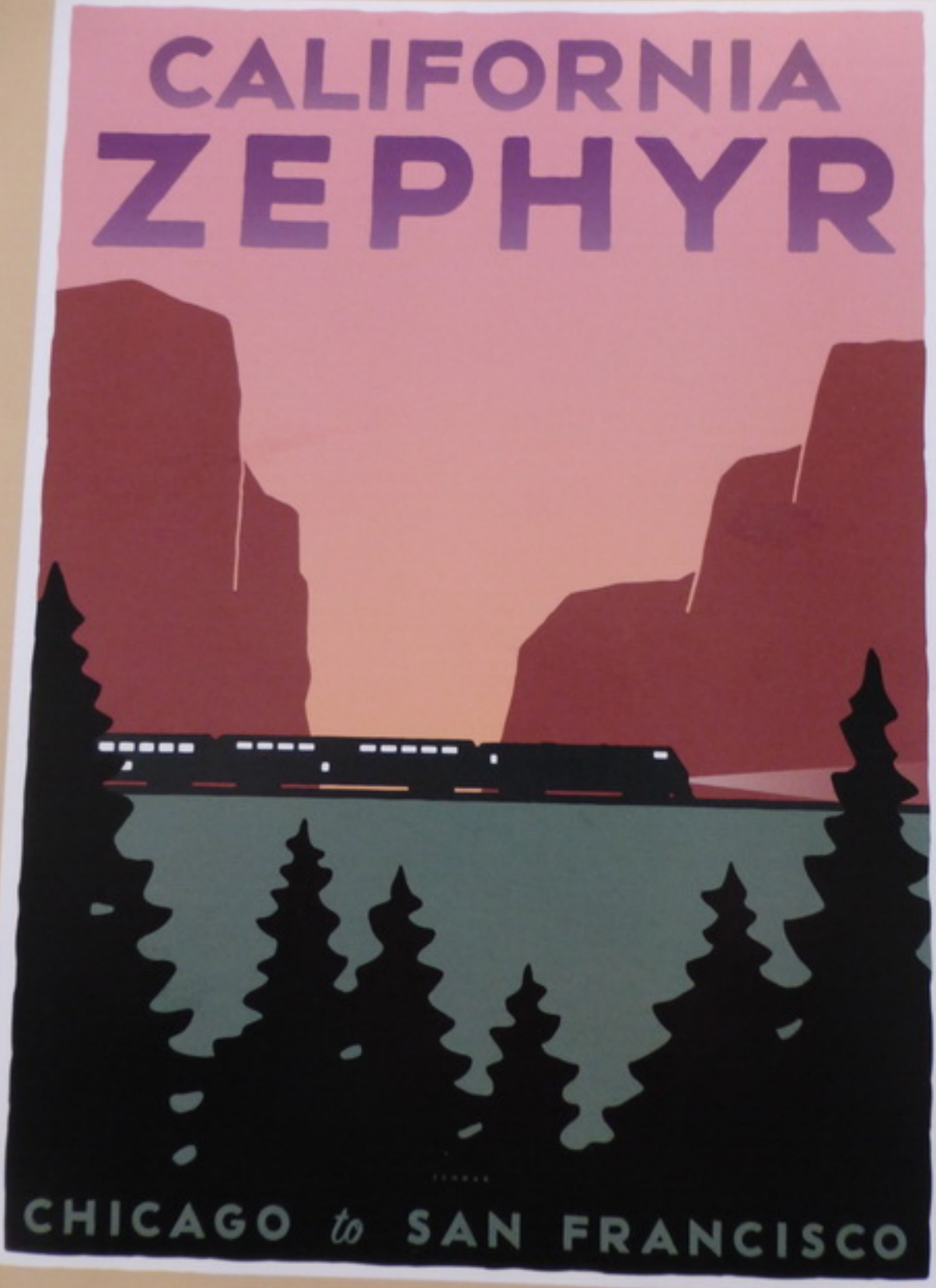
more corn! Even in downtown Chicago!!

bike-lane thru the middle (literally!) of downtown Chicago.

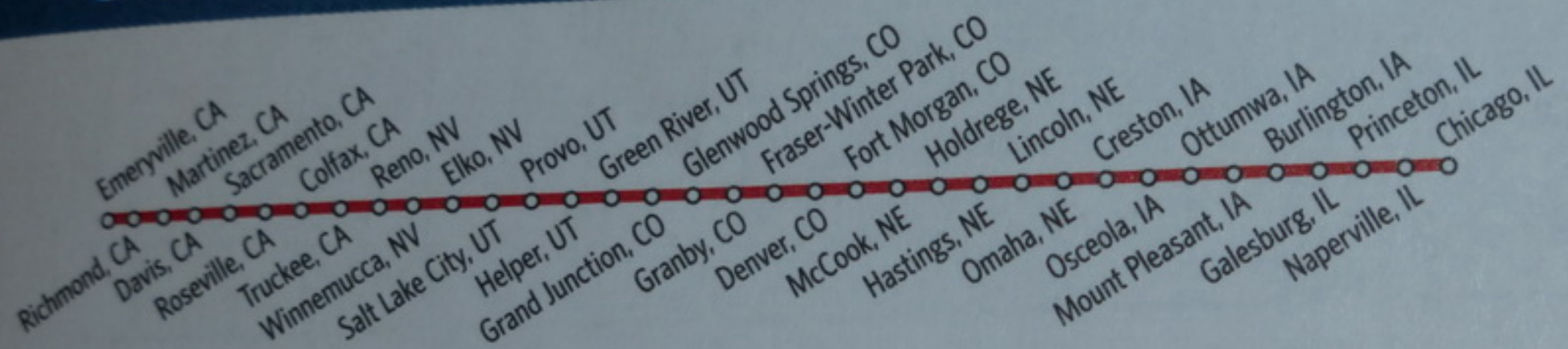
um, how exactly are we to bike to the train station?

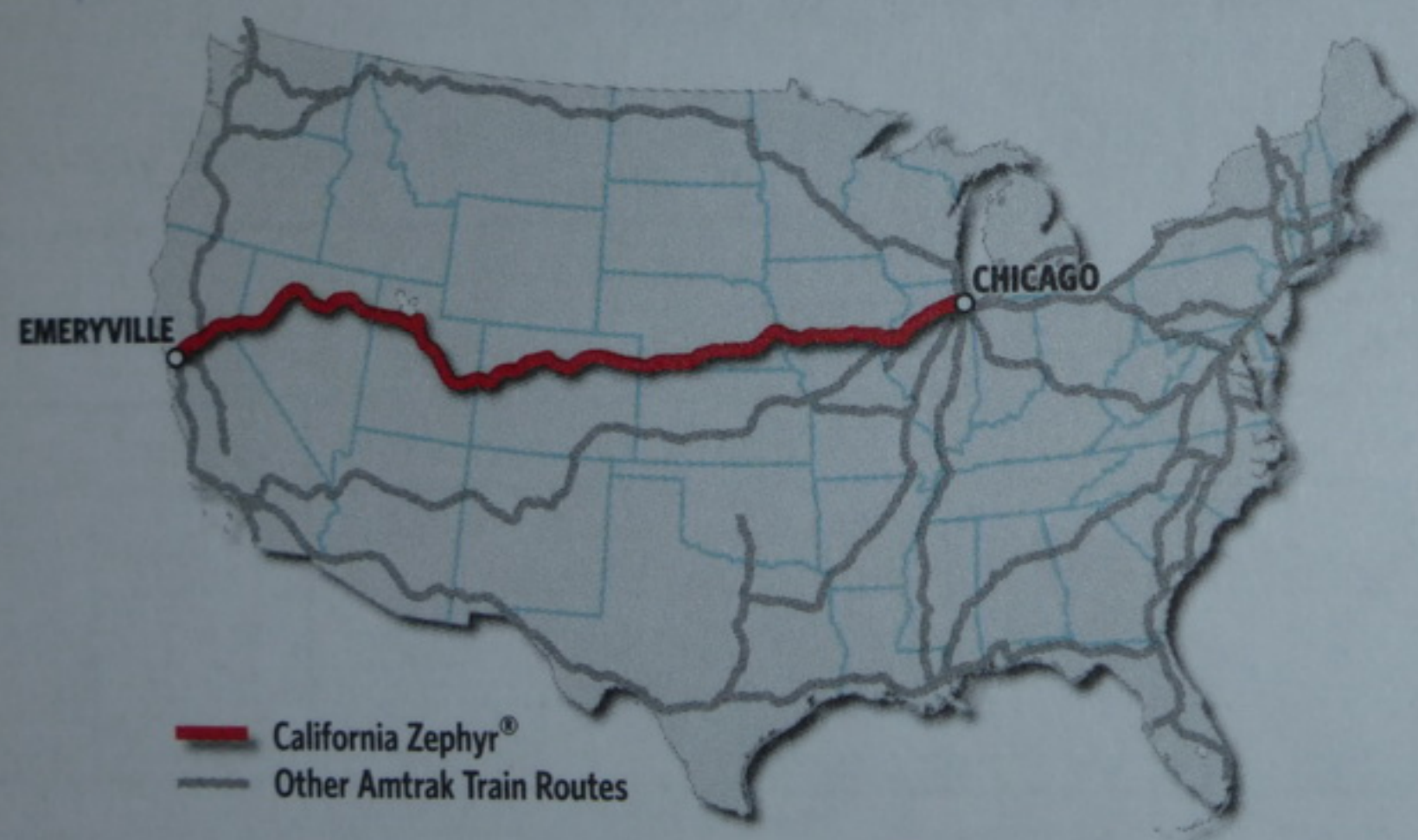
Bike Box
Bike Box
I'm getting used to this by now...

California, here we come!


CALIFORNIA
ZEPHYR
CHICAGO to SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR ROUTE MAP and SYMBOLS





A Time Symbol for A.M.

P Time Symbol for P.M.

D Stops only to discharge passengers

QT Quik-Trak self-serve ticketing kiosk

○ Unstaffed station

a last glimpse of the Chicago skyline.

just sit back and watch the world go by...

one last crossing of the Mississippi.

an old river town: Burlington, Iowa

sunset in Iowa

sunrise in Colorado

RAILROAD
TRUCK ROUTE
COVER

oil tanker cars

IN THE YARDS

delayed in Denver

Location
E
Track 4
D
C
B
can we go now?

the diner car

the Rockies

EMERGENCY EXIT

winter resort town

FRASER
MERCANTILE COMPANY
FRASER
THRIFT
STOP

ELIZABETH KURTAK
ART GALLERY

coming into weather?

big-horn sheep(?)

Colorado tradition: the "Amtrak salute" (to the tune of "Moon River")

the Colorado River

Glenwood Springs, CO

sunset

moon rising over the Rockies

Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah

Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah

125

38016
32053
CAUTION! WATCH YOUR STEP
SUNSET LIMITED
LOS ANGELES to NEW ORLEANS
AMTRAK

Nevada

water in the desert!!

geese following the Humbolt River creekbed

working on the railroad

not all sights are scenic...

Nevada

rain in the desert!!

Truckee, Calif.

the Sierra Nevada Mountains

Donner Lake

Day 22: the train was quite late, so we overnighted at Lewis & Ginger's Urban Homestead.

Day 23: BART to Fremont, ...

... and, when biking home, I find a good-luck charm.
("when you come to a fork in the road, take it!")

bike back to San Jose

home!