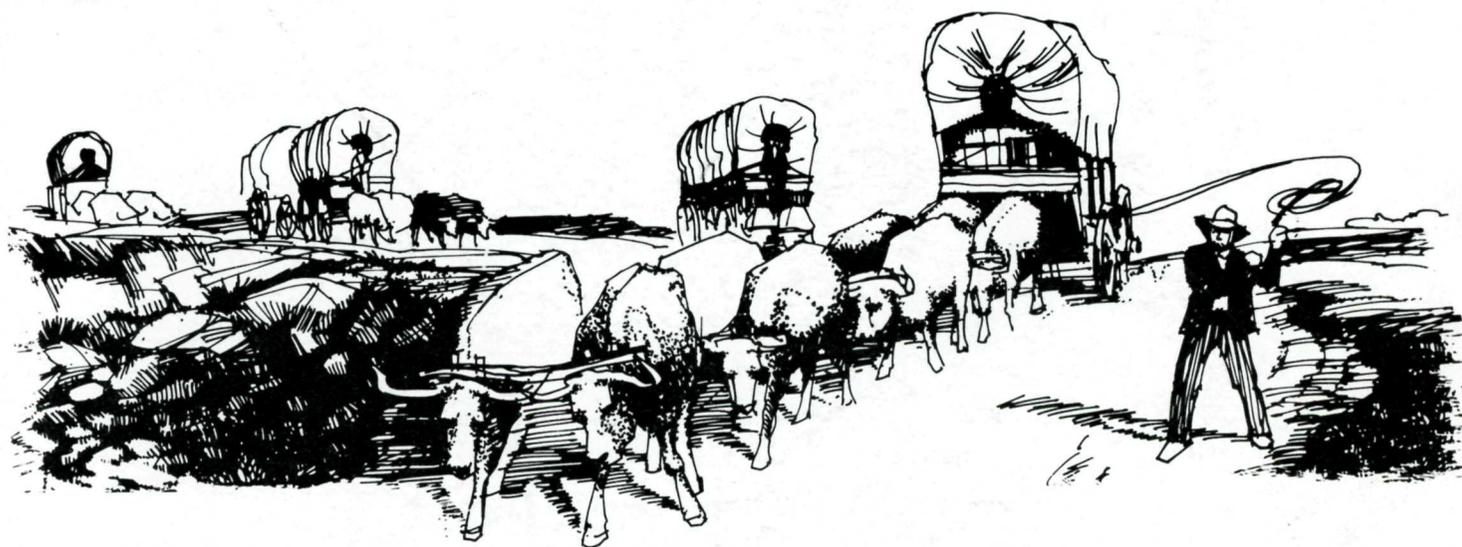


SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Interpretive Prospectus



Approved
September 6, 1991
By Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region
Richard W. Marks

SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Interpretive Prospectus
September 1991

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Harpers Ferry Center

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES	3
DEVELOPMENT CATEGORIES	5
INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS	7
HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE	9
INTERPRETIVE THEMES	11
NPS SITE INTERPRETATION	12
INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES	15
SIGNS & OUTDOOR INTERPRETATION	16
WAYSIDE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	19
PUBLICATIONS	21
AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAMS	24
EXHIBITS	30
PERSONAL SERVICES	32
COOPERATING ASSOCIATIONS	33
COST ESTIMATES	34
PLANNING TEAM	35

INTRODUCTION

A Comprehensive Management and Use Plan has been prepared for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail to provide direction for managing and preserving the trail. It recognized that interpretation, that is how we communicate the significance of the trail's history and resources, will play a significant role in its overall management. Instilling understanding and appreciation of the trail; developing support for preserving resources; and providing the information necessary for appropriate, safe, and minimum-impact use of the trail resources, are the major objectives of management.

How interpretation is accomplished can be categorized into two methods, personal services and interpretive media. Personal services refer to activities such as guided trips, talks, attended information desks, and demonstrations conducted by trained providers. Interpretive media includes all "non-personal" techniques such as exhibits, audiovisual programs, exhibits, wayside exhibits (outdoor), and publications. For the most part, this plan will address the "non-personal" component of interpretation.

All modes of interpretation share the objective of communicating the significance of park resources. What distinguishes most parks from museums and other institutions of learning is the sense of place. A museum collection can be located in a variety of places, but there is only one Grand Canyon and one Santa Fe Trail. To the extent possible and appropriate, visitors will be encouraged to experience the trail, and interpretation will aid in their understanding.

The challenge of bringing the story of the Santa Fe Trail alive to the public is the difficult task of distilling a broad and expansive tale into its constituent parts, each to be presented by the most effective medium. This plan is designed to guide the development of interpretive media (exhibits, audiovisual programs, publications, wayside exhibits) which will be produced in cooperation with certified site management entities.

To a large extent the story of the Santa Fe Trail is an intellectual one. While the numerous ruts, landmarks, and historic sites provide tangible clues to its existence, they do not in themselves offer a complete picture of the trail and this colorful chapter of history. Trail interpretation must provide meaningful and appropriate development for individual sites and provide the context for appreciating sites as part of a greater whole.

Another basic tenet of the interpretive program is to provide information, programs, and services on a variety of levels to reflect the diverse needs and abilities of visitors. Interest will span from staunch trail aficionados who will savor every last bit of detail to the harried family vacationers who may be willing to divert only 10 minutes off their planned itinerary, but only if there is powerful enough inducement to lure them away. In the latter case the experience had best live up to the expectation.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Because of the diversity of sites, and the multiplicity of ownership, the interpretation of the Santa Fe Trail must be as varied as the number of partners that comprise the trail community. As a general rule, site development proposals will be initiated by the site manager and presented to the National Park Service for review as part of the certification process. The intent is to promote a dialogue between all parties in formulating the most appropriate level of development for individual sites and to ensure that in its entirety, overall trail interpretation blends into a complementary whole.

Because of the cooperative management structure developed for the Santa Fe Trail National Historic Site and the large number of federal, state, local, and private partners associated with the trail, the exact approach for a specific site will be developed on a case-by-case basis which will be integrated into the certification process. Furthermore, development will be dependent on diverse factors such as certification, funding, research, and other considerations.

As shown in the illustration below, the process for developing interpretive media typically spans several years.

Certification and Site Management Plan

Site management planning along the Santa Fe Trail will typically originate during the site certification process. An important component of the certification process will be the preparation of a site management plan that will outline the nature of proposed development and other activities.

Funding

Upon review and approval of a site management plan by the National Park Service, a funding strategy will be proposed. This may include a variety of funding sources including sources from the private sector. Federal participation will take the form of limited financial assistance consistent with the intent of the National Trails System Act.

Media Planning and Production

The National Park Service Interpretive Design Center, located in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, is responsible for the development of interpretive media throughout the National Park System.

Once funding has been provided, projects typically proceed in two steps. Initially a media plan is produced. This may take a variety of forms depending upon the end product, but might include such items as models, drawings, sketches and scripts. These materials are reviewed by the appropriate parties for accuracy and style, and upon approval guide the production and installation of the final products. Typically the planning phase occurs during one year and the production is scheduled for the following year. This schedule may be accelerated or delayed depending on constraints specific to individual projects.

DEVELOPMENT CATEGORIES

While it is difficult to present an interpretive development rationale for each specific site, an outline of the general framework illustrating how development decisions will be made is provided below. Several typical approaches are listed below to provide a sense of likely development scenarios.

1. Significant Interpretive Sites With Facilities

This generally corresponds to the "Category One" and "Category Two" groupings of complementary Interpretive Programs listed in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (pages 36-37). Because of the interpretive significance of these sites and other factors such as their potential for reaching large audiences, they would be candidates for a high degree of assistance.

Appropriate development might include information and orientation aids such as literature and maps, a well stocked bookstore, and a trailwide orientation exhibit. More extensive interpretive media might be developed if the site has a significant interpretive mission in addition to being an information/orientation center. This could include museum exhibits, wayside exhibits (outdoor) and trailwide audiovisual program(s).

2. Major Interpretive Sites

These sites are characterized by their historical significance, site integrity, tangible resources, and unrestricted public access. They would typically include the more frequently visited sites along the trail, and less frequented sites of prime significance. While these major interpretive sites are recognized as being important components of the trail experience, they do not require extensive development. Appropriate development might include wayside exhibits, site-specific literature, and inclusion in trail-wide publications. They differ from the category listed above (Significant Interpretive Sites with Facilities) primarily by the degree of proposed development.

These sites should be limited to those with appeal to the general visitor in addition to the trail enthusiast, and they should have enough interest to justify a modest change in travel itinerary. Considerable effort should be made to publicize these sites (at regional information centers, local historical society museums,

tourism offices, convention and visitor bureaus, and Chambers of Commerce).

Because of their significance, the National Park Service would place a high priority on these sites when determining how limited resources for technical assistance and support would be distributed. Recommendations regarding interpretive development would be made on a site-by-site basis.

3. Other Sites

This category includes other significant resources that may appeal more to the trail buff than to the general visitor, but are of sufficient interest to warrant some degree of interpretation. Factors such as road conditions, remote locations, limited access, limited tangible resources, et cetera, distinguish this category from the above. These areas would not be heavily promoted. Wayside exhibits or identifying markers would be recommended where appropriate.

At a minimum, all certified sites would receive a site identification sign and appropriate highway signs would be encouraged with the cooperation of state and local authorities.

This category might also include sites not located directly on the trail corridor such as highway rest areas, welcome centers, and local museums. Outreach activities identified in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (page 34) would also fall into this category. It is expected that these sites would be limited to modest development proposals.

The Interpretive Development Scenarios chart presented on the following page, was developed as an aid in understanding the nature of interpretive development for a given site. Rather than proposing a specific interpretive solution for each site, a range of recommended approaches are described for typical sites. The intent is to allow for flexibility in site development based on the needs of the individual site and community.

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

TYPE OF SITE	INTERPRETIVE SOLUTION
1. Uncertified site.	No NPS sanctioned interpretation.
2. Site with little historical significance or site integrity.	Site identification marker.
3. Significant resources with good integrity but with limited visitation due to factors such as remoteness, limited access.	Site identification marker, interpretive wayside exhibit if good documentary material exists. Such sites would be included in general histories and the development of site bulletins and trail guides would be encouraged where appropriate.
4. Significant resources with excellent integrity and the potential for moderate to high visitation, but generally located off major highways.	Wayside exhibit(s) and publications would be the most likely interpretive solutions for these types of sites.
5. Significant resources with excellent integrity and high visitation, and proximity to major highways.	Wayside exhibits including the possibility of freestanding multi-panel kiosks. These sites would probably be well represented in trail-wide literature and the preparation of site bulletins would be encouraged. Due to their proximity to highway access they would be key stops on the Auto Tour. They would be prime candidates for the production of site specific audio cassettes to aid the visually impaired if there were appropriate on-site management services provided.
6. State and local tourism offices or welcome centers	Provide trail-wide literature, and copies of audiovisual programs. Consider the feasibility of modular exhibits and temporary (traveling) exhibits.
7. State or federal interpretive facility or visitor center. (Corresponds to Category 1 in the Comprehensive Management & Use Plan, pages 36-37)	The National Park Service can provide technical assistance for interpretive planning, design, or curation; allow its publications to be sold; or provide exhibits or other media appropriate for the site.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 8. | City, county, regional nonprofit interpretive and educational facilities (Corresponds to Category 2 in the Comprehensive Management & Use Plan, p. 37) | Technical assistance would be available at appropriate locations to enhance trailwide management and interpretive objectives. Media production would be limited to modular exhibits. |
| 9 | Repetitive sites such as river crossings, springs, and ruts. | Develop appropriate graphic illustrations that can be utilized at numerous locations to enhance wayside exhibits and publications. |
| 10 | Significant resources with good integrity but limited access due to administrative restraints. | Use relatively inexpensive methods and media, such as site bulletins and personal services to provide an appropriate response. |
| 11. | Highly significant resources with little site integrity. | Interpretation would be aimed at placing the site in context and enabling visitors to visualize how a site looked during the historic period. This might be accomplished through personal services, publications, and possibly with wayside exhibits. |
| 12. | Trail segments | Encourage appropriate recreational activities. Every effort will be made to appropriately mark trail segments based on the best available data, and provide an overview of the history and significance of the trail via personal services and appropriate interpretive media. |

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE

The Santa Fe Trail linked various routes that were first followed by American Indians, then by the Spanish, the French, the Mexicans, and the Americans. It eventually developed into the first major trans-Mississippi route between the eastern United States and what would become the Southwest. For Mexico the trail became a route of invasion, which eventually led to the loss of the Northern Provinces. Indian tribes also viewed the trail as a threat, and indeed, lost their homelands due in large part to the trail. It provided new opportunities for New Mexicans, who now had a shorter supply line for goods and more goods in abundance, than ever before.

The trail played a critical role in trade relations with Mexico, and the westward expansion of the United States. For a quarter century, from 1821 to 1846, it was an international trade route, carrying needed material goods from Missouri to northern Mexico, and bringing silver, furs, mules, and wool to Missouri. It also fostered an exchange among the Spanish, Indian, and American cultures. After the United States acquired Mexico's northern provinces in 1848, the trail continued as a major link between regions, and American social institutions were extended into the Southwest.

Active trade routes were developed by early Spanish traders primarily from Santa Fe and Chihuahua, and by Indians, between the central plains and pueblos of New Mexico. Prior to the 1820's Spanish merchants also became increasingly familiar with the numerous trails on the eastern slopes of the Rockies and the western Great Plains. After independence from Spain in 1821, Mexican administrators removed legal barriers to commercial exchange on the New Mexican frontier. In that same year, William Becknell and a small party from Missouri arrived in New Mexico to trade. Encouraged by Mexican officials, this now legal commerce, which before had been conducted by secrecy and smuggling, turned into a burgeoning trade.

The Santa Fe Trail quickly became a lucrative trade route assisting both Mexico's northern provinces and the depressed economy of Missouri. By the early 1840's and until the war of 1846, Mexican merchants dominated the trade. A number of Mexican merchants traveled to the East Coast and even on to Europe to acquire appropriate merchandise. Although primarily a commercial and freight hauling route, the trail served other travelers going in both directions.

Some Mexican families traveled east to the United States, and families from the United States traveled the trail west as emigrants or as a passage on their way elsewhere. Some New Mexican families sent their children over the trail to be educated in the United States. Women traveling the trail with their trader or soldier husbands, traveling alone or with their families in search of new lives, or for other reasons, participated in the trail experience. Their diaries, letters and other writings have provided a wealth of knowledge of life along the trail.

During the war between Mexico and the United States (1846-48), Colonel Stephen W. Kearny led the Army of the West from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas via the Santa Fe Trail to the town of Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he proclaimed annexation of New Mexico by the United States. When the war ended, and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed in 1848, the United States had gained almost half of Mexico. The establishment of military posts along the route, such as Fort Union and Fort Larned, led to major use of the trail as a military supply route. Early in the Civil War, Confederate troops marched into the Southwest. The Union victory at the Battle of Glorieta Pass was decisive in protecting the West and the main military supply route--the Santa Fe Trail. The invading Confederates retreated from New Mexico.

The amount of traffic on the trail resulted in expanding pressure on the Indian population in the Southwest, leading to disruption of tribal life and loss of traditional tribal lands. Treaties with the Indian tribes were violated or not fulfilled. During the Civil War, Indian resistance grew along the trail, causing the army to establish additional forts to meet the increased demand for protection of trade caravans.

After the Civil War, the construction of the railroad started west from the vicinity of the Missouri River. Trail traffic increased as wagons carried goods from the railhead westward. As the railroad moved further west the trail became shorter. In February 1880, the first steam engine arrived in Santa Fe, ending nearly 60 years of overland use along the Santa Fe Trail.

INTERPRETIVE THEMES

The Comprehensive Management and Use Plan for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail identifies one broad trailwide theme, "commerce, culture, and conquest," which is further delineated into five regional subthemes. These subthemes focus on the terrain and geographical features that differentiated the regions as well as some of the key historical events and cultural characteristics.

The theme statements are listed on pages 30-33 in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan. It is included in this report as Appendix A.

NPS SITE INTERPRETATION

Four separate units of the National Park System are represented along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, including Pecos National Historical Park, Fort Union National Monument, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, and Fort Larned National Historic Site. The history of the Santa Fe Trail and the NPS mandate of preservation and use are common denominators to each of these sites. They also have their unique stories to tell.

Care must be taken to blend overall Trail interpretation into a complementary whole to serve the needs of the diverse visiting public and to capitalize on the special resources of each of the individual sites. Each site should make its own unique contribution to the overall story to be told. Visitors should come away having a sense of the significance of the Santa Fe Trail as an entity as well as the significance of specific sites along the route.

TRAILWIDE INTERPRETATION

It is recommended that each unit have a portion of its permanent display space and a portion of its interpretive program dedicated to the Santa Fe Trail theme. The focus should aim in two directions. There should be some material on trailwide interpretation, which places the events associated with the trail into historical context and there should also be trailwide orientation. This might be accomplished through some of the media recommendations in this plan such as publications, audiovisual programs, maps, exhibits, and sales literature. It could also be accomplished through short introductory remarks made during personally conducted interpretive programs.

As described in the History and Significance Section of this plan, one broad encompassing thematic statement of "commerce, culture, and conquest" has been identified for the trail and various sub-themes have been designated for trail segments (See Comprehensive Management and Use Plan pages 30-33). In addition each site should promote its own distinctive connection to the Santa Fe Trail story. What follows below is an attempt to outline an appropriate theme for each NPS site.

FORT LARNED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

As outlined in the site's Statement for Management, Fort Larned was established in 1964 to "commemorate the significant role played by Fort Larned in the opening of the West.." The Congressional Committee Report also cited Fort Larned as "...the most significant military post on the eastern portion of the Santa Fe Trail." Among the historical associations is listed the protection and use of the Santa Fe Trail.

Fort Larned supported the central portion of the Trail. It would be an appropriate location to focus on how economic development and settlement patterns affected the native Plains Indian peoples. It might also be an appropriate location to introduce the notion of the Trail's diverse landscapes and ecosystems as a way of understanding the differences between the Mountain and Cimarron routes and the factors that affected travel, such as topography, water levels, the availability of grass, weather conditions, etc.

BENT'S OLD FORT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Bent's Old Fort, located on the Mountain Route of the Santa Fe Trail was authorized in 1960 to commemorate the role the fort played in opening the West. The reconstructed fort sits along the bank of the Arkansas River, which historically marked the boundary between the United States and Mexico. It interprets the significance of the Santa Fe Trail and the impact it had on the United States and the Republic of Mexico. An important interpretive theme is the international two-way commerce along the Santa Fe Trail between the United States and Mexico.

The site serves as a symbol of the Rocky Mountain fur trade and its St. Louis/Missouri River connections. Its primary significance with regard to the Santa Fe Trail is its association with the Mountain Route.

Site specific themes focus on presenting a historically accurate picture of life and lifestyles on a Southwest Fur Trading Post of the 1840's; including military escorts on the Santa Fe Trail (1829-1845), Kearny's Army of the West--wagons, mules and men on the Santa Fe Trail. The connection between commerce on the Trail and the official governmental policy to support the Trail, as manifested by military escorts is an important topic.

FORT UNION NATIONAL MONUMENT

Fort Union National Monument was authorized in 1954 to preserve, protect, and provide public access to the site and remaining structures of the fort. The relationship between the military outpost and the Santa Fe Trail have always been recognized.

As outlined in the "Overview of Themes and Objectives" in the Monument's Annual Statement for Interpretation, "Fort Union was a key logistic facility for the military, settlers, and merchants." It served as the primary army depot for the region, and therefore had a significant impact on the area's economic development.

Located at the junction of the Mountain and Cimarron Routes near the eastern frontier of Hispanic culture, the communities near Fort Union, such as Watrous, Mora, and Las Vegas, were significant locations of intercultural exchange. Many people with Spanish surnames served at Fort Union following the transfer of the area from Mexico to the United States.

This military outpost protected the western sections of the Santa Fe Trail and provided logistical support for military operations in the Southwest. As such it was a catalyst in the economic development of the region and promoted the mix between Hispanic and American cultures.

PECOS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Legislation approved in 1990 expanding the park to include sites associated with the Civil War Battle of Glorieta Pass and additional Santa Fe Trail sites have made earlier planning documents obsolete. New plans are in progress.

Pecos, as living pueblo and mission, and as a ruined landmark, marks the approach to Glorieta Pass--the gateway between the Great Plains and the Rio Grande Valley. The ruins and the nearby trail ruts are poignant reminders of the various people and cultural ideas that lived, visited and passed by here for over a thousand years. Santa Fe Trail travelers traversed an ancient route used by Pueblos peoples, Comanches, Spanish soldiers, Hispanic settlers, American troops and tradesmen and later, settlers and tourists.

INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES

As outlined in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan, interpretation along the Santa Fe National Historical Trail is to instill an understanding and appreciation of the trail's history and its resources, to develop public support for preserving resources, and to provide the information necessary for appropriate, safe, and minimum-impact use of trail resources.

The goal of interpretation is to raise the level of awareness and appreciation of the Santa Fe Trail by visitors and local communities. Interpretation will be accomplished in collaboration with other members of the trail community. The goal is to provide ample opportunity for visitors to become aware of the sites, services, and programs relating to the Santa Fe Trail in order to make informed choices of how they wish to experience the trail. Some specific goals include the following:

To enable visitors to locate the significant features of the Santa Fe Trail.

To cooperate with individuals and organizations, as well as state, local, and other federal agencies, in promoting and protecting the Trail.

To enable visitors to become informed about the resources and interpretive opportunities associated with the Santa Fe Trail.

To reflect the multi-cultural and two-way travel aspects of the trail story.

To reflect the environmental diversity of the trail.

SIGNS AND OUTDOOR INTERPRETATION

An extensive network of outdoor interpretive panels (wayside exhibits and other signs) are envisioned to provide visitor information and orientation and to offer site-specific interpretation. The key to a successful sign and wayside program will be creating a distinct and easily recognizable design for Santa Fe Trail sites. It is important that a full array of products be designed as a "family" of products to serve the variety of needs evident along the trail. Furthermore, the overall program must be flexible enough to withstand the diversity of environmental conditions encountered along the trail.

Generally speaking there will be three levels of treatment corresponding to interpretation, site identification, and highway signs. These are described in more detail below.

Illustrations of wayside exhibits are provided in Appendix B.

Interpretation

Wayside exhibits are most effective when they highlight a significant object of interpretation such as a vista or prominent landmark, a structure or the tangible evidence of a structure (e.g. foundations), or conspicuous trail features such as springs, ruts, and river crossings. Because wayside exhibits are a highly visual medium, a successful exhibit generally consists of a richly illustrative graphic element combined with succinct text. The source material for the graphics might be historical drawings or sketches, photographs, artwork, or specially commissioned art.

Some Santa Fe Trail sites were well documented by artists such as Frederic Remington, George Caleb Bingham, and Gerald Cassidy. The trail and its travelers were chronicled in contemporary periodicals such as Harper's Weekly, and by individuals such as Josiah Gregg, W. H. Emory, and Richard Kern who have added to the visual legacy of the trail. These types of materials will form the basis for much of the graphic elements of interpretive wayside exhibits.

Other sites such as Fort Lyon and Fort Zarah have little site integrity today, but exist in the form of sketches by Robert Lindneux, Ramsey Millet and Ado Hunnius. The painting of Westport Landing by William H. Jackson portrays a scene in stark contrast to its present look. One of the earliest known

photographs of the Santa Fe Trail shows freight wagons parked at Buffalo Bill's Well. Materials such as these will play a tremendous role in communicating the legacy of the Santa Fe Trail. In the absence of tangible resources or documentary evidence, quotations or first person accounts might be used to provide a sense of time and place.

For sites where no suitable graphic documentation exists, other alternatives might be used to provide a perspective of events or add flavor of the period. For example, selected passages from travelers' accounts might be utilized to provide a sense of time and place. Prominent commentators such as Susan Magoffin, and Josiah Gregg could be used, but an effort would be made to make use of less renown impressions such as those cited in Marc Simmons' book, On The Santa Fe Trail. They range from the recollections of José Librado Gurulé, a New Mexican teamster to Ernestine Franke Hunning, a German immigrant. The goal will be to provide insightful perspectives from a multi-cultural point of view. Quotes of this nature can elicit high reader interest and can add a personal dimension to learning.

There are several topics that lend themselves to repetition at numerous sites. For example one exhibit might focus on the identification of ruts. These features are found across the entire length of the trail but differ greatly in clarity and visibility. It would be extremely helpful to develop a generic guide to assist viewers in identifying these features. They would point out the differences in soil color, contour, and vegetation that mark even subtle ruts and could also provide perspectives, such as aerial views that are impossible to observe on the ground. Similarly, an exhibit on the impact terrain had on the route wagons took could aid visitors' understanding of the realities of trail travel.

Waysides might also perform the duty of advising visitors of the type of terrain they will encounter and to alert them of potential safety hazards. In those cases where the site is beyond view at the access point, for example at the beginning of ranch roads, an advisory might be provided to inform visitors of the distance and terrain. This would be especially helpful for visitors with mobility impairments who could use the information to determine if they have the abilities to match the terrain.

Visitors also need to be aware of their responsibilities. It might be prudent to remind visitors to respect private property where appropriate, to ensure that all gates are kept closed, etc.

Site Identification/Information

A site identification sign will be designed to provide a uniform system of site identification markers. Also a method for communicating site specific information such as safety messages, landowner information, visitor responsibilities, et cetera, will be developed.

Trail Marking Procedures

As outlined in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (pages 45-46, and Appendix F) provisions are made for a uniform marker to be used along historic route segments and at sites. The uniform marker will be used on appropriate media such as wayside exhibits. Also, signs will mark the designated auto tour route and a suggested site directional sign is proposed to guide visitors to specific trail resources. These are important elements providing site recognition, direction, and orientation. The ongoing responsibility for the construction and maintenance of auto tour signs rests with the various state, local, and private entities, with which the National Park Service will cooperate.

WAYSIDE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Because individual projects will be initiated in response to local needs, resources, and the availability of funds and staff, the actual chain of events will vary from case to case. The following description is provided to illustrate the typical process of developing wayside exhibits.

There are basically four stages in developing wayside exhibits, corresponding to funding, planning, production, and installation activities.

The first and sometimes most difficult activity is obtaining the necessary funds to perform the work. It is expected that funds would come from a variety of sources which might include cost sharing by the National Park Service and other organizations.

The second step is the planning phase, which begins by collecting reference materials from which the text and graphic elements of the exhibits can be developed. This would typically include reviewing books, reports, brochures, maps, diagrams, photographs, drawings, works of art, and submissions by experts. Generally this level of effort is best performed by individuals closest to the site. In the case of the Santa Fe Trail sites, the responsibility may fall to the site owner or manager, or local organization. Experience has shown this to be the most time-consuming and underestimated component of the process.

Once the materials are assembled, a proposal will be developed for each site, outlining the location, subject and purpose of each exhibit. Care must also be taken to develop the entire site to assure good access, hard and level surfaces around the exhibit, and unobstructed views of the object or scene of interpretation. The National Park Service will provide technical assistance and possibly financial assistance; but the actual site preparation work and installation must be arranged by the site manager or others.

The third phase corresponds to production activities. The hardware and graphic panels of wayside exhibits are fabricated by private contractors according to National Park Service specifications.

The final phase focuses on site preparation and installation. Typically, installation is the responsibility of the individual site owner or others, but the National Park Service will assist to the extent possible.

All wayside exhibits will be included in the National Park Service minor rehabilitation program operated by the Harpers Ferry Center. This includes a system of duplicate panels to replace those damaged by aging or vandalism.

PUBLICATIONS

Here too a range of products will be needed to meet the wide diversity of needs.

It is recommended that a series of publications be developed utilizing the Unigrid system. The Unigrid system is composed of a skeleton of modules upon which the body of each publication is built. Graphic designers use the grid to organize text, illustrations, and maps in an integrated, logical, and aesthetically pleasing manner. A number of distinct products can be developed to serve a variety of purposes.

Site Bulletins

The NPS site bulletin program is envisioned to play an important role in the overall interpretive program. They can provide specific information about a site, provide directions to trail features, and advise visitors about conditions and safety concerns. In some cases they may be the primary interpretive vehicle at a site, in others they will supplement other media and services available at a site.

Site bulletins are easily designed and produced publications which are well suited for simple interpretive literature. They can be produced either in horizontal or vertical formats on 8 1/2 by 14 inch sheets, and they can be folded and stapled to form booklets and catalogs.

It is recommended that a Santa Fe Trail prototype be developed to provide a unified graphic appearance that is easily recognizable and adds a sense of unity to the diverse sites. This basic form could be printed in bulk on good quality paper, then individualized to meet the particular needs of the specific site. Because of the ease in developing such a system, a site bulletin could be the very first interpretive offering at a particular location. They could be quickly placed into service for a nominal cost, and they have the advantage of being easily revisable and reproducible.

The National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, which administers the trail, will provide the technical support to produce the camera ready copy. The task of collecting, organizing, and writing the text will generally be the responsibility of the particular site manager, but the regional office will be available to provide assistance. The National Park Service will provide editorial support and technical assistance to ensure these handouts conform to site bulletin standards. The National Park Service and the

cooperator must both approve the final site bulletin prior to printing and distribution.

These site bulletins could be distributed at individual sites and information centers. The format could also be utilized to provide directional information to locate trail attractions such as ruts, features and landmarks. In field locations a dispenser should be used that protects the publication from the elements. The dispenser should be conveniently located for public access. The National Park Service will prescribe a standard dispenser that can be included as part of cost share interpretive development at sites.

Self Guiding Trail Brochures

Locally produced trailguides should also be considered as another method for providing information about specific sites. Planning would identify the interpretive information about the features and resources, and would also develop an appropriate distribution system. Trailside dispensers are often used, but they have the potential for being a source of litter.

Park Interpretive Folder

It is recommended that a trail-wide folder be developed for the Santa Fe Trail. One of the primary functions this publication can perform is providing a high quality color map that shows the historic trail routes (including the major branches) overlaid with a contemporary highway map. The map is an essential interpretive tool that might eventually be utilized in a variety of formats and media. For example, it could be used in connection with the Auto Tour route and could be utilized in tourist literature produced by other organizations in cooperation with the National Park Service.

The folder would also provide an overview of the history and significance of the Trail, as well as provide important safety and visitor use information.

Interpretive Posters

It is recommended that a poster be developed to capture the atmosphere and spirit of the Santa Fe Trail. The intent is to create an attractive and evocative piece that focuses on a single icon that would help promote appreciation of the Santa Fe Trail.

It should be attractive enough to appeal to the general public as a souvenir item.

As a long range goal, a series of interpretive posters are recommended to be developed to provide insight into the cultural heritage of the Santa Fe Trail. Original art would be commissioned to graphically illustrate a variety of themes such as cultural diversity and interaction, the hazards and logistics of trail travel, various roles of trail travelers (e.g. traders, soldiers, teamsters, etc.), and environmental diversity. It is envisioned these posters would consist of a variety of graphic elements with captions that would explore the multi-faceted dimensions of the theme. They would be designed for use in the schoolroom and would be available for purchase as souvenir items.

Trail Handbook

As the Santa Fe National Historic Trail matures and a substantial number of affiliated sites become certified in accordance with the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan, it would be appropriate to create a trailwide interpretive handbook. The primary function of this publication would be to provide an easy-to-use guide for locating points of interest.

Essentially it would serve as a gazetteer, a geographical dictionary. It is envisioned as a layman's guide, designed in such a fashion as to be useful at any location along the trail and should be well illustrated to quickly orient users to specific sites. It should complement rather than compete with other trail literature, and would complement the proposed Auto Tour.

AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAMS

The audiovisual medium includes such products as motion pictures, slide and video programs, audio recordings, and interactive computer programs. Each medium has particular strengths which can be effectively used in specific applications. Audiovisual programs are well suited to the presentation of chronological and sequential material and are very effective in presenting an overview or introduction to a broad topic like the history and significance of the Santa Fe Trail.

The use of sound, both natural sounds and personal narratives, can add a measure of authenticity to programs. The medium also provides an alternative experience for those who may be limited by disabilities and are physically unable to experience some sites.

The visual nature of many programs provides a degree of access to inaccessible areas, or fragile sites where human contact could damage sensitive cultural resources. Audiovisual programs will be captioned to convey information to hearing impaired viewers. Similarly, the medium offers the capability of multilingual audio tracks to meet the needs of the diverse cultural community bridged by the Santa Fe Trail.

As with the other media recommendations, audiovisual programs will be designed to operate on a variety of levels to meet a multiplicity of needs. Some of the specific proposals are outlined below:

Video Program

It is recommended that a 20-25 minute video program be developed to provide a broad overview of the history and significance of the Santa Fe Trail and provide insight into the two-way nature of traffic. It is intended for use at various locations along the trail and will be produced with both English and Spanish language soundtracks. It will also be captioned to aid the hearing impaired.

The objective of the program will be to provide insight into the multi-cultural heritage of the trail, to show how the commercial and military use of the trail touched upon and was influenced by contact among people of diverse cultural background. The story line will be developed through the liberal use of first person accounts.

The program will set the Trail into historical context by briefly surveying native use of the region prior to European discovery, Spanish exploration and development, the Mexican Revolution, and the opening of trade. The military and commercial aspects of the trail, as summarized by the thematic statement of "commerce, culture, and conquest," will be explored through the following technique.

An on-camera narrator will conduct viewers to numerous sites and features along the trail. In a personal and intimate fashion, the host will point out key features along the trail and explain how factors such as water levels and availability, grass, firewood, and terrain had tremendous impact on the route of individual travelers.

Archetypical sites, such as springs, water crossings, and ruts will be examined to provide contemporary travelers "clues" on how to read the landscape. The narrator will point out the topographic and vegetative evidence that can subtly reveal ruts and other tangible features. Along with lively anecdotes and information, the narrator will remind the audience of their responsibility in preserving this delicate cultural legacy.

Woven into this contemporary narrative will be vignettes from historical sources including photographs, artwork, and personal reminiscences. These first person accounts will represent a broad array of cultural perspectives and will be dramatized by professional actors.

Aerial photography will be utilized to illustrate the pronounced evidence of the trail as seen from the air.

It is intended that this program would have broad application and could be utilized at numerous interpretive facilities across the span of the trail. Hence the program would highlight many of the prominent features of the trail, but would not focus on any one site or component of the story. It will emphasize the two-way nature of commerce.

The program would be produced in the VHS format.

Audio Cassette Recording

Since experiencing the Santa Fe Trail often involves lengthy stretches of driving, it is recommended that an audio cassette recording be created to provide a dramatic interpretive experience. The cassette could be comprised of dramatic readings from trail narratives mixed with music, sound effects, and commentary by prominent historians to put the history and significance of the trail

into context. Because of the distances involved, the cassette would not be a site-by-site guide, but rather provide an impression of the trail and its history.

The descriptions of trail features should be evocative of the period and richly narrated to provide a sense of the trail and specific sites for those who may be physically unable to visit sites or have limited time. With the increasing popularity of "talking books", it is expected that this could be a popular sales item.

In addition, audio cassettes should be produced to provide narrative descriptions of sites and features to provide programmatic access for visually impaired visitors.

Motion Picture

An interpretive film could be considered as a long range goal. Such a program could be designed to provide a dramatic portrayal of the trail's history and significance. It is felt that a program of this type is inappropriate during the formative years of the trail. Rather, sufficient time should elapse for trail interpretation to mature and to allow the collection of information regarding operational concerns and visitor needs.

As a first step, it is recommended that funds be requested to develop a treatment for this program. It would be during this process that the exact approach, content, length, and style of the film would be developed and the production cost would be estimated.

Travelers Information Station

The possibility of developing Travelers Information Stations (TIS) should be considered at locations where appropriate trail sites are located near a major highway and a public information facility. These criteria are needed to make effective use of the medium. The TIS systems work best when providing brief, succinct messages such as alerting travelers of hazards or raising their awareness of attractions and directing visitors to sources of more detailed information.

TIS systems are limited to a range of approximately three miles in radius. Typically transmitters utilize a solid state voice unit that can contain a message up to approximately three minutes in length. Although the recording can contain a maximum of three minutes playing time, the core message must be limited to about a minute to allow for repetition in the reception area and provide sufficient time for the traveler to respond. The units can be field

programmed, using a tape message transcribed to the synthesized voice unit, or by simply reading the script into the furnished microphone.

Several factors need to be considered in choosing sites such as the availability of power, an area to bury copper wire that must be used for grounding, and a pole or high surface to mount the equipment. Also the issue of maintenance needs to be addressed.

Good planning and site selection can go a long way in assuring optimum performance of the system. These systems can complement some of the welcome centers or visitor facilities along the trail route, and could also support the Auto Tour program.

Interactive Computer Information Systems

Video technology has grown tremendously, and parks, museums and learning institutions are adapting the medium to provide quality interpretive programs. The marriage between video technology and computerization, often referred to as interactive computer information systems, offers an exciting range of possibilities that could have application to the Santa Fe Trail.

The development of sophisticated computer driven information systems opens the possibility of creating very sophisticated and customized programs to meet a variety of needs. For example, a computer data base could contain a wealth of information about trail sites, events, and personalities. When combined with computer graphics and videodisc, very dramatic and informative programs can be developed.

The use of videodisc systems fall into three broad types of installations. The most popular is in support of museum exhibits. These systems are integrated into exhibits where multiple still images or short video clips support the themes communicated in the exhibit. This technology enables the integration of visual images to exhibits without the associated problems of replacing slides or films on a regular basis. It also enables an easy way to provide captions to aid the visually impaired.

Another application of videodisc technology is as an alternative to slide programs or film presentations where theater space is unavailable. A video alcove or small viewing area can be designed with a monitor and videodisc player. The programs can be activated from a central location, or automated to run on a scheduled basis all day long without staff attention.

Interactive computer and videodisc presentations are also finding a place in interpretation. They promote active visitor participation and enable customizing information to each user. Visitors select the information they are interested in viewing and learning about, by making choices that determine the path of the program as it progresses.

Interactive systems are being used to provide a broad range of services. For example, information on area activities, attractions, accommodations, services and facilities could be developed. These systems are easily updatable and new information can be added by the staff. Just as important, they can be configured from off the shelf hardware and software provided under contract with outside vendors.

Interactive systems are being used to provide information on park activities, attractions, accommodations, services and facilities. Interactive technology is also being used to develop computer simulations. Perhaps a simulation game could be developed to portray the hazards and logistics associated with trail travel, and the factors involved in choosing the Mountain Route or the Cimarron Route.

Interactive systems can also be used in an interpretive/archival capacity. A video disc can contain approximately 30 minutes of linear playing or approximately 54,000 still images. The feasibility of converting a considerable collection of photos, documents, and drawings to a videodisc is very compelling, especially in a situation such as the Santa Fe Trail where the resource is essentially sedentary and potential audience is remote. The goal would be to create a photo-archive that would facilitate research and which could be programmed for various interpretive uses.

For example, it would be possible to store images of significant trail features and events on one laser videodisc, along with other information such as sketches, drawings, and artwork. The only limitation is the number of frames available on a videodisc (54,000).

The computer then becomes the vehicle for retrieving information. It could be a pre-programmed presentation that could take the place of a slide show, or it could be a menu-driven program which would provide customized information to meet the needs of each individual user. The videodisc could be made available to libraries, schools, and other institutions to provide an easily accessible archive of the Santa Fe Trail.

In summary, interactive computer information systems could provide an exciting element to the interpretation of the Santa Fe Trail and provide a depth of service that is currently lacking. This might be viewed as a long term objective which could be modified in response to changing technology, costs, and the needs of the trail community.

EXHIBITS

As outlined in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (pages 35-36), the National Park Service may provide various levels of interpretive assistance for complementary interpretive programs, including technical assistance or interpretive media. The exact nature of assistance will be identified during the certification process but could include the following types of support.

Exhibit Concept and Master Planning

The National Park Service may provide technical assistance, and possibly media production assistance, to certified interpretive facilities built or operated by state or other federal agencies. The goal would be to help provide for the development of an interpretive program that complements the overall management plan for the trail.

This type of support would apply to qualifying "Category One" sites as identified in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan (pages 36-37). The exact scope of each project will be defined on a case-by-case basis.

Modular Exhibit

It is recommended that an attractive two-dimensional exhibit be developed to provide a visual overview of the trail. A prominent feature would be an illustration of the entire trail route showing the primary routes and key sites. It should be of sufficient detail to be used as an orientation panel to aid visitors in locating specific sites.

The exhibit would feature various graphic elements, including a map, to provide a sense of the trail, and would not utilize artifacts or objects. The material might be organized in a geographical manner to provide a relation to the physical proximity of nearby sites and landmarks and provide a general trail overview. This would provide viewers a sense of the sequence of trail features. The exhibit could illustrate the differences between the Mountain Route and the Cimarron Route, and the reasons for choosing one over the other.

The modular approach is recommended to minimize design costs. The exhibits would consist of interlocking panels, that when

assembled, would form a freestanding exhibit island. Multiple copies of the series could be produced, with portions customized to reflect local trail resources so that it could be utilized at several locations.

These exhibits will be utilized primarily at those locations referred to in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan as "Category Two" sites. This includes city, county, regional, nonprofit interpretive and educational facilities that provide trail interpretation.

Traveling Exhibits

A traveling exhibit would also be developed to provide a more flexible and more versatile method of providing trail information than the modular exhibit described above. While it may contain some of the same graphic images used in the modular exhibit, it would be designed for quick assembly and packing, and should be easily transported. It is intended for use at short-term events such as fairs, conferences, and special events.

Interpretive Props

It is recommended that a travelling kit be developed for off-site programs. This might take the form of a trunk filled with props and charts that could be easily transported. For example, it might contain samples of trade materials transported on the trail--wool and silver (reproduction) from Mexico, tools and clothing from the east. Other items such as dress-up costumes, survey maps, charts and photographs could be included. The carrying case should convey a sense of the trail as well, and could take the form of a shipping crate or keg.

The exact contents should be developed in consultation with curriculum specialists to better complement classroom activities. Appropriate guides will be prepared to support these materials and training programs will be created to train teachers and volunteers in the use of these interpretive props. Effort will be made to reach people along the trail corridor, especially school and civic organizations, to promote interest and understanding of the trail and to utilize the resources of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail as learning tools.

PERSONAL SERVICES

One of the most effective methods of interpretation is personal services, that is, direct, one-on-one communication with groups and individuals, in the form of tours, guided walks, demonstrations, and conducted trips. This approach has the advantage of being "alive" and capable of being tailored to the needs and interests of the audience. It can take advantage of unexpected or spontaneous events.

Personal services are especially appropriate for many sites along the Santa Fe Trail. Given the subtle nature of many Trail features, a personal guide can often be the most effective way to communicate the significance of sites and resources along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

Because of the unique partnership inherent with managing the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, it might be appropriate for individual sites and districts to develop a range of services including interpretive programs conducted by non-profit organizations. These might include conducted walking tours, motor coach excursions, university associated seminars, wagon rides, lectures and speaking engagements, or other innovative activities. Cooperation with local tourism offices, historical societies, and Chambers of Commerce would probably be a key ingredient to success. The development of a Speakers Bureau would be an appropriate activity that could both promote appreciation for the Santa Fe Trail and could also monitor the accuracy of the information presented.

To insure that quality and accuracy are maintained, rigorous control and evaluation would be expected of services provided at certified sites. For example, guides or providers would be expected to maintain a certain level of training and proficiency. The expectations and responsibilities of providers would be spelled out in the certification process, and providers would be subject to periodic review and evaluation. This review would be accomplished by National Park Service personnel, staff from nearby National Park Service units when appropriate, or qualified individuals designated by the National Park Service perhaps with Volunteers-in-Parks status.

To help stimulate such activities, the National Park Service might make the resources of the Regional Interpretive Skills team available to the trail community to increase proficiency. This might be accomplished through the sponsorship of training sessions and workshops.

COOPERATING ASSOCIATIONS

Stores that sell books and related interpretive or educational materials are currently operated in many of the Federal, state, and local visitor centers and museums along the Santa Fe Trail National Historic Trail. Among the four National Park Service areas along the trail, two NPS cooperating associations operate sales outlets. They are the Bent's Old Fort Historical Association and Southwest Parks and Monuments Association (SPMA). Sales outlets in other facilities are integral parts of the institutions and operate independent of one another.

Cooperating associations are incorporated, legal entities with non-profit status under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Federal law permits associations to use government facilities for offices and to operate sales areas in visitor centers. A portion of the proceeds from these sales are returned to the National Park Service for interpretive programs, museum activities, research, and the purchase of special equipment and materials such as living history props. Associations also support interpretive demonstrations, educational seminars, outreach programs, training programs, and special events related to park themes. Other proceeds go to support publications programs.

Each cooperating association is governed by a Board of Directors. Some associations operate membership programs, which allow members to receive discounts in sales outlets, attend special members' events, or enjoy similar privileges.

Three of Southwest Parks and Monuments Association's outlets are in NPS areas associated with the Santa Fe Trail: Pecos, Fort Union, and Fort Larned. Because of this, the NPS has designated SPMA to be the cooperating association affiliated with the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. This provides several opportunities.

The publication arm of the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association can pursue the preparation of books, maps, postcards, and other interpretive products that would have trail-wide application and sales opportunity. Other assistance in the areas of merchandising and display, training in management and operations of sales outlets, and similar activities may be available through SPMA on a limited basis. SPMA's interest in providing trail-wide interpretive and educational support can help meet the goals of all non-profit institutions and sales outlets operating along the Santa Fe Trail.

COST ESTIMATES

The following listing is a very rough guide for estimating the cost of producing interpretive media. It is intended to be used as an indicator of the range of cost for a particular medium. Actual cost will vary at each specific site.

EXHIBITS	\$ 250-\$ 500 per square foot
VIDEO PROGRAMS	\$ 25,000 to \$ 150,000 per program \$ 12,000 for equipment
16mm MOTION PICTURE	\$ 400,000 or greater per program \$ 45,000 for equipment
SOUND/SLIDE PROGRAM	\$ 8,000 to \$ 20,000 \$ 2,000 for equipment
WAYSIDE EXHIBITS	\$ 3,500 to \$ 5,000 per unit

PLANNING TEAM

William E. Brown	Historian, National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office (retired).
John Conoboy	Outdoor Recreation Planner, National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office
David M. Gaines	Chief, Branch of Long Distance Trails, Southwest Regional Office
Richard Hoffman	Wayside Exhibit Planner, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center
Michael Paskowsky	Interpretive Planner, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, Team Captain
Jerry Ward	Chief, Division of Audiovisual Arts, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center
Shirley Wilt	Audiovisual Production Officer, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center
Mitch Zetlin	Exhibit Designer, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center

APPENDIX A

Trailwide Interpretive Topics, Subthemes, and Key Points

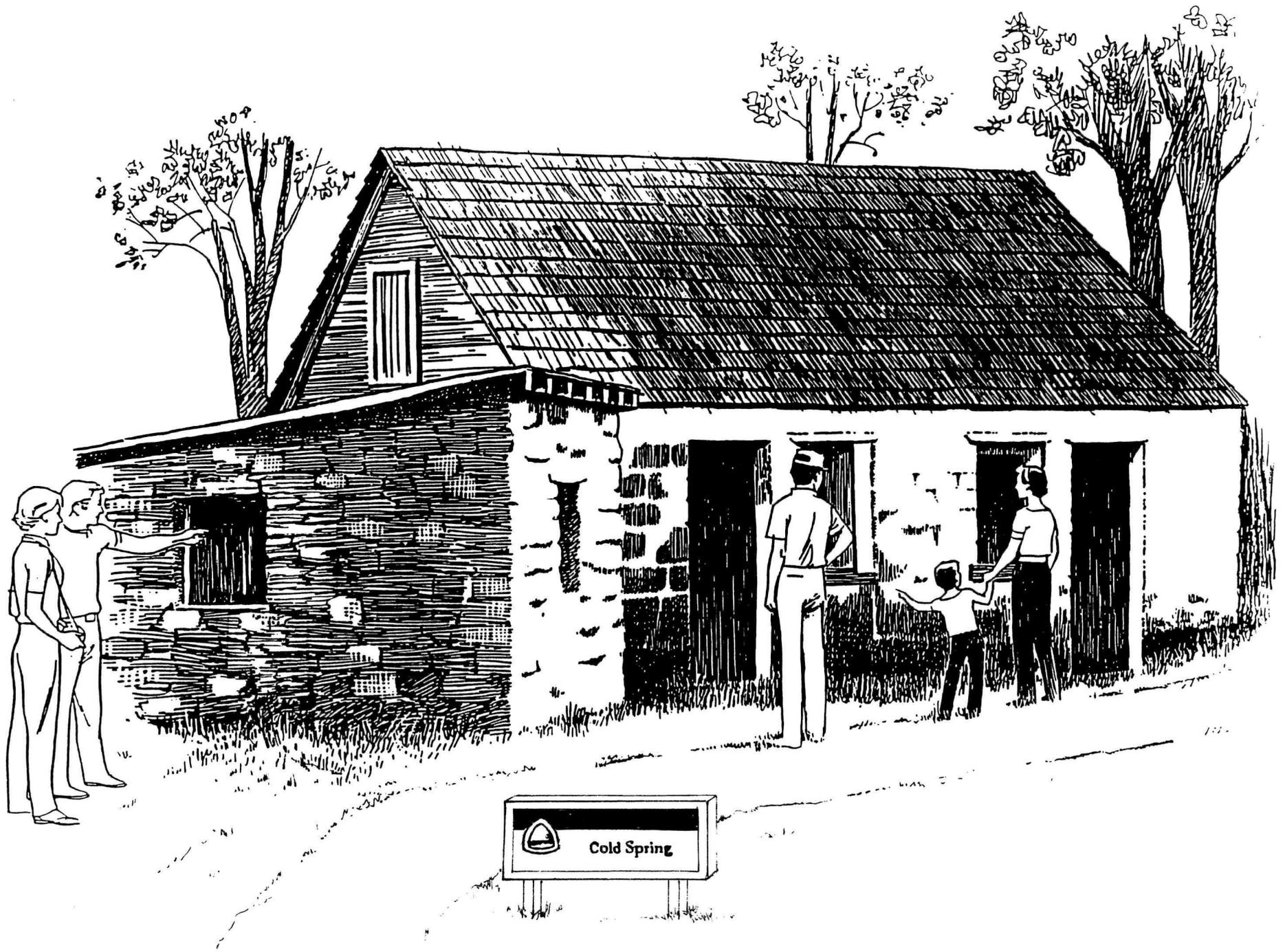
<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SUBTHEME</u>	<u>KEY POINTS</u>
Pre-1821 - Informal Establishment of the Trail	The Santa Fe Trail became a bridge for international trade and commerce between the United States and Spanish territory. Despite many earlier attempts to establish the bridge, the Spanish government effectively blocked trade.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spanish <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Exploration b. Colonial trade policy c. Trade with the Indians d. Missionary efforts e. American fur trade f. Trade fairs g. Mexican independence and removal of the trade barrier 2. French <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Exploration - attraction to Santa Fe b. Smuggling 3. American <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identification of the potential for overland trade by Pike and others b. Attempts by Americans to settle and establish trade in New Mexico 4. Native American <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Trade centers and trail routes b. River valley rendezvous sites
Purpose of the Trail and How It Differs from Other Trails	The Santa Fe Trail was a significant link for trade and commerce in the trail network across the North American continent in the 1800s.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commerce - buying, selling, and exchanging of manufactured, native, and other goods 2. The trail was but one segment of a larger system of commerce between North America and Europe 3. Expansion of trade along the trail from 1821 until the coming of the railroad in 1880 4. Evolution of trade
Effect of the Trail	Opening the trail had far-reaching effects on the United States, the provinces of northern Mexico, and American Indians.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. United States <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economy b. Politics c. Expansion d. Agriculture e. Manufacturing f. Knowledge of the west and techniques of overland travel; application of knowledge to other trails g. Knowledge of Mexican control 2. Mexico's northern provinces <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economy b. Politics c. Expansion d. Agriculture e. Manufacturing f. Chihuahua Trail g. Effect of colonial trade policy

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SUBTHEME</u>	<u>KEY POINTS</u>
Effect of the Trail (cont.)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. American Indians <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Economy b. Diseases c. Demise of the buffalo d. Loss of land e. Conflicts 4. Cultural, ethnic, and gender composition of participants, including interaction of cultures (Hispanic, American Indian, American, and others)
Natural Elements	Survival depends on successful interaction with natural forces.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biogeographic zones - the transition through the Central Lowland, Great Plains, Southern Rocky Mountain, and Basin and Range provinces <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Weather and climate b. Vegetation c. Water d. Physiographic features - the importance of landmarks 2. Sustenance - food and water for both humans and livestock 3. Environmental change
Military Presence	Conflict occurs when different peoples do not understand each other or have different goals.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mexican and American military escorts of the caravans - protection and self-sufficiency <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Military posts b. Military freighting 2. Transition zones between cultures - cultural interaction at military posts 3. Wars <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Texas Revolution b. Mexican War c. Civil War d. Indian Wars
Relationship to Today	Human needs and desires do not change, only the means by which they are achieved.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relativity of time and distance 2. Dangers 3. Means of transportation 4. Travel and trade routes (railroads and highways closely parallel the trail) 5. Influence of each culture on the other 6. Trail mythology and popular culture

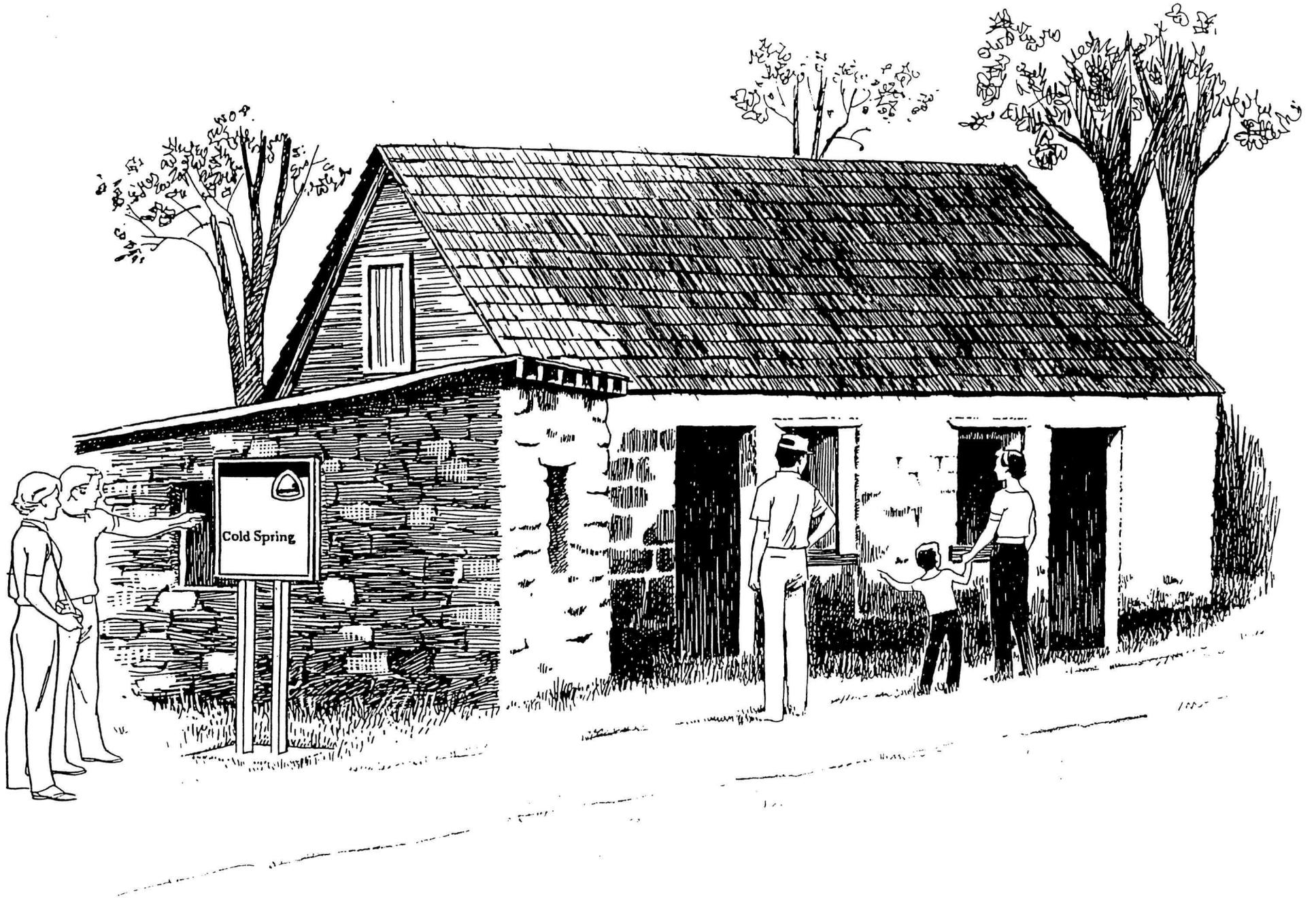
INTERPRETIVE REGIONS, SUBTHEMES, AND KEY POINTS

<u>REGION</u>	<u>SUBTHEME</u>	<u>KEY POINTS</u>
1: Old Franklin to Council Grove, including Fort Leavenworth	Individual caravans formed throughout the region and traveled independently to Council Grove, where they organized into military-like formations that helped ensure the greatest chance of success and survival.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Becknell and Old Franklin 2. Arrow Rock 3. Lexington 4. Fort Osage 5. Independence 6. Fort Leavenworth 7. Council Grove 8. Cooperation and self-reliance 9. Central lowlands - woods, plentiful water, forage, climate 10. Missouri River
2: Council Grove to Cimarron Route	The transition from central lowlands to the plains required adaptation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water 2. Scarcity of wood 3. Buffalo and other wild game 4. Transition from long-grass to short-grass prairie 5. Semiarid climate, buffalo grass and cactus 6. Increased danger from Indians 7. Arkansas River and trading ranches
3: The Cimarron Route	Despite the hazards of this route, it was favored from the early 1820s to the mid 1840s because it was 100 miles shorter to Santa Fe or Missouri and it was suitable for wagon traffic.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International territory 2. Semiarid climate, sand and dry rivers 3. Precious springs 4. Severe storms (winter and summer) 5. American Indians 6. Escorts <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mexican b. U.S. Army 7. Various cutoffs
4: The Mountain Route	The Mountain route, opened to wagon traffic in the mid 1840s, afforded greater safety and water, but it was longer and traversed difficult mountain terrain.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change from plains to mountains, climate 2. More secure, but more difficult for travelers 3. Bent's Old Fort <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Fur trade b. Interaction of cultures 4. Wars <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mexican War b. Civil War 5. Advent of the railroad 6. American Indians
5: Fort Union/Watrous (La Junta) to Santa Fe	Merchants from Missouri entering this region got their first glimpse of non-Indian settlement since leaving; traders from Mexico left the mountains and entered the Great Plains.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First and last settlements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Watrous (La Junta) - Mexican caravans gather for strength; junction of Mountain and Cimarron routes b. Las Vegas - declaration of U.S. occupation of New Mexico c. San Miguel del Vado - crossing of the Pecos River d. Santa Fe - destination/starting point; major trade center; stop from and to Chihuahua <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Center of international trade (2) Center of domestic trade (after the Mexican War) 2. Wars <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Texas Revolution b. Mexican War c. Civil War d. Indian Wars

APPENDIX B



 Cold Spring



Santa Fe National Historic Trail
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Cold Spring

Santa Fe NH Trail

WAYSIDE EXHIBIT PLAN

Scale: 3" = 1'-0"

Panel Size: 18"X24"

Date:

Exhibit

Wagon Mound

Santa Fe National Historic Trail
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

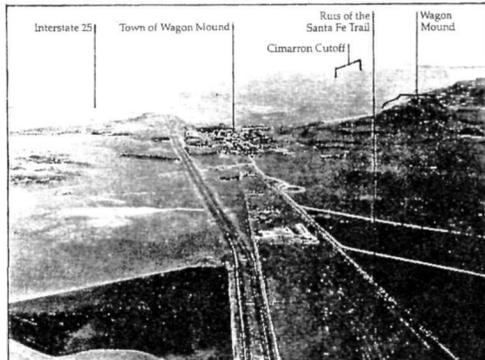


Direction and Danger

For westward travelers, this dramatic outcropping was the last great landmark before they reached the populated area of La Junta, some 20 miles distant. Wagon masters knew that good water could be found here and at nearby Pilot Knob.

The guidepost also served as a potent warning of danger. Several confrontations between wagon trains and Jicarilla Apaches occurred in the area.

In May 1850, ten men were killed accompanying an express mail wagon. This "massacre" was believed to be the Jicarillas' retribution for Lt. Ambrose E. Burnside's earlier attack on their encampment. That incident resulted in 14 Indian casualties and the capture of Chief Lobo's daughter, who was later killed atop Wagon Mound.



In this aerial photograph, note the visible wagon ruts paralleling Interstate 25.

Nick Eggenhofer's painting captures the spirit and atmosphere of Trail days in the mid-1840s. In this profile the rock outcropping resembles an ox-pulled freight wagon.



This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the XYZ Corporation.

Santa Fe NH Trail

WAYSIDE EXHIBIT PLAN

Scale: 3" = 1'-0"

Panel Size: 36" × 24"

Date: _____

Exhibit

















