



# Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

## *Project Updates - Interpretation, Certification, & Public Awareness*

### What's New? Spring 2011

*We welcome two newly certified partnerships:*

Columbus-Belmont State Park,  
Columbus, KY - 1/20/11

Rockdale Plantation (George Adair Home), Chatsworth, GA - 3/2/11

### Virtual Projects

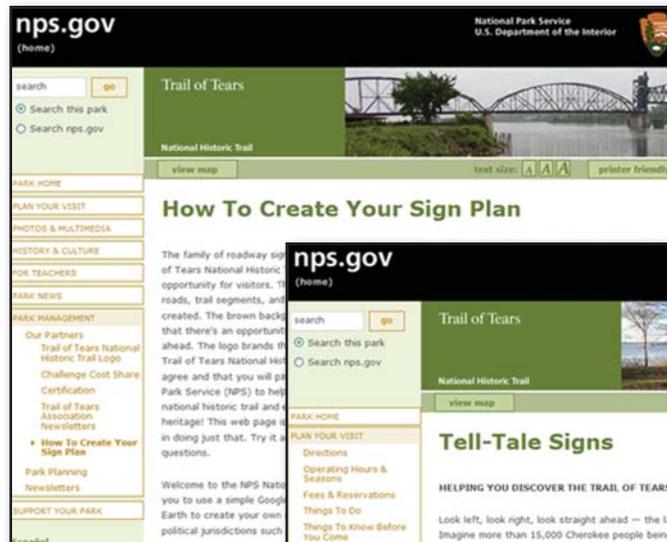
There has been a lot of on-the-ground *and* virtual work along the trail during the last year! We are excited to announce that there are projects underway that emphasize maps, GIS, and web.

### New Faces and Places

Our staff has increased to include four new faces: Mike Elliott, Cultural Resource Specialist; Gretchen Ward, Outdoor Recreation Planner; Lynne Mager, Interpretive Specialist; and Brian Deaton, GIS Technician.

### Official Brochure

We are in the queue this year to plan and design an official National Park Service brochure. Our current brochure has served well for years, but now that the additional routes have been added to the NHT, we are excited about taking the brochure to the next level.  
*We'll keep you posted...*



The sign plan template addresses the use of road signs only.



The new sign plan webpage allows you to create a plan for your area.

### Sign Plan Released!

The family of roadway signs designed for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail creates a unique opportunity for visitors. The signs help them find roads, trail segments, and sites where history happened. The brown background alerts travelers that there's an opportunity to explore the history ahead. The logo brands the signs as places on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

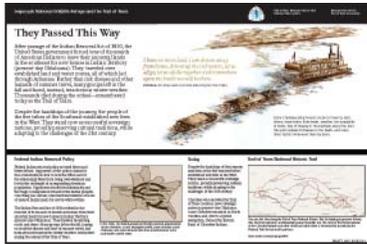
The sign plan template addresses the use of **road signs**. You use a simple Google Earth KMZ-based format and position custom "placemark" icons within Google Earth to create your own sign plan for any given area of the national historic trail. The pilot project is the Georgia Federal Road, Cedar Town, and Cave Springs Road Segment.

The sign plan is the first step toward signing the trail and working with NTIR staff and others who have jurisdiction over road sections.

*To learn more about the plan, please visit:*

<http://www.nps.gov/trte/planyourvisit/sign-standards.htm>

## Exhibit Update - Under Development



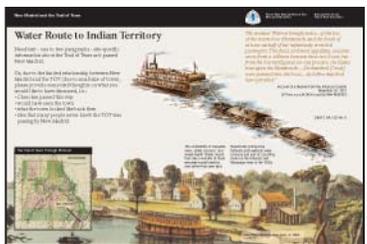
### Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge, Oklahoma

Located near the Arkansas - Oklahoma border, the Cherokee were nearly to Indian Territory when they passed by here.



### Golconda, Illinois

This exhibit, to be located near the waterfront, will connect Mantle Rock Preserve and Berry's Ferry in Kentucky to Golconda and the Original Route Segment in Pope County, Illinois.



### New Madrid, Missouri

Cherokee people who took the water route to Indian Territory passed by the small town of New Madrid. Its waterfront looks today much as it did during removal due to limited development across the riverfront.

## Tuscumbia Landing, Alabama

Staff from NTIR will be traveling to Tuscumbia to create a Development Concept Plan. Over the course of one week, staff and partners will visit the site, discuss the vision for the visitor experience, and draft a plan that will guide future development at the site. At the table will be NPS staff, association members, and interested community partners. It will be a very busy and productive week!

## Mapping and Database Workshop

NTIR hosted its first Mapping and Database Workshop for partners in Albuquerque, NM in late October 2010. The workshop was to provided an engaging forum for partners to discuss and exchange insight into successful practices and technologies used by partners across nine national historic trails. Trail of Tears was represented by Jeff Bishop, John McLarty, and Gail King.



Looking for an exhibit project near you?



### Projects to be completed in 2011:

Stilwell, Oklahoma  
Berry's Ferry, Kentucky

### Projects to be initiated in 2011:

Crabb Abbott Farm, Illinois  
Campground Church, Illinois

### Challenge Cost Share

#### Completed project:

Research of National Archive Records on Cherokee Removal  
*Oklahoma Chapter of TOTA*

#### Ongoing project:

Archaeological Research for Five Georgia Fort Sites Related to the Removal of the Cherokee  
*Jeff Bishop, Project Manager*

### Research Update

Research reports are now available online:

<http://www.nps.gov/trte/historyculture>

#### 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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