The main stem of the Kentucky River provides 80 million gallons of water per day to 600,000 people. It also provides boating, swimming, and fishing recreation. The Kentucky River palisades support the highest concentration of rare plant species in the Bluegrass Region. The valley walls, almost vertical, rise 400 or more feet above the stream. This view of the old US 27 Bridge and the Palisades was taken from the new US 27 Bridge at the Garrard-Jessamine County line. Photo by Dan Carey, Kentucky Geological Survey.