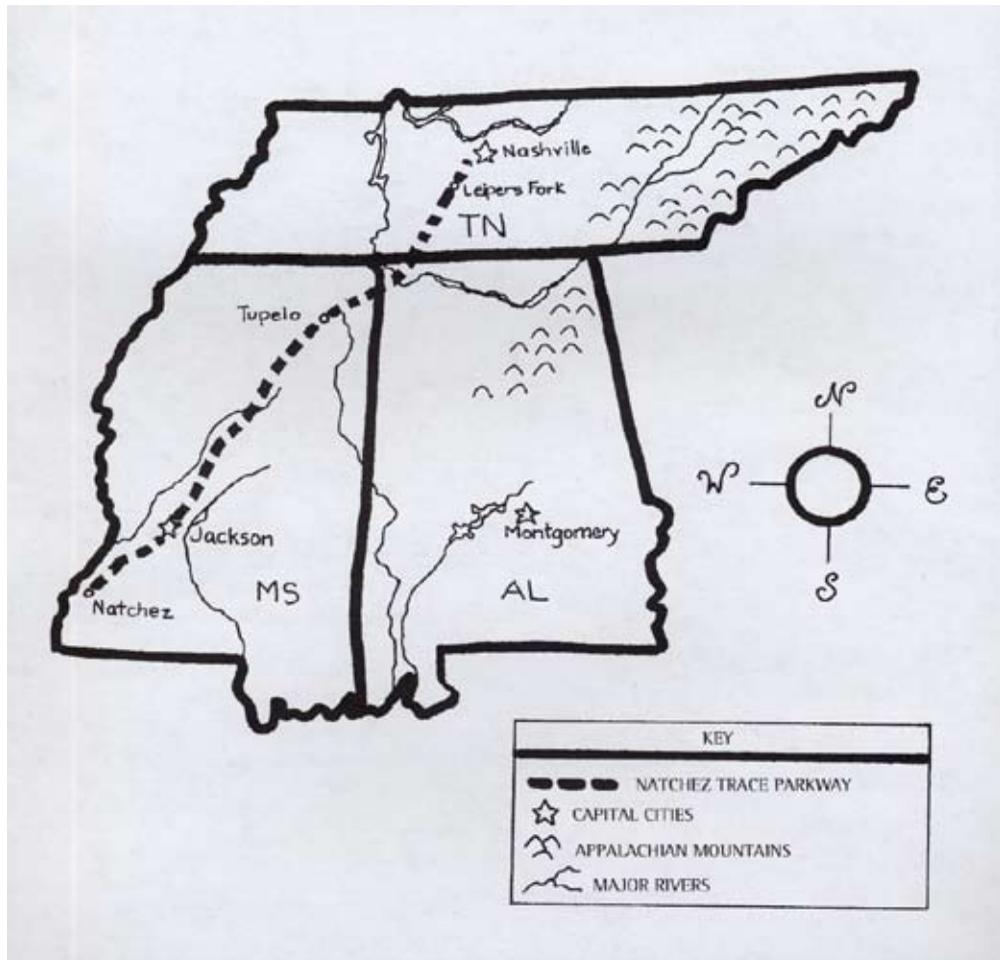




Natchez Trace Parkway



As a Junior Ranger you are expected to explore the park and learn why it is special and help protect it for future generations.

How to use this booklet

1. Find your age group and the number of National Park Service arrowheads that match.



Ages 6 and up



Ages 10 and up



Ages 13 and up

2. Look for the arrowhead(s) for your age group at the top of each activity page and do those activities. (answer key on page 32)
3. Also, complete the following checklist of activities:

Checklist for all ages

- o Ask a ranger about their job. (Rangers are most often found at the Visitor Center and Mt. Locust).
- o Hike at least one section of the Old Trace.
Which trail did you hike? _____
- o Visit one mound or the Meriwether Lewis Monument.
Which site did you visit? _____
- o Write a letter to the superintendent of the park. We want to hear from you. (back page).

4. When you have completed the activities for your age group, bring this booklet to the Visitor Center (Tupelo) or Mt. Locust to receive a certificate and badge.

If you do not complete the activities while in the park, you can mail the completed booklet, (with your return address), to:

**Junior Ranger Program
Natchez Trace Parkway
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, MS 38804**

5. Welcome aboard!



Parents: The Junior Ranger Program is family-oriented. Feel free to help your future Junior Rangers complete the activities.

We hope that you have fun and learn more about the park.



Created by Dr. Byungkyu Lee, SCA

Contributions by Parkway Staff and Mahara Phelps



This book belongs to _____ (Alpha Code)

Title : Create your Alpha Code

An Alpha Code is four letters used by the National Park Service to represent the names of its more than 390 parks. If a park has a one name title, the code is the first four letters of the name. For example, **Tu**pelo National Battlefield = TUPE. If a park has two names in its title, the first two letters of each name make up the code, for example, **Na**tchez **Tr**ace Parkway = NATR.

Activity

1. If you were a national park, what would your Alpha Code be?
For example, Eric Carney = ERCA

Your name here: _____ = _____ (Alpha Code)
Great! Now put your Alpha Code at the top of the page.

2. Can you match these park names with the Alpha Code key?

Vicksburg National Military Park	(_ _ _ _)
Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Site	(_ _ _ _)
Shiloh National Military Park	(_ _ _ _)

Gulf Islands National Seashore	(_ _ _ _)
Hot Springs National Park	(_ _ _ _)
Great Smoky Mountains National Park	(_ _ _ _)



SHIL

HOSP

VICK

BRCR

GRSM

GUIS

There are a few exceptions like Carlsbad Cavern National Park (CAVE) and the Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail (NATT).

3. Alpha Codes can also be used to find websites for each unit of the National Park Service. To find a national park homepage on the web, use the Alpha Code, instead of xxxx in this address:

www.nps.gov/xxxx

For example, www.nps.gov/natr will take you to the homepage of the Natchez Trace Parkway.

See which national park homepages you can find!





History of the Natchez Trace: Forgotten and Revived

Long before humans made calendars, I was here. I am many thousands of years old. I have seen buffalo, bear, deer, and other wildlife.

I have seen mound builders and American Indians including the Natchez, Choctaw, and Chickasaw.

I encountered European explorers. First Hernando de Soto from Spain, later La Salle from France, and then English traders.

I have seen war, battles among the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Natchez, French, and British. Yesterday's enemies are today's friends. I have seen peace.

I witnessed men walking and riding horses from Natchez to their homes in Ohio, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania. I watched them encounter poison ivy, bears, rivers, and other weary travelers. Some also found outlaws waiting to rob them. I have seen stands, small inns, where travelers could find a safe place to sleep.

In 1800 I saw postriders delivering mail to and from Natchez. They rode fast, from Nashville to Natchez in two weeks. Giddy-up!



In 1809 I heard two gunshots and I saw Meriwether Lewis die at a stand in Tennessee. I know who fired the shots but I will never tell. What a tragic end to an adventurous 35-year life for the co-captain of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

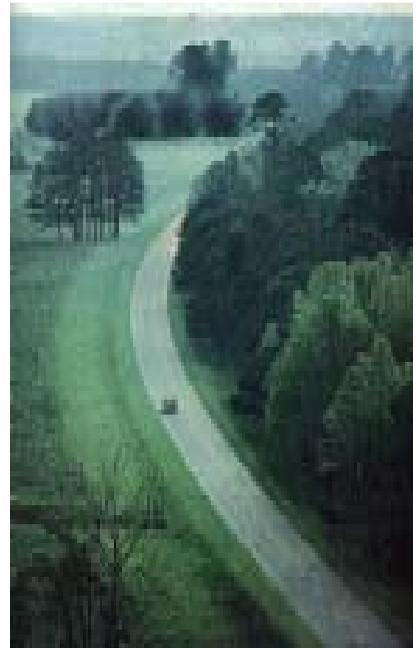
In 1811 I heard a steamboat for the first time. I did not know then how it would change my life.

During the War of 1812 I saw Andrew Jackson marching his troops to Natchez in 1813 and back home again in 1815.

My glory days were fading. More steamboats were rolling along the Mississippi River. The walking men, soldiers and stands were disappearing. In 1825 even the mail stopped. By 1840 most of the American Indians that had lived beside me for centuries were gone. Almost everyone was using other roads and steamboats to travel. By 1900 I was nearly forgotten.

Finally in 1938 I became part of the National Park Service. I am commemorated by a national parkway, the Natchez Trace Parkway. How cool is that? On May 21, 2005, the paving of the Parkway was complete.

Today 13 million people visit me each year, but I remember all that I have seen.





How Long is the Natchez Trace Parkway?

The Natchez Trace Parkway is a long, thin park that stretches over three states: Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. It connects Natchez, Mississippi, to Nashville, Tennessee. Detach the paper ruler at the bottom of the page. Use it to measure the park map on the title page and to answer the following questions (One Unit = 150 miles).

1. Which state has the largest portion of the Parkway?

2. About how many miles is the entire Parkway?

3. Which state has the fewest miles of Parkway?

4. How many miles of Parkway are in Tennessee?

--	--	--	--



Reading the Parkway Map

Use the Parkway map to answer the following questions.

1. What do the following symbols mean?

(Example)  Self-guiding Trail



() () () ()



() () () ()

2. How many of these symbols are found at Colbert Ferry Site (MP 327)?

3. Meriwether Lewis site (MP 385) has 5 symbols on the map. What are they?

4. How many  are found on the map?

To learn more, be sure to visit one of the many  along the Parkway.



Unbroken Codes

Before Europeans came to the Gulf of Mexico, American Indian tribes like the Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Natchez had established their own cultures, languages, villages, and religious systems in what is now Mississippi. During the World War I, the U.S. army received much needed help from the Choctaw.

The Choctaw language could not be understood by code breakers from other countries such as Germany. The Choctaw language proved to be an unbreakable code!

Recruits from other tribes including Comanche, Cherokee, and Navajo also had success as code talkers during World War II.



Choctaw code talkers Jan., 1919

Activity

Form your own message by using the Choctaw-English flash cards on the next two pages. When pronouncing, emphasize the italicized syllable. Cut out the flash cards and learn the Choctaw words to create a message.

Example: The more I travel the more I learn.

Choctaw: momic*ih* iyali momic*ih* ikanali

Translation: more travel more learning

<p>momicih (mo-me-chee)</p>	<p>okla (oh-kla)</p>
<p>halito (ha-leet-to)</p>	<p>iyali (e-ya-lee)</p>
<p>ikanali (e-ka-na-lee)</p>	<p>hayakka (ha-yak-ka)</p>
<p>yoppah (yop-pah)</p>	<p>neshoba (ne-sho-ba)</p>
<p>homma (hom-ma)</p>	<p>ninak (ni-nak)</p>

people

more

travel

hello

forest

learn

wolf

happy

night

red



Write your own field journal!

Date:



Weather: Sun
(circle one)

Cloudy

Rainy

Partly Cloudy

Snow



What did you see, hear and feel?

Stay on marked trails





Unscramble the Stones

Somewhere along the Natchez Trace Parkway there is a trail that uses 13 stones to cross a creek. Unscramble the following words to find out where it is.

1. ORKC (_ _ _ _)
2. NOE (_ _ _)
3. AMAREC (_ _ _ _ _)
4. YKE (_ _ _)
5. DIRESP (_ _ _ _ _)
6. EPRATI (_ _ _ _ _)
7. ORKC (_ _ _ _)
8. RIIS (_ _ _ _)
9. ATEZHCN (_ _ _ _ _)
10. SAGRSPHPOER (_ _ _ _ _)

(Hints)

1.& 7. What is she holding and looking at?



2. What is the missing number, (?), (2), (3),

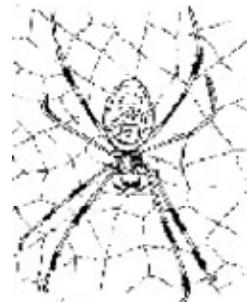
3.



4.



5.



6. This guy has a



on his ship.

9. For what American Indian tribe is the Parkway named?

10.



8. What is this purple flower?



Now write the first letter of each word that you unscrambled in the numbered blocks below. What is the name of this place?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Animal Tracks on the Natchez Trace

What animal tracks do think you might find in the park? Match the names of the animals to their tracks.



Bear

Turkey

Red Fox

Opossum

Armadillo

Deer

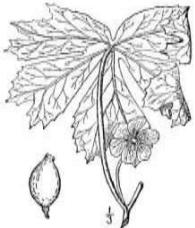
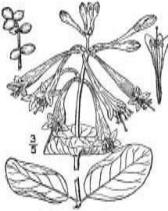
Raccoon





Wildflower Bingo (Scavenger Hunt)

There are more than 1000 species of wildflowers along the Parkway. If you can complete any column or row, you win. In the box, by milepost note where you found each plant.

White	Blue	Yellow	Red
 <p style="text-align: center;">dogwood</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">butterfly pea</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">tickseed</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">red maple</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">may apple</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">bluets</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">black-eyed susan</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">red buckeye</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">blackberry</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">chicory</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">sassafras</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">trumpet honeysuckle</p>



History Detective: 200-Year-Old Invoice of Goods

In 1800, there was dependable mail delivery from Washington, D.C. to Nashville, but not to Natchez. That year, the U.S. government declared the Natchez Trace a national post road.

The U.S. then began to spend money to improve the road to speed up the delivery of mail. Postriders, mailmen on horseback, would eventually make the trip in only two weeks.

Before improvements to the Natchez Trace could be made, the U.S. had to get permission from the Chickasaw and Choctaw to work on the road that ran through their lands. A treaty was signed between the U.S. and each tribe. The 1801 Chickasaw treaty said:

Article 1 - The Mingo (leader), principal men, and warriors, of the Chickasaw nation of Indians, give leave and permission to the U. S. president . . . to open a convenient wagon road . . .

Article 2 - The U.S. gives to the Mingo of the Chickasaw, . . . goods to the value of the seven hundred dollars, to compensate for the expenses and inconvenience . . .

On the next page, you can see the invoice of goods delivered to the Chickasaw, agreeable to the 1801 treaty. See what you can learn by answering the following questions.

Invoice

200 lbs. Rifle Powder	\$ 60.00
500 lbs. Lead	40.80
1000 Gun Flints	10.00
2 pieces Stroud	40.00
40 Blankets	59.20
100 Shirts	136.00
6 Rifles	84.00
30 Axes	26.00
36 Hoes	22.00
1 dozen black silk Handkerchiefs	12.80
2 pieces Calico, 28 1/2 yds	9.50
2 pieces Pulicats	8.16
2 dozen Scalping Knives	4.00
50 gallon Whiskey a 50 cents	25.00
5 Kegs for do. a 50 cents	2.50
200 lbs. Tobacco a \$6.25	12.50
1 piece gray Coating, 22 yds	38.50
1 piece striped do. (No.4) 47 yds.	53.25
3 Rifles	42.00
	<u>\$ 696.21</u>
Add 1 gun	<u>6.00</u>

\$

1. How much is the total invoice for?
2. Why do you think 1 gun was added to the invoice at the bottom of the page?
3. In 1801, how much did one rifle cost?
4. Which was more expensive, 18 hoes, 15 axes, or 1 rifle?
5. Based on this invoice, what do you think was important to the Chickasaws in 1801: weapons, farming, clothing, or something else?



Is an Ofi Man's Best Friend?

You can see many animals as you travel the Parkway. Choctaw and Chickasaw people have seen them for centuries.

The languages of the Chickasaw and Choctaw are different but related. They both belong to the Muskogean language group of the American Southeast. Some people consider them to be two dialects of a single language. Today, there are about 1000 speakers of Chickasaw, mostly in Oklahoma. Of the 10,000 or so speakers of Choctaw, some live in Oklahoma and others, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, live near the Natchez Trace Parkway.

Here are some Chickasaw/Choctaw words for animals you may see along the Parkway. See if you can learn the words below and correctly match them on the next page.

fox - chula	alligator - hacocoba	eagle - ossi
deer - issi	raccoon - sawi	beaver - kita
bison - yanas	squirrel - fani	turtle - loksi
bear - nita	snake - siti	rabbit - cokfih
	? - ofi	

Try to connect each name to the correct animal. Check the previous page when you need to.



kita



ossi



yanas



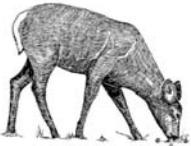
fani



chula



siti



sawi



hacocoba



issi



loksi



nita



cokfih



Word Puzzle of the Natchez Trace Parkway

There are zillions of things to see and think about along the Natchez Trace Parkway. Amazing stories are everywhere. In this puzzle you can go in any direction to find words: up, down, right, left, diagonal, and even reverse-diagonal! The list of words that can be found are on the following pages, with definitions of each.

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

Good Luck!

Ackia: The Chickasaw defeated the French and Choctaw invasion at the Battle of Ackia in 1736 (Tupelo, MP 261).

Allies: Friends that share a common cause.

Armadillo: Only nine-banded armadillo (*Dasyus novemcinctus*) live in the U.S. and are found along the Parkway.

Artifacts: Any objects made or modified by a human culture, and later found by others.

Artisan: Someone skilled in a particular craft (Mississippi Crafts Center, MP 102).

Bandits: They robbed and even killed travelers on the Old Trace.

Confederate: Southern states fighting to secede or withdraw from the Union. Dean Stand (MP 74), Raymond (MP 78), Confederate Gravesites (MP 269).

Canteen: A water container. It was used by people on the Old Trace including Kaintucks.

Chookma: "Welcome" in Chickasaw.

Crop: Soybeans, tobacco, and cotton are harvested along the Parkway.

Cypress: Trees found at Cypress Swamp (MP 122).

Dulcimer: A musical instrument that originated from the Appalachian Mountain region.

Epidemic: A disease that appears as new cases in a given human population, during a given period. The expedition of Hernando de Soto brought diseases to the Chickasaw.

Explorers: Soto and La Salle explored Mississippi in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Flatboat: A boat with a flat bottom and square ends ideal for river travel. Kaintucks used it to bring trade goods down to Natchez.

Halitoh: "Welcome" in Choctaw.

Hapih: "Salt" in Choctaw.

Hurricane: Large wind and rain storms from the Atlantic Ocean that change the landscape, including the Old Trace.

Loess: Loess soil is made from the silt of ancient glacial melt-waters (Loess Bluff, MP 12).

Minko: Or Mingo (as in Tishomingo) is a Chickasaw leader.

Mission: A place where Christianity and English are taught as in Bethel Mission (MP 176) and Monroe Mission (MP 245).

Mounds: Mounds along the Parkway were mostly built between 2000 and 600 years ago.

Neshoba: "Wolf" in Choctaw.

Pilgrimage: The Spring Pilgrimage in Natchez which features antebellum homes, has been going on since 1932.

Pirate: The Duck River has captured Jackson Branch, making Jackson Falls (MP405), an example of stream piracy.

Pushmataha: Choctaw Chief in the early 1800s.

Refugee: Someone who seeks safety somewhere else.

Scenic: Along the Natchez Trace Parkway, there are 4 sections of National Scenic Trail totalling 65 miles.

Sheboss: The stand (inn) at MP 400 was run by a white woman and Chickasaw man. The stand became known as Sheboss.

Sorghum: A sweet syrup made from sugarcane at French Camp (MP 180) every October.

Sunken: Sections of the Old Trace now appear sunken after years of foot travel and erosion.

Tockshish: This stand became the midway point of the Old Trace for postriders to exchange mailbags after 1800 (MP 250).

Trace: "Animal Track" in French.

USCT: Black men who volunteered for the Union during the Civil War known as United States Colored Troops. They played a significant role in battles at Brices Cross Roads and Tupelo.

Writers: For example, Eudora Welty in Jackson, Mississippi.

Yaupon: Chickasaw used the leaves and stems of Yaupon, to brew a tea (Asi or Black Drink) for male-only purification and unity rituals (MP 261).



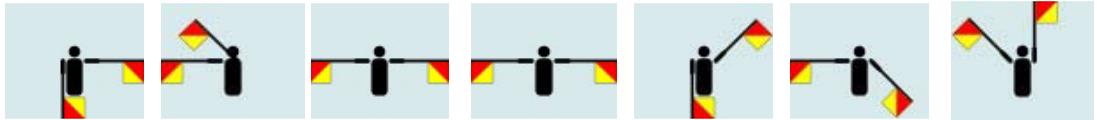
Talking with flags

During the Civil War, battles at Vicksburg and Raymond (1863), Brices Cross Roads, and Tupelo (1864) took place near the Old Trace in Mississippi.

During the war, armies needed a clear, fast way to communicate on the battlefield. (Remember, there were no cell phones!) One way to communicate was semaphore, signaling with flags.

Below is the alphabet using signal flags. Signal senders used two flags to form letters. Study the alphabet and see if you can read the following messages using semaphore.





Hint: He commanded the Confederates at the Battle of Brices Cross Roads on June 10, 1864.



Hint: This is the first name of the General who commanded the Union forces, over the Old Trace, during the Vicksburg Campaign.



Natchez Trace Mileage Log

How long did it take to travel the Old Trace in the days of the boatmen? How long does it take today in a car? Find the answers for the following travelers, then and now.



Many Kaintuck boatmen walked the Old Trace on their way home. They traveled 500 miles of Old Trace between Natchez and Nashville. If they walked 2 miles per hour and walked 10 hours per day, how long would it take to make the trip?



In 1803, the U.S. Postmaster General required federal postriders to deliver mail on horseback from Nashville to Natchez. The riders were expected to make the trip as quickly as possible. If postriders rode 10 hours a day and traveled at 3.6 miles per hour, how many days did it take them to deliver the mail?



The paved Parkway today is 444 miles. Bicyclists often ride the entire length. If a bicyclist rides 10 hours a day and averages 6.5 miles per hour, how many days would it take to travel the length of the Parkway?



In this exercise you will compute your rate of speed. As you travel, notice milepost markers at each mile along the Parkway.

Pick a milepost and note the time when you pass it. (It's okay to round the time to the nearest minute.) Wait a while and then pick another milepost and note the time when you pass it. Now use the numbers to compute your speed.

For example, if you travel from Milepost 266 to 260 in 9 minutes, your formula would be:

$$60 \text{ min.} \times 6 \text{ miles} = 360$$

$$9 \text{ minutes divided into } 360 = 40 \text{ miles per hour (m.p.h.)}$$

Now try your own.

$$60 \text{ min.} \times \text{miles traveled (______)} = \boxed{}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{time traveled} \text{ ______ } \text{ divided into above number} \\ \text{(in minutes)} \end{array} \quad \boxed{} \\ \hline \phantom{\text{time traveled}} \phantom{\text{(in minutes)}} \phantom{\text{divided into above number}} = \phantom{\text{m.p.h.}} \phantom{}$$

At this speed, how long would it take you to travel the 444 mile length of the Parkway?

Remember, the typical speed limit is 50 miles per hour on the Parkway.



Mt. Locust Scavenger Hunt

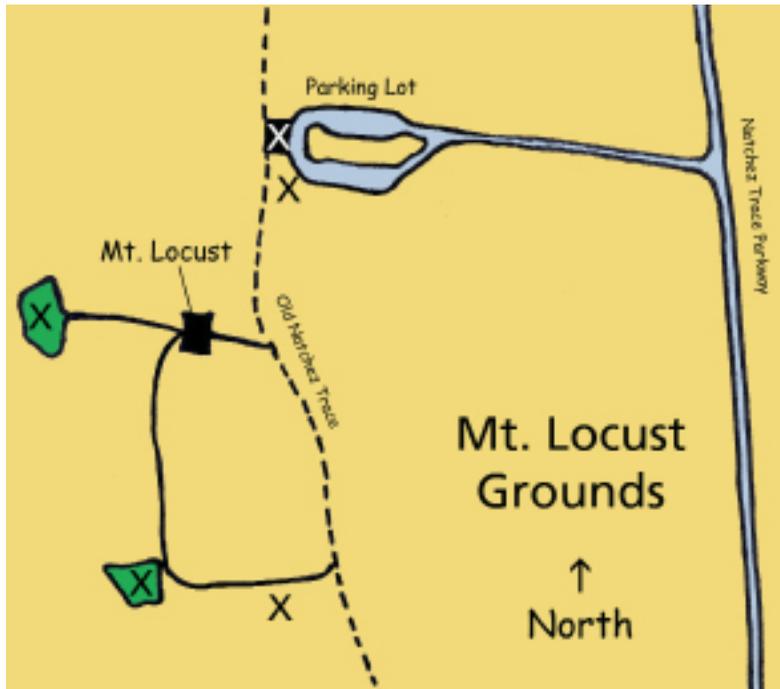
(to be completed if you visit Mt. Locust)

Mt. Locust was one of the first stands on the Old Trace. Stands were small inns that provided simple shelter and food for travelers. First built as a one-room building circa (c.) or around 1780. It gradually expanded until the Civil War as a plantation.

The current structure was reconstructed to look like the 1820 version. This is the only stand still standing along the Parkway today.

Activity: While you are visiting, see if you can find these items. On the following page, identify where you found them by placing the item number next to the "X" on the map.

1. Marker placed by the Mississippi DAR
2. Graves of William and Paulina Ferguson
3. An unmarked stone (grave) in the slave cemetery
4. Site of the brick kiln
5. Drawings of Mt. Locust c.1780 and c.1820

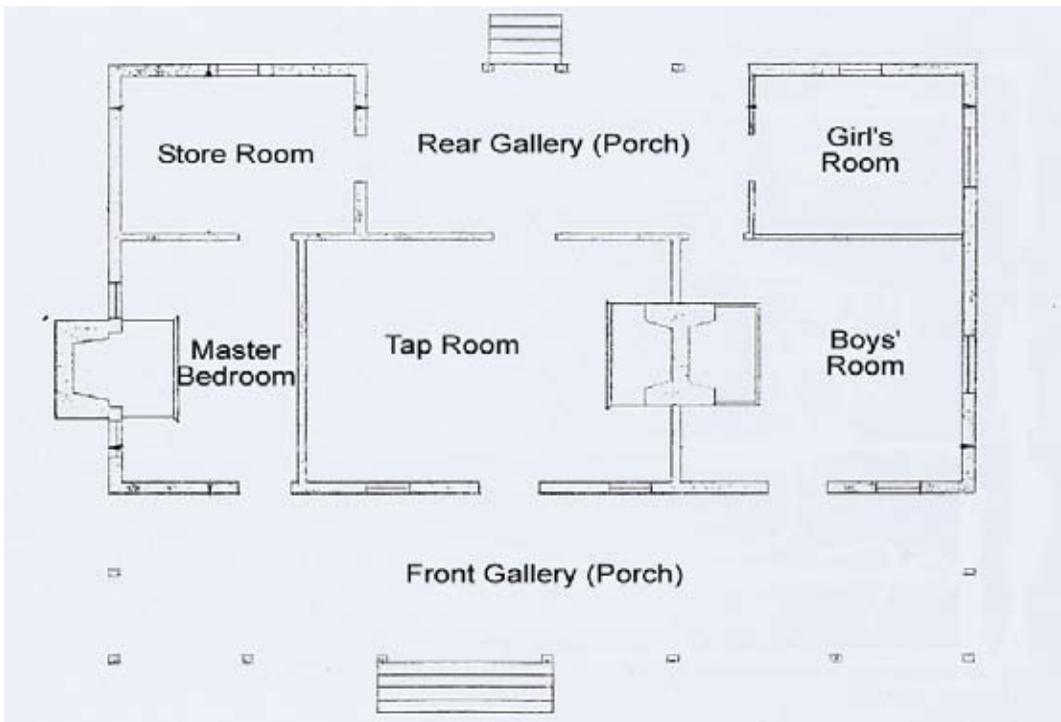


Now mark on the map where you can find the following two items:

6. A magnolia tree. There are several on the grounds, pick at least one.
7. A segment of the Old Trace.

See if you can find these items in the house. When you find one, put the number of the item on the map where you found it.

1. Item used for making thread.
2. An animal print preserved in brick.
3. Item used to learn letters and numbers.
4. Furniture used to house a chamber pot.
(do you know what a chamber pot is?)
5. Tool used to smooth the feather mattress.
6. A tool used for splitting fence rails.





Wanted Junior Chief Ranger (JCR)!

Chief rangers are responsible for the work done by all rangers and reporting to the superintendent. To solve difficult problems, chief rangers need to know the park very well. If you have completed your Junior Ranger activities and would like to be promoted to a JCR, complete the following three activities on a separate sheet(s) of paper. Once completed, you will receive a special recognition award!

1. Hike more than one section of Old Trace. Make notes and compare them. Notice the different qualities in vegetation, soil, moisture, wildlife, etc. How might these qualities impact an early Trace traveler? Note that the further apart the trails are, the more distinctive they will be. Pick from 11 sections of Old Trace.

MP 426.3 403.7 397.4 385.9 350.5 269.4

221.4 198.6 54.8 41.5 8.7

2. Because the Parkway is 444 miles, there are three distinct regions that the chief ranger must be aware of: south, central, and north. Visit at least two areas in each of the three sections listed on the next page and compare the sites you visit. Compare such things as the soil, water, forest, agriculture and anything else that you notice.

South Section (MP 1-131) (choose two)

Loess Bluff (MP 12) Sunken Trace (MP 42) Owens Creek
Waterfall (MP 52) Reservoir Overlook (MP 106) Cypress Swamp (MP
122)

Central Section (MP 132-309) (choose two)

Myrick Creek (MP 145) Hurricane Creek (MP 164)
Jeff Busby - overlook (MP 193) Black
Belt Overlook (MP 252) Donovan Slough (MP 283)

North Section (MP 309-444) (choose two)

Rock Spring (MP 330) Sweetwater Branch (MP 363)
Fall Hollow (MP 392) Jackson Falls (MP 404.7)
Baker Bluff Overlook (MP 405.1) Burns Branch (MP 425)
Garrison Creek - loop trail (MP 428)

3. Prehistoric mounds are an important resource on the Parkway. Visit two of the seven mounds, or mound groups, found in Mississippi and note the differences in their shape, how they were used, and what archeologists know and may not know about them.

Bear Creek (MP 308) Pharr (MP 286) Owl Creek (MP 243) Bynum
(MP 232) Boyd Site (MP 106) Mangum (MP 45)
Emerald (MP 10)



The Mission of the National Park Service



To preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. . . .

The superintendent is responsible for the Parkway, its resources and your safety. Because you are the future generation (future owners of the park), the superintendent would like to hear from you on the back of this page.

Remember, all Junior Rangers and Junior Chief Rangers are required to complete this activity.

p. 17. 2. Opossum, raccoon, and red fox. 4. a horse
p. 20. 1. \$702.21 2. To make the total to \$700, which was the amount from the treaty 3. \$14
4. a rifle 5. all of them p. 21 an off - a dog p. 26. FOREST p. 27. ULYSSES p. 28 boatmen
25 days; postiders 14 days; bicyclist 7 days



Answer Key: p. 8. 1. Mississippi 2. about 450 3. Alabama 4. 102 p. 9. 1. refer to the park map
2. four 3. five 4. 9 p. 14. 1. & 7. rock 2. one 3. camera 4. key 5. spider 6. pirate
8. Natchez 9. iris 10. grasshopper

Write a letter to the superintendent about your thoughts and concerns for the Natchez Trace Parkway.
(You may use a separate sheet if you like.)

Date:

Superintendent,

----- detach here-----

This Junior Ranger booklet was created through the partnership of the National Park Service (NPS), the National Park Foundation (NPF), and the Student Conservation Association (SCA) and was made possible through the generous support of Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., a National Corporate Partner of the National Park Foundation. To learn more about the online Junior Ranger program, visit www.nps.gov/webrangers.

