



Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Project Updates - Protection, Development, and Promotion

Media Tour Update



"Begin Tour" screen

- A new look!
- Easier access!
- More features!

We are very excited to announce that the Santa Fe National Historic Trail Media Tour has migrated into a new template. It's a tour that fits into the visitor's pocket!

TourSphere™ mobile apps allow us to harness the power of the technology that visitors already carry: their smartphones and mobile devices.

It's free and now you don't have to download anything. Access the "web app" (the tour) through your internet browser – such as Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, or Safari – on your tablet, Android phone, or iPhone. safe.toursphere.com

On a Musical Note

Lights! Camera! Singing!



Santa Fe educator Dolores Valdez de Pong is the composer/playwright for the Three Trails Children's Narrative/Musical. It highlights the Old Spanish, Santa Fe, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro national historic trails, as do the musical scores and songs.

Twenty-two children from Carlos Gilbert Elementary School in Santa Fe will perform. Don't miss their performance after the banquet during the Three Trails Conference on Saturday, September 19th! It will be videotaped and placed onto National Park Service websites, YouTube, and trail association websites.

New Certifications

There are two new trail certifications! Kudos to Dr. Roger Boyd and the Douglas County Chapter of SFTA!

- * Black Jack Ruts, Baldwin City, KS
- * Palmyra Well, Baldwin City, KS

Interactive Map



Plan Your Visit, Places to Go website

National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) recently finalized and launched a series of interactive maps highlighting places along the trail for the public to visit. The maps are featured on Places to Go and Passport Stamp web pages. Each state page on Places to Go also has a map.

Funded through NPS Connect Trails to Parks program, these custom maps were designed so that Santa Fe Trail partners, like the Santa Fe Trail Association, can use the maps on their websites. For questions on the use of the maps, please contact:

ntir_rim_team@nps.gov



100 Years

The NPS will celebrate its 100th birthday! What's your favorite park? (We think it may be a national historic trail...)

Centennial Goal

Connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.

More Anniversaries

- 2016 NPS Centennial
- 2016 SFTA's 30th Anniversary
- 2018 50 years National Trail System
- 2021 200th year of SFT
- 2023 SFTA strategic plan expires

Signs and Designs

Cimarron National Grassland

NTIR staff will be travelling to Elkhart, KS in late May to meet with US Forest Service staff and SFTA members about a proposed FY2016 Connect Trails to Parks project to enhance the trail retracement opportunities and trail visibility on the Grassland. NTIR and USFS have also applied for FY2017 Connect Trails to Parks funding for a similar project on the Comanche National Grassland in southeast Colorado.

Salem Park Interpretive Site

SFTA, Jackson County Parks and Recreation staff, and NTIR selected a conceptual site layout for the new interpretive site at Salem Park, just east of Independence, MO. Progress is being made both on plans for paving and other site work to be completed this fall and winter, and on the collection of content for the new wayside exhibits. The site should be complete and open to the public by late summer 2016.



Kansas City Metro signing status map

Kansas City Three-Trail Development

On March 21 a general meeting regarding three-trail development in Kansas City was held at the National Frontier Trails Museum in Independence, MO. General agreement was reached to move forward with a conceptual plan for trail development across the entire 40-mile corridor, from the Missouri River to Gardner Junction. For more information contact Larry Short, Missouri River Outfitters Chapter

Three Trails Sign Project

SFTA, the Oregon-California Trails Association, Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, and other partner organizations are working with several municipalities in the Kansas City metro area on Santa Fe, California, and Oregon national historic trails signing projects. Road signing for Kansas City, MO road right of ways, funded by OCTA, is expected to be implemented by 2016, and a task force including representatives from all three associations is currently working on a comprehensive sign plan for Johnson County, Kansas.

Douglas County Sign Plan

The chapter completed a sign plan for the entire county that includes signs marking segments of original route and trail crossings as well as directing the public to the Palmyra Well and Black Jack Ruts sites. The chapter is working with Douglas County and Baldwin City to sign an agreement to install signs on county and city right-of-ways. Signs are expected to be installed by late 2015.

Universal Design

Partnering with NTIR, the City of Independence, Missouri has collaborated with Unlimited Play Playgrounds, Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, Variety-The Children's Charity, and Vireo to renovate McCoy Park to be more inclusive. Park features are themed to reflect westward expansion along the Santa Fe, California, and Oregon national historic trails. Four new wayside exhibits were designed to meet the

needs of both able-bodied children and children with disabilities, and includes Braille text on each exhibit and two tactile elements (bas relief models) on one. Three of the existing exhibit panels in McCoy Park were rewritten to be age appropriate. The waysides will allow all children to learn more about the role the three national historic trails played in local history.



Universal design is best for any audience. Park visitors of all types will benefit from the tactile elements on the exhibit.

This exhibit shows how raised tactile elements are built into the exhibit panel.

The combination of the text and the touchable models will reinforce the comparison of the two types of wagons in a way that is helpful to the wide range of city park users.

Website Redesign



All National Park Service websites are being updated for the 2016 Centennial. Revisit the Santa Fe NHT's Plan Your Visit website to see new and reorganized content:

www.nps.gov/safe/planyourvisit/

Comments? Write to:

Carol S. Clark
Interpretive Specialist
National Trails Intermountain Region
P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, NM 87504
carol_s_clark@nps.gov

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