



# Santa Fe National Historic Trail

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

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### What's New? Fall 2012

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#### *Mapping Workshop*

Recently we developed a new task agreement with the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) to host a Santa Fe National Historic Trail mapping workshop in 2013. Details to come.

#### *Association Leadership and American Indian Outreach Workshop*

Association representatives are invited to join us in Albuquerque the week of December 4-6. Details to come.

#### *Signs*

Many sign projects are underway as many chapters have put together sign plans for their areas. More on page 2!

#### *Junior Ranger & Wagon Master*

The Santa Fe National Historic Trail Junior Ranger program is available at five national parks associated with the trail. Junior Wagon Master is at the printer! Want to see them? Visit the National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) booth.

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### National Register of Historic Places

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Protecting trail resources is one facet of the NTIR mission. We have been working with four states to produce National Register of Historic Places nominations for significant sites and trail segments along the Santa Fe Trail. In all four states, SFTA members contacted private property owners.

*Continued in the next column.*



An example of a Santa Fe Trail segment north of Tiptonville, New Mexico, that is being nominated to the National Register.

**KANSAS:** Through an agreement with the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS), the existing 1993 Multiple Property Documentation Form (which is a "master document" under which Santa Fe Trail properties can be nominated) has been amended to reflect up-to-date trail research. In addition, NPS, KSHS, and SFTA reviewed a list of potential properties, most of which contained extant trail ruts. Twenty-six sites were carefully chosen, each of which have property owners that support trail preservation.

These sites—many of which also contained historic DAR trail markers from the 1906 to 1914 period—are located along the Mountain Route, the Cimarron Route, the Wet Route and Dry Routes, and even the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Wagon Route. KSHS staff wrote the nominations with technical assistance from the NPS. Members of all three groups have made field investigations for several of the nominated sites.

**NEW MEXICO:** Through an agreement with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division, 12 nominations have been prepared, three of which are already approved by the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee and forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register for official listing.

**COLORADO:** As part of a larger survey, identification, and documentation project, NPS has entered into an agreement with the National Trust for Historic Preservation office in Denver for 12 National Register nominations of significant sites along the Mountain Route. Field work for the nominations should be taking place next spring.

**MISSOURI:** Approximately eight National Register nominations will be prepared by the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, with assistance from SFTA in suggesting sites and contacting property owners.

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## Signs, Signs, and More Signs!

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Signs make the national historic trail visible and accessible to the American public by providing uniform signing to trail sites and segments. Signs also show surviving Original Route segments of the historic trail.

Marion County is the first completed signing effort in Kansas using the national historic trail sign standards. An unveiling event will occur on September 23.

NTIR was recently awarded a Scenic Byways Program to sign the entire Mountain Route in Colorado. SFTA Bent's Fort Chapter members, particularly LaDonna Hutton and Pat Palmer, have been making steady progress with the county agreements, beginning with the Otero County signs they successfully installed earlier this year. Meanwhile, NTIR is working directly with Colorado's Department

of Transportation to gain their approval and assistance with the signs that will be installed along state roads. Sign installation under the grant will begin once the funds are available, most likely sometime this winter.

Signs for county roads in Kearny County, Kansas (the Wagon Bed Spring chapter), have recently been ordered. A local tour route will be completely signed between the town of Lakin and the Hamilton County line, primarily following the Original Route of the trail, and identifying several trail sites to visit.

The Missouri River Outfitters chapter, coordinated by John Atkinson, has nearly finalized a plan to sign the trail across four counties in Missouri, including many trail sites and various segments of Original Route.



Fort Union National Monument and Santa Fe National Historic Trail signs were recently designed, purchased, and installed to guide visitors from the highway to the park.

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### 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 NPS 09/2012

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## Exhibit Update

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### **McCoy Park, Independence, Missouri**

The exhibits were unveiled during the Oregon-California Trail Association conference in Lawrence, Kansas, in August.



### **Kaw Nation Exhibits, Kansas**

The exhibits show how the Nation struggled with westward expansion – losing homelands and lifeways.



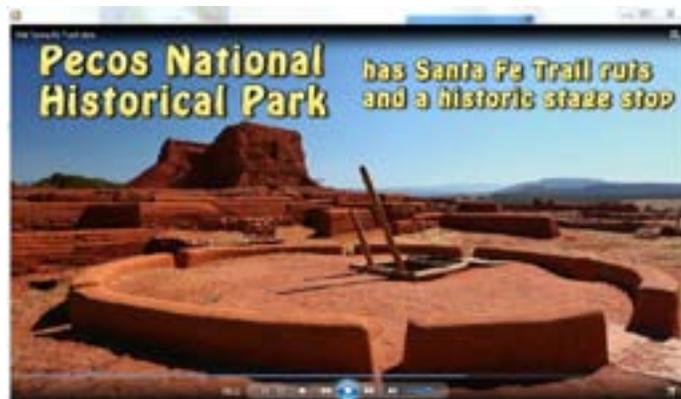
### **Fort Union National Monument, NM**

Nine exhibits about the trail and places to visit, as well as, the Santa Fe NHT Junior Ranger program, were unveiled in August.

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## Traveling Exhibit - Interactive Technology

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Opening scene for one of the 30-second videos under development.

NTIR is working with the staff at Petroglyph National Monument in New Mexico to produce a series of 30-second videos, one of which will be about the Santa Fe Trail. For this project, videos of National Park Service sites and trails in New Mexico will be presented on an interactive 3 x 4 foot table top touch screen (similar to an iPad).

People will be able to touch the screen and pull up the videos. This is a traveling exhibit that will be displayed throughout the state at welcome and visitor centers. The video will have no audio but will have captions that comply with ADA standards.