



Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Project Updates - Preservation, Interpretation, & Public Awareness

What's New? Fall 2011

Junior Wagon Master

Graphic design is underway - the completion date is February 2012.

Independence, MO

Design for a five-exhibit project at McCoy Park has begun.

Fort Marcy, NM

City of Santa Fe is making preparations for exhibit installation.

Bent's New Fort, CO

Five wayside panels are in progress for Bent's New Fort in Lamar, Colorado. A site planning meeting will occur at the site in November.

Diary Transcriptions

Joy Poole is transcribing four diaries written by travelers on the Santa Fe Trail: Rowland Willard, 1825; Rebecca Cohen Mayer, 1852; John Jurnegan, 1854; Enos and Jennie Culver, 1869.

Kaw Nation, OK

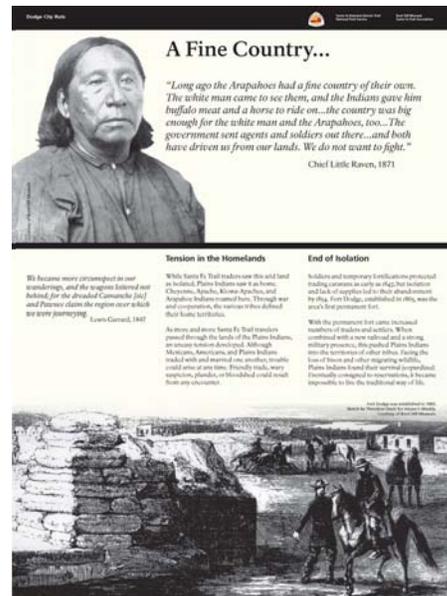
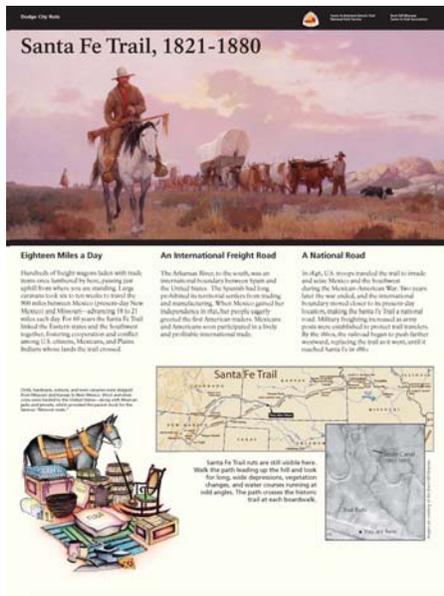
Two waysides are being designed with the Kaw Nation to tell the history of the Santa Fe Trail from an American Indian perspective.

Website Updates

Visit the Santa Fe NHT website to see the Westport, Strang Park, and Dodge City Ruts exhibits: www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/exhibits.htm

New Faces and Places

Our staff has increased to include three new faces: Coreen Kolisko and Kristin Van Fleet, landscape architects, and Kimberly Finch, interpretive specialist.



Design of exhibit panels for the kiosk at Dodge City Ruts, managed by Boot Hill Museum.

Dodge City Ruts Unveiling - September 24, 2011

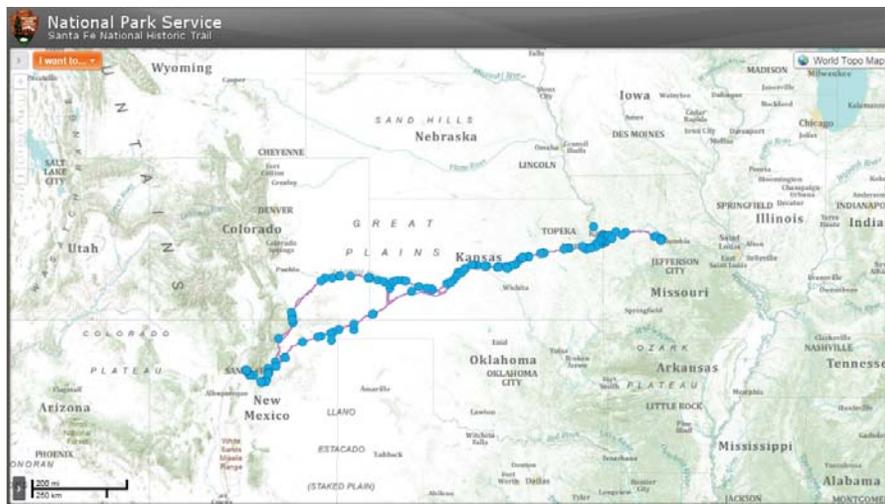
Join us for the official *Unveiling at Dodge City Ruts: Signage and Kiosk Enhancement*. Funding through the Challenge Cost Share Program allowed National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) staff to work with the Santa Fe Trail Association and Boot Hill Museum to replace the fire-damaged portions of the walkway with a new recycled plastic section. Three new exhibits have been added under the shelter to connect the ruts site with sites east and west on the Santa Fe Trail. Two existing exhibits have been rehabilitated and are featured above. You can view these exhibits and others online by visiting: www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/exhibits.htm

You're Not Lost - Just Follow the Signs!

NTIR staff completed directional signing for Point of Rocks and Hertzheim Museum and Original Route signing from Cimarron to Philmont in New Mexico. The new sign planning materials on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail website are currently being utilized by the Bent's Fort Chapter for Bent, Otero, Las Animas, and Prowers counties in Colorado. Also, the Wagon Bed Springs Chapter is planning for Stevens, Grant, Haskell, and Kearny counties in Kansas. These projects total over \$30,000.



Santa Fe National Historic Trail Rediscovery Survey



Screen shot of the interactive map being released to the public this year.

The NTIR will be launching an interactive map for the general public displaying sites that were surveyed for the Rediscovery Project in 2006. The information displayed on the online map will include those sites that are currently accessible to the public. The public will be able to access the map through several links, which will be posted on the NPS Santa Fe Trail website at www.nps.gov/safe and the Santa Fe Trail Association website at www.santafetrail.org. The remaining sites that lie on private property or are sensitive in nature will remain on the password protected site and will only be available to partners and NPS staff.

Elsewhere on the Trail



McCoy Park Independence, MO

This project is coordinated with the Oregon-California Trails Association. Four out of five wayside panels have been written and designed for McCoy Park in Independence, Missouri. NTIR staff visited the exhibit site in August to plan the fifth panel and to coordinate site planning.



Strang Park & Westport - Overland Park, KS, & Kansas City, MO

Coordinated with the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, thirteen wayside exhibits at Strang Park and Westport tell the story of the Santa Fe Trail and its effects in Missouri and Kansas. You can view all 13 exhibits at: www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/exhibits.htm

Comments? Write to:
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National Register Nomination Update

All five states that the trail crosses now have Santa Fe Trail nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Association chapters are still encouraged to submit suggestions as to what properties they feel could be considered eligible candidates.

New Timeline

A new feature will be added to the Santa Fe National Historic Trail website this winter. It allows users to click through a geographic and pictorial history of the 59 years of the trail in a slideshow format.

Connect Trails to Parks



Fort Larned

Fort Larned was established in 1829 near the midpoint of the Santa Fe Trail. Throughout the 1840s Fort Larned served as a major outpost on the trail. Kansas prairie providing protection for mail coaches and freight wagons on the Santa Fe Trail during the turbulent period known as the "Indian Wars". The fort was built to both military and civilian uses, including a store of Missouri, Arkansas and Texas furs, "buffalo hides", "skinn leather goods" came to the Fort during its heyday.

Including Environment Colonel (Sergeant) George Clinton, Buffalo Bill, Kit Carson, and Indian Chief Black Kettle, Hiram and John Bull. While most early forts that only were built to store furs, Fort Larned served largely as a military installation. Visitors today are allowed to find one of the most complete and authentic, early frontiersman exhibits. These actual authentic took place right over the old trail routes.

Fort Larned National Historic Site, a National Park Service area, is just ten minutes away! The park is located six miles west of Larned on Kansas Highway 156. Admission is free.

The Connect Trails to Parks exhibit project is reaching completion. The exhibits at Fort Larned NHS are already installed. Still to come are the exhibits for Fort Union NM, Bent's Old Fort NHS, and Pecos NHP.