



# Junior Ranger Activity Book



## Fort Smith National Historic Site

This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome to Fort Smith National Historic Site

At Fort Smith National Historic Site you can walk where soldiers drilled, pause along the Trail of Tears, and stand where justice was served. The park includes the remains of two frontier forts and the Federal Court for the Western District of Arkansas and Indian Territory.

## Fort Smith Timeline

- 1817 — Soldiers arrive at Belle Point on December 25th and establish Fort Smith to keep the peace between the Osage and the Cherokee
- 1824 — Military leaves for Fort Gibson
- 1838 — Construction of second Fort Smith begins
- 1849 — Gold-seekers with an army escort leave for California
- 1861 — Civil War begins - Confederate forces take over the fort
- 1863 — Union forces return to Fort Smith
- 1865 — Civil War ends
- 1871 — Army closes the fort
- 1872 — Federal Court of Western District of Arkansas and Indian Territory moves into the old fort
- 1875 — Judge Isaac C. Parker arrives
- 1888 — Construction of second jail is complete
- 1896 — November 17 - Judge Isaac C. Parker dies
- 1961 — Congress authorizes Fort Smith National Historic Site on September 13



# Becoming a Junior Ranger

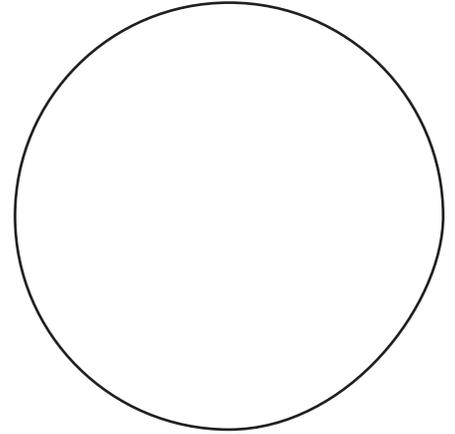
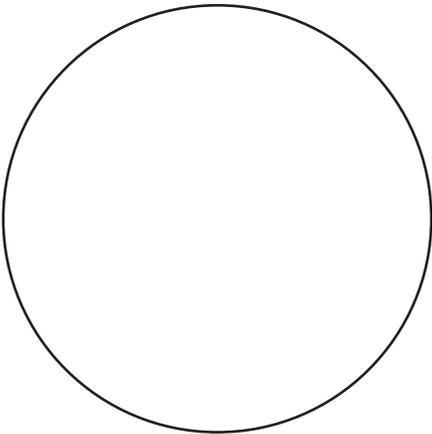
A Junior Ranger learns about history and nature at National Parks and helps Park Rangers care for parks. We hope that you will enjoy learning about Fort Smith's history and help us preserve the park so others may enjoy it in the future.

Complete the appropriate number of activities for your age group and then bring your book back to the rangers and earn your Junior Ranger badge!

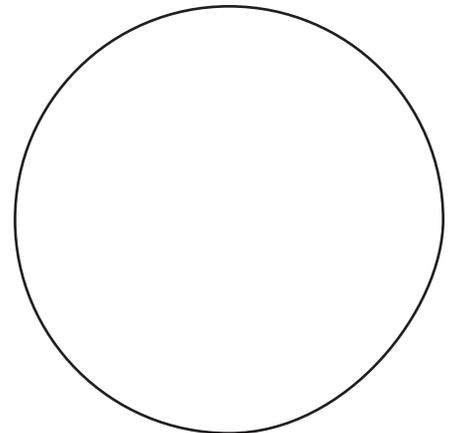
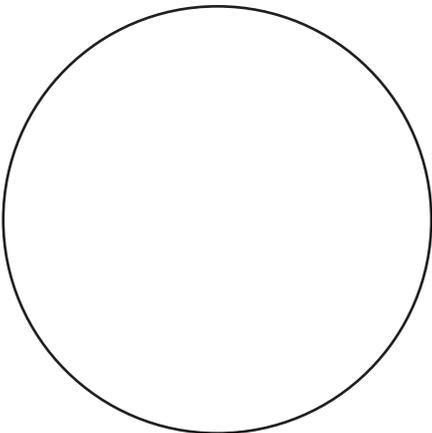
**Up to age 6**  
Complete 4 activities

**Age 7-9**  
Complete 7 activities

**Age 10 and older**  
Complete 9 activities



Stamp a start to a great day at the park! Use the Fort Smith National Historic Site stamp and the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail stamp here.



# Marching Across the Country

Place a mark where you live.

What is the closest National Park site to your home?



# A Legacy of Safety at Fort Smith

Here are some ways to stay safe:

Drink lots of water on hot days (your body needs water to keep cool).

Wear layers of clothing on cold days.

Do not feed or play with the squirrels or other animals.

Do not climb on cannons or other fixtures.

Be aware of poison ivy and poison oak along the river trail.

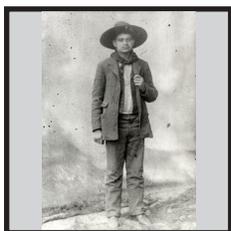
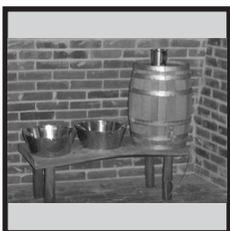
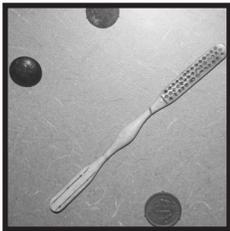
Watch out for trains near the tracks.



What are some other ways you can be safe at Fort Smith National Historic Site?

# Fort Smith Bingo

Look for these objects (inside and outside). When you find one circle it. Get five in a row in any direction and you have a Fort Smith BINGO!



# I Spy in the Basement Jail

Look around the first jail and describe what you spy.

I Spy something with bars around it.

I Spy what was used as a toilet.

I Spy what the prisoners slept on.

I Spy where prisoners took a bath.



I Spy the number of drinking cups the prisoners used.

I Spy what helped guards see the prisoners at night.

# Second Jail

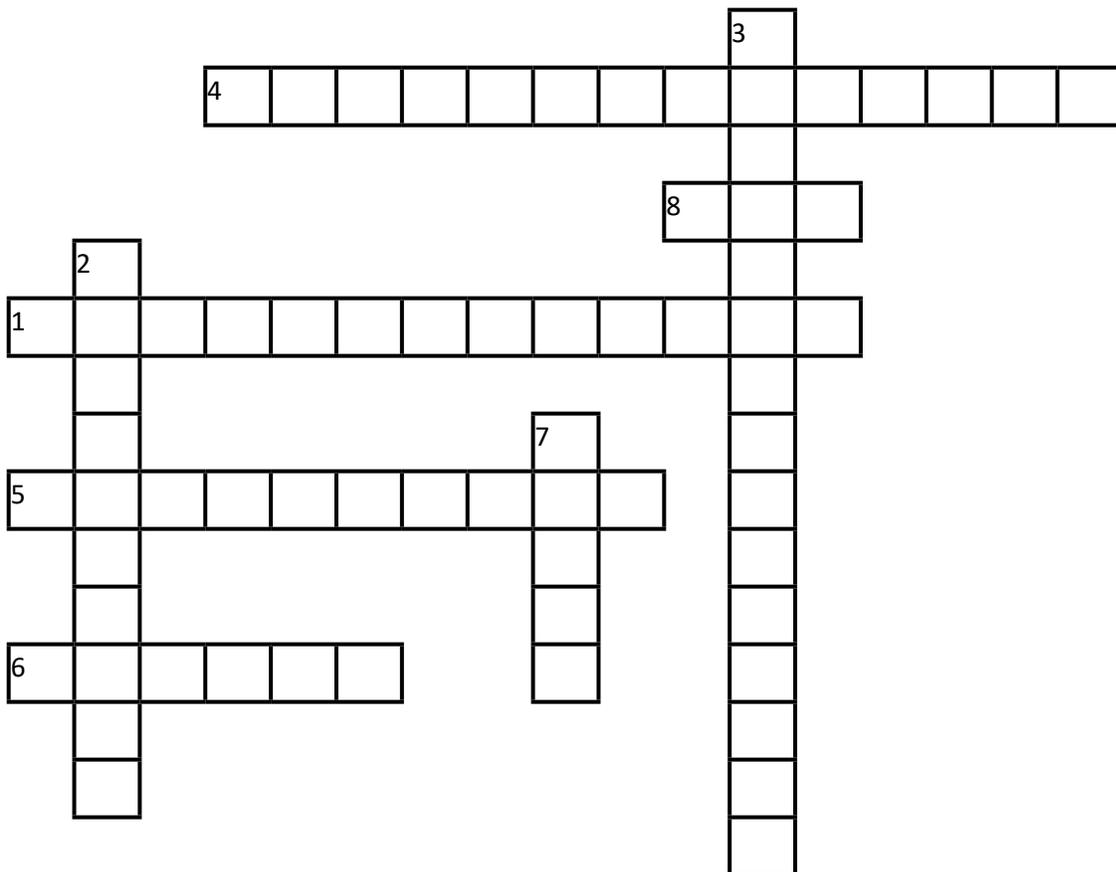
Read the panels in the second jail to find the answers to the clues. Then fill in the answers in the appropriate places.

**Across:**

1. Known as the “Prince of Hangmen”
4. These men arrested criminals
5. Chris Madsen, Bill Tilghman and this man were known as the “Three Guardsmen”
6. Last name of brothers who were lawmen but later formed a gang of outlaws
8. Number of prisoners in each cell

**Down:**

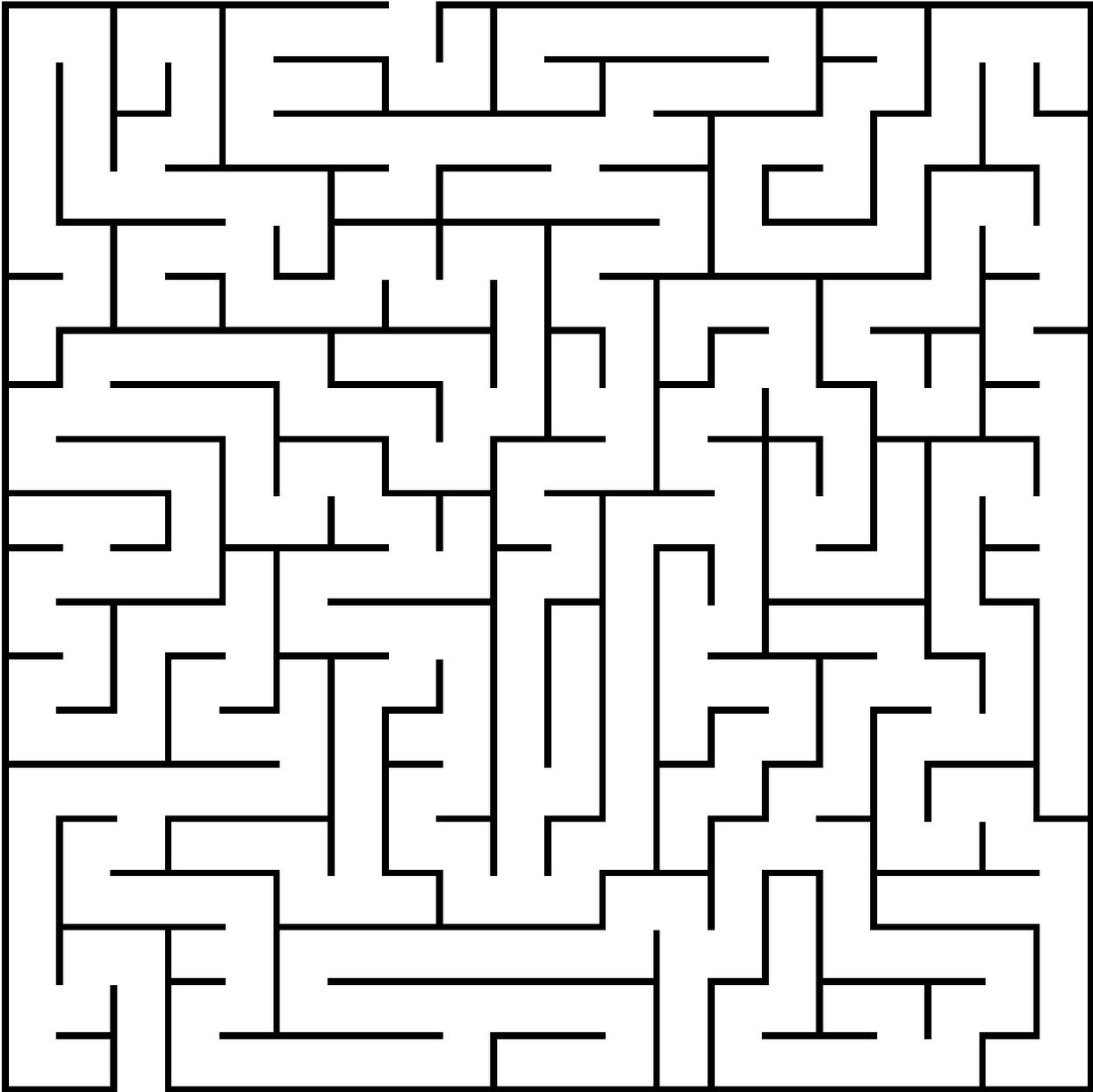
2. Known as the Bandit Queen
3. Cherokee Bill’s real name
7. US Marshals wore this



# Deputy Marshals Catch the Outlaw

Help the U.S. Deputy Marshal catch the outlaw.

Start at the courthouse and find your way to the outlaw's hideout.



# Coming and Going

Fort Smith has seen many types of transportation through the years. Explorers and pioneers restocked supplies at Fort Smith before heading west. The railroad also played a large role linking the coasts of the United States. It carried travelers across the land faster than wagons, horses, and walking.

Match the type of transportation or expedition at Fort Smith with the time in history.

Gold Rush

1858

Butterfield Stage Coach

1822

Long Expedition

1817

Steamboat

1853

Keelboat

1819-1820

Pacific Railroad Survey

1849

What is your favorite way to travel?

# Trail of Tears

Fort Smith was built to keep the peace between the Osage and the newly relocated Cherokee. Between 1831 and 1845 other Indian tribes were forcibly moved into Indian Territory (now known as Oklahoma).

**Circle 5 tribes from the Southeastern United States that were moved to Indian Territory.**

Choctaw

Comanche

Caddo

Quapaw

Shawnee

Muskogee (Creek)

Chickasaw

Delaware

Apache

Seminole

Ottawa

Cherokee



**Why do you think this journey was called the Trail of Tears?**

# Judge Parker's Courtroom

To answer the questions below you may need to read the panels.

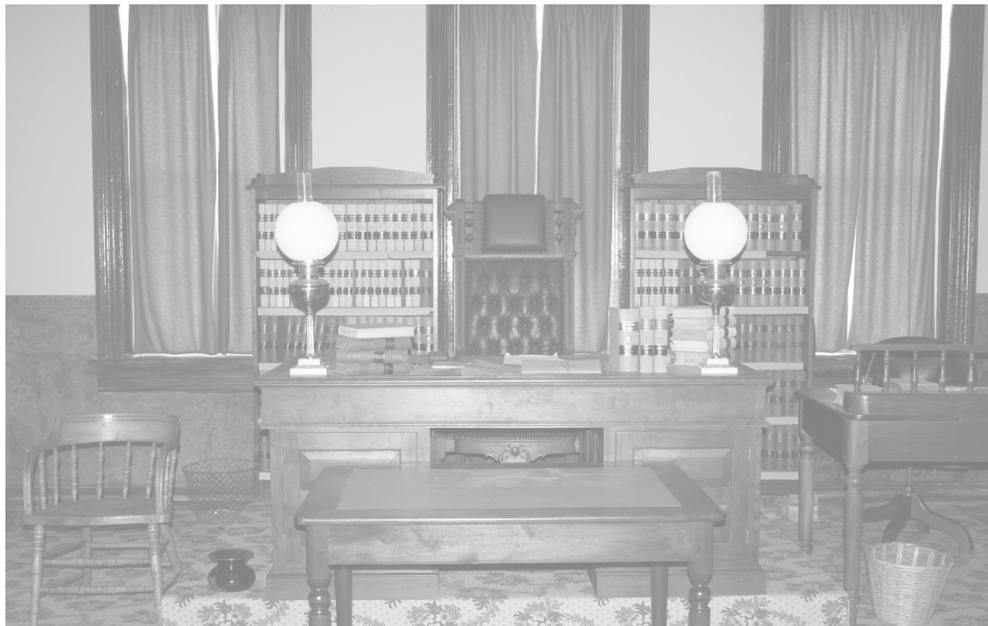
What was the name of the Judge who sat at the desk in the front of the room?

What did this Judge do before he came to Arkansas?

What did he use to keep order in the court?

Who sat in the two rows of chairs?

What is the number of windows with curtains minus the number of fireplaces?



# Words of the Court

Find the words listed below.

Q F H F Y N B X G R A N T W O F H R U V  
A C I I W W Z V D R J V V S Z P P E O Z  
K Y L J S H H L E P T D W O U P V D M X  
E I O P M T U W K L R T U R G A V E L L  
K M M K Z P M Q W M H I Q B W R X T E U  
P I A B H W H K H B I D S J S K N F S U  
A I R X G C O M M I S S I O N E R I U P  
Y H S P J X R C K A K P S W N R I F F A  
G M H N Z K H L Q I A Q O O U E G T Q E  
B K A U L L L E V A X S Z N U W R Y Y F  
M E L P G N Q R S U O P Q M P R K Y M Q  
W B W B P L I K X K Q Q D N V O I J H W  
H A W Q S E J S S Y L Q N S F J U R Y W  
W I L L T I A V E D L A O C H N G L O T  
A L O M A Z S L S I X Q K O T P O S N C  
D I H B T R O R S T T Q J N C R M E R F  
A F T I E W K I K F A W E G S O G V A O  
G F U K D T H A M C Q D V R F S B E T J  
A H F S E D V G N B I H T E Z E H N T Y  
J L Q S F E T M D S D T W S O C U S O C  
M U O I E S U M E X A A J S A U L T R D  
Z C D P N Y M R S R T S A M M T J G N W  
W F D G S N P H K M X Y R A L O O R E R  
T E T T E Z D O S C Z P T N R R L K Y U  
I X M G J S D X G R E B Y Q Y H S T C X

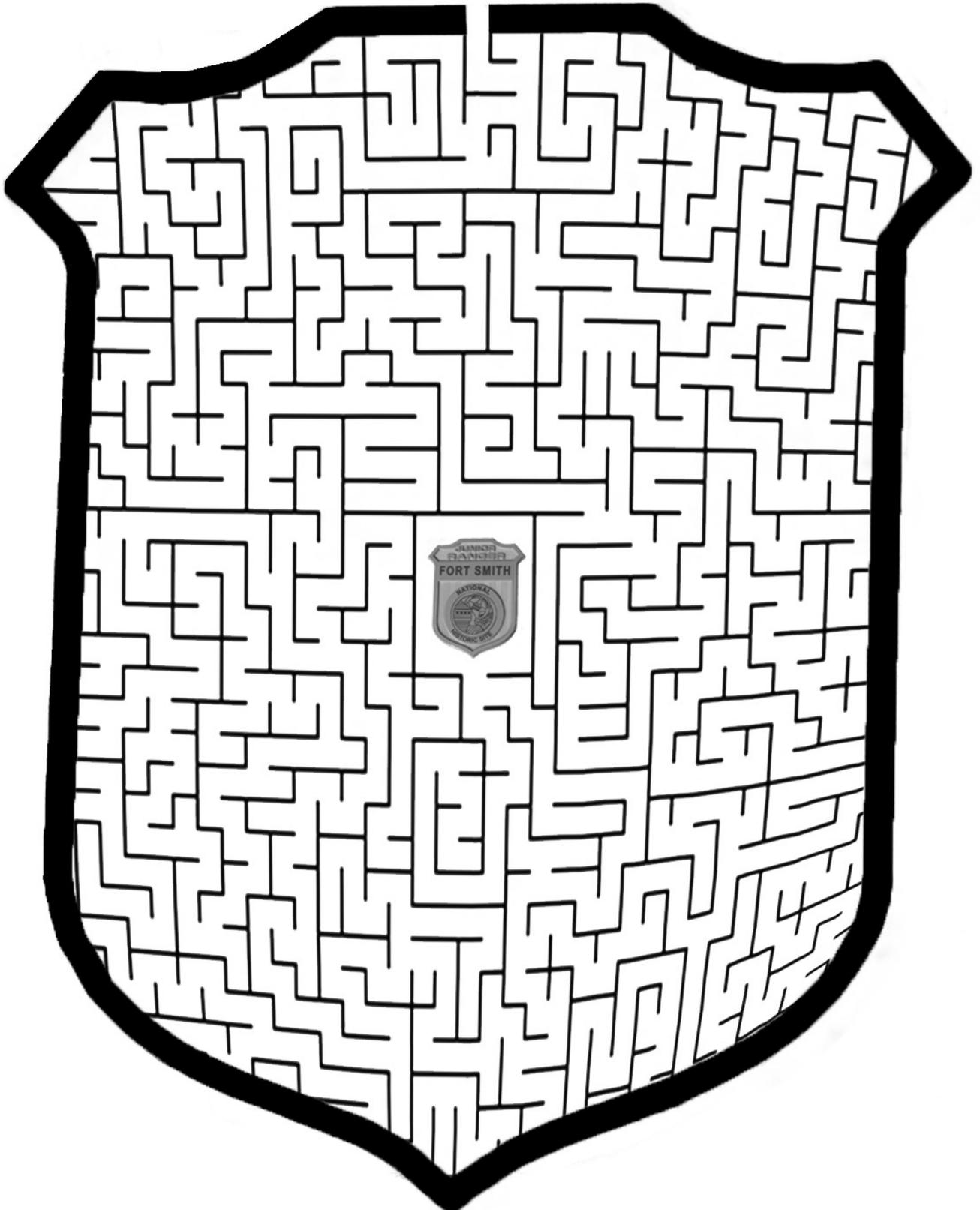
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## Word List

Appeals	Arkansas	Attorney	Bailiff	Clerk	Commissioner
Congressman	Defense	Desk	Fifty	Missouri	Marshal
President	Grant	Prisoner	Seven	State	Judge
Parker	Gavel	Jury	Prosecutor		

# Maze craze

Complete the maze to reach the Junior Ranger Badge.

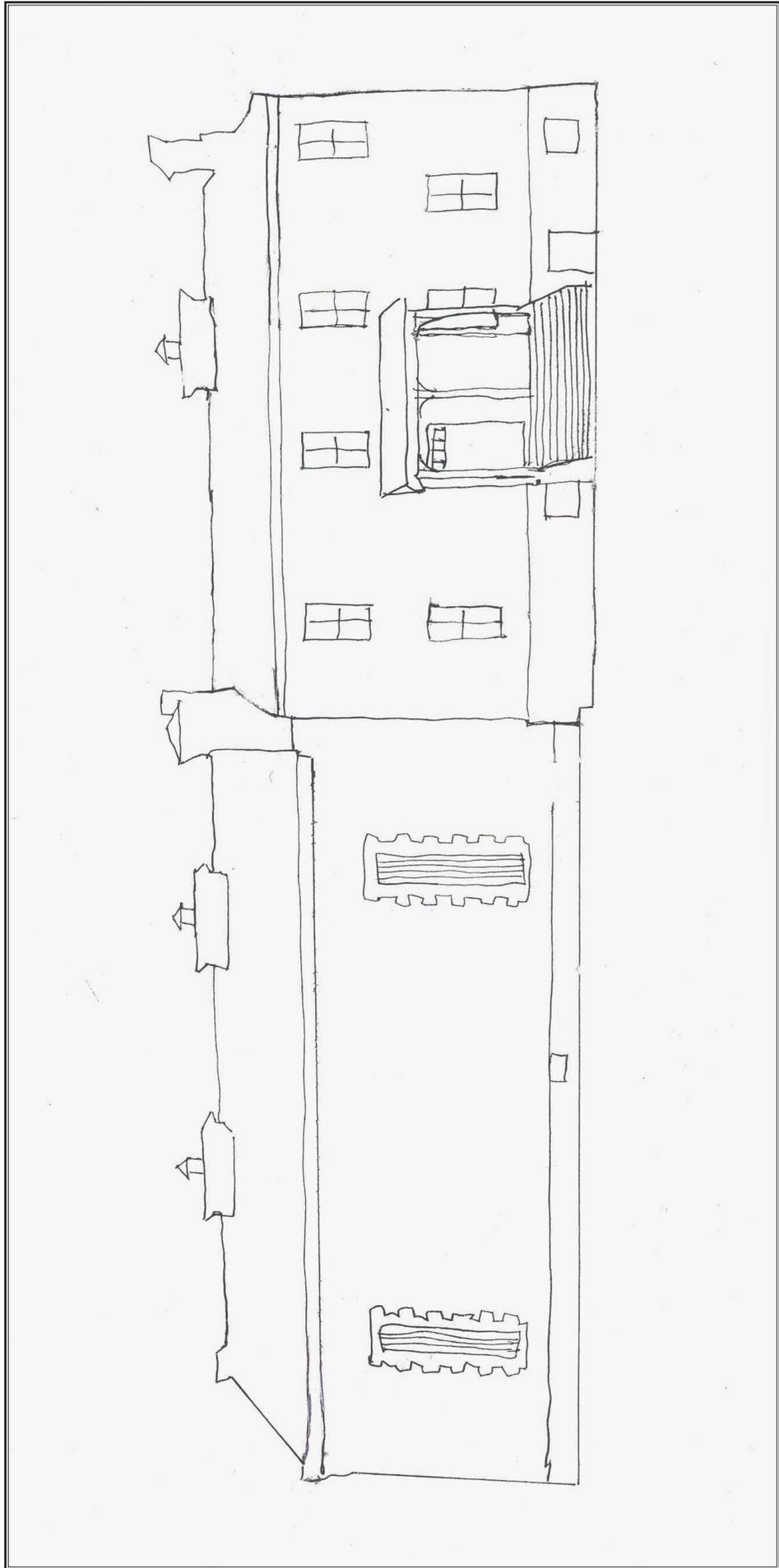


# What's Missing?

The building in front of you was used by different people at different times. On the right is the old army barracks where soldiers used to live. Later it was used as a courthouse with jail cells in the basement. The left half of the building was added on in 1888 as a jail to replace the old one.



Complete this drawing by adding missing windows, doors, and chimneys.



# Guard Duty

From 1849-1871, the guardhouse of the second Fort Smith housed the officer of the day and a squad of other soldiers. This was the fort jail for soldiers who got into trouble, deserted their post, or were caught drinking.

From 1872-1888, the guardhouse was used as the women's jail for the federal court. Sometimes the female prisoner was pregnant or already had children. If she had no one else to care for her children, they stayed with her in the jail.

**What do you think the children living in the jail did for fun?**

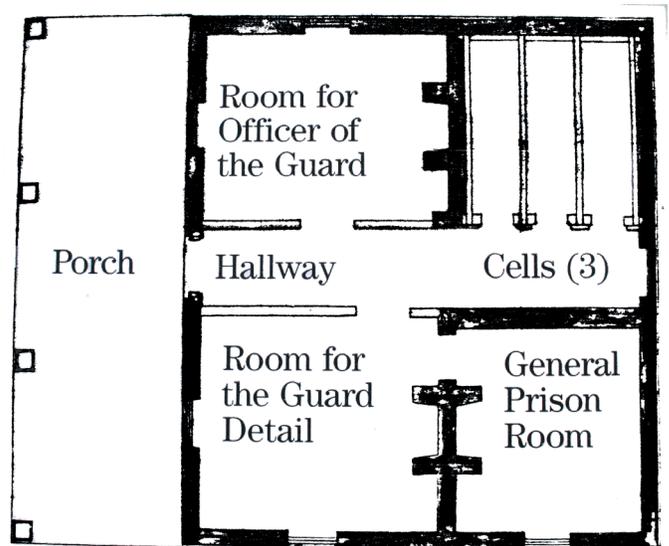


Guardhouse then



Guardhouse today

Stand in the outline of the small cells.  
Imagine being locked in a space this small.  
Describe how you might have felt.



1846 construction drawing of the Guard House.

# Commissary

The United States Army stored food and supplies in this building. The supplies were used for the soldiers living at the fort. Some supplies were taken by wagon to other forts further west.

What food items do you see? Name at least three.

What types of containers is the food stored in?

Do you see a food that the soldier's ate that you also eat? If so what is it?

The Commissary was also a home from 1890 to 1896.

Who lived here?

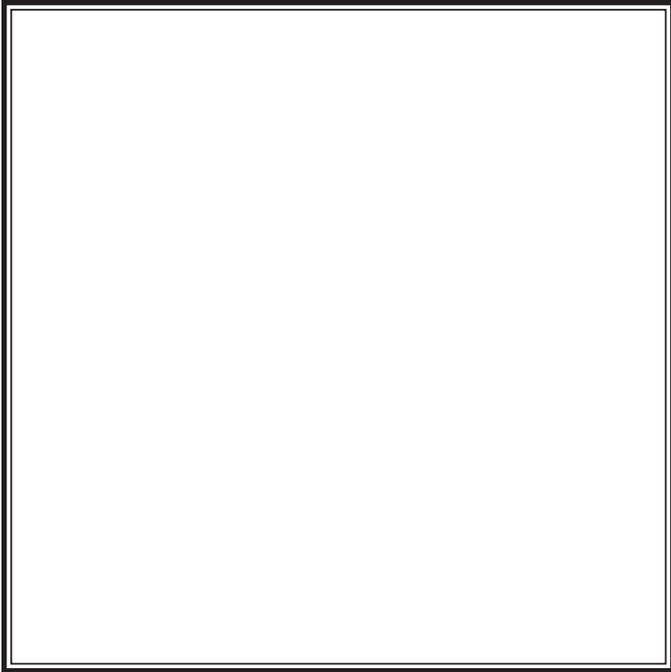
Do you see anything in their home that you also have in your home?

What do you think it would have been like to live in the Commissary?

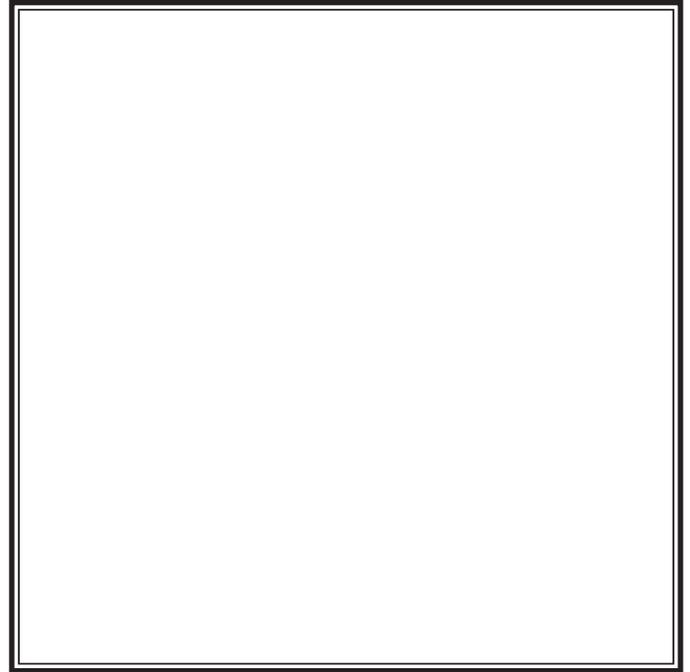
# A Sense of Place

As you walk around the fort, take time to enjoy your surroundings.

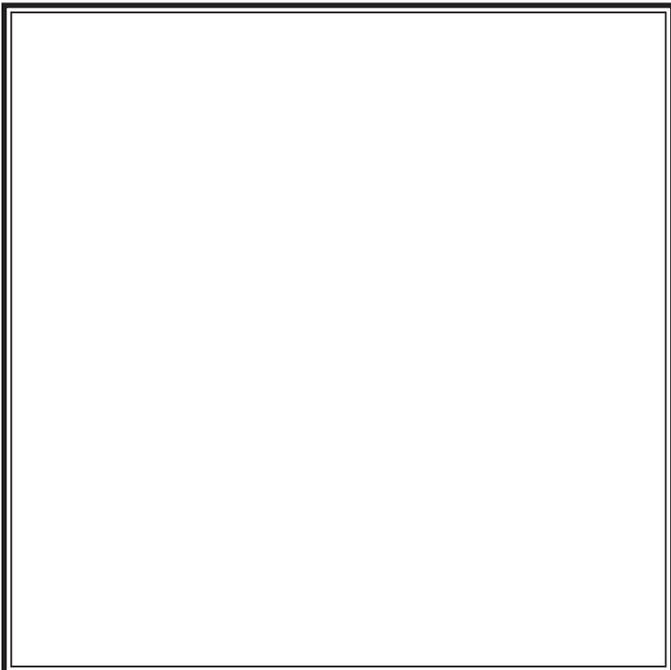
**List or draw what you hear.**



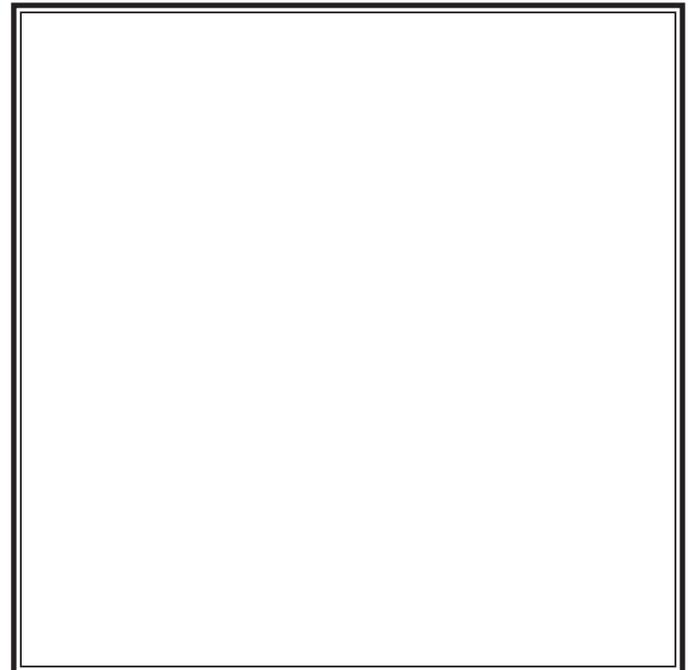
**List or draw what you smell.**



**List or draw what you see.**



**Draw a picture of your favorite place.**



# Rebuild the Fort

1. Connect the dots to reveal the shape of the first Fort Smith built in 1817.
2. Walk around the foundation and discover  who lived and worked at the fort.





The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so all may experience our heritage.

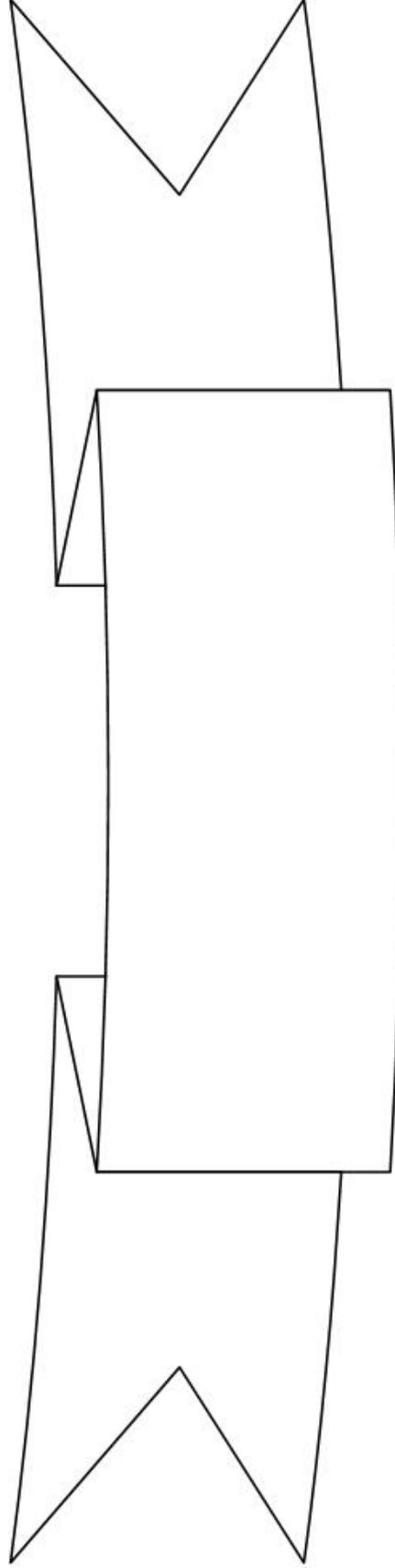
Fort Smith National Historic Site  
P. O. Box 1406  
Fort Smith, AR 72902  
479-783-3961  
[www.nps.gov/fosm](http://www.nps.gov/fosm)



As a Junior Ranger, I promise to teach others about what I learned today, explore other parks and historic sites, and help preserve and protect these places so future generations can enjoy them.



This certifies that



is granted the title of **Junior Ranger** for taking an active interest in **Fort Smith National Historic Site.**



\_\_\_\_\_ Park Ranger



\_\_\_\_\_ Date