



# Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

## Project Updates - Interpretation, Trail Development, & Public Awareness

### National Register

Through a cooperative agreement with the Missouri and Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Offices, a number of trail segments are being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in Mo. and Okla. The local chapters of the Trail of Tears Association are helping to identify eligible trail segments to be nominated.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Listing properties in the National Register often changes the way communities perceive their historic places, and strengthens the credibility of efforts by private citizens and public officials to preserve these resources as living parts of the community. Listing does not place any restrictions on the private property owner.

### Signs

Major sign plans in progress include original route and directional signs along the Benge Route between Fort Payne and Guntersville Lake in Alabama, which is now nearly complete. Signs for Coopertown, Tennessee, have been ordered. Planning is underway for Coker Creek, Tennessee; Princeton Big Spring, Kentucky; and several counties in Missouri.



The draft Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide.

### Official Map and Guide

The official park brochures developed by Harpers Ferry Center (the National Park Service's design group) are known for their reliability, thoroughness, visual appeal, and standard design elements that contribute to the National Park Service graphic identity. The most traditional and low-tech of the various media, publications remain a core element in an interpretive program.

The portability of publications gives them a significant role in providing visitors with interpretive, logistical, and safety information. Publications are also the one interpretive medium visitors can take with them as a souvenir and handy home reference.

The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide, produced with Harpers Ferry Center and reviewed by the Cherokee Nation, will be published by fall 2012. The content on the first side is information and interpretation, addressing key themes of the experience of removal as well as a timeline of events. Side two focuses on providing visitors with a map and an invitation to retrace the trail.



Tennessee has the first state-specific Trail of Tears National Historic Trail brochure.

## New State Brochure Template

Bob Richards, Amy Kostine, and the NTIR have partnered to create a new brochure specific to Tennessee for the Trail of Tears. The brochure tells the story of the historic events that occurred in the Tennessee, while guiding travelers to sites and trail segments visit along the way.

This state brochure is designed to be compatible in style and function with the new Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide. Visually unified, the distinct graphic appearance represents our future hope that people traveling the trail will come to know and recognize a “family” of brochures. Stay tuned, both Georgia and Kentucky are also in the beginning phases for producing new state wide brochures.

## Passport to Your National Parks Stamps On Their Way

The Passport To Your National Parks® program, launched in 1986, provides information and encourages visitation to all of America’s national parks. It includes a passport book that lists all national parks in the United States and U.S. territories, and provides space for ‘cancellation’ stamps that can be found in almost every national park (or trail) in the system. Eighteen stamps were ordered this year for the Trail of Tears NHT and have been made more site-specific.

Instead of listing the trail name and the state, stamps now list the specific site and state. For example, “New Echota Historic Site, GA” is listed, rather than just “Georgia.” This will encourage stamp collectors to visit more than one site in your area or state.



## Greene County, Missouri

There will be an unveiling and dedication event in April for new trail signs and markers. The event will include an opportunity to participate in an auto caravan retracement experience.

## Exhibit Projects Underway

Crabb Abbott Farm, Illinois  
Campground Church, Illinois  
Westville, Oklahoma  
Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge, Oklahoma

## Junior Ranger

Russell Cave National Monument, Alabama, will have a Junior Ranger Ambassador work in the park this summer to design a Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Junior Ranger program in their region. Funded by the National Park Foundation, Junior Ranger Ambassadors update or create new youth programs in National Park Service areas.

## Tuscumbia Landing

The Development Concept Plan for Tuscumbia is drafted and undergoing internal review.

### National Trails Intermountain Region

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

### Comments? Write to:

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