



Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Project Updates - Preservation, Interpretation, & Public Awareness

What's New? Spring 2011

Junior Wagon Master

Activities are being field-tested in Kansas in June 2011.

Westport Landing, MO

Nine exhibit panels are going into final review March and April 2011.

Strang Park, KS

Work will begin spring 2011 on four exhibits in Overland Park.

Independence, MO

The five-exhibit project for McCoy Park is underway.

Fort Marcy, NM

Archaeological clearance for exhibits will occur this spring with installation following this summer.

Website Updates

Visit the Santa Fe NHT website to find newly posted research documents and bibliographic information:

<http://www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/research.htm>

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.



Kiosks show trail sites in both directions of travel.

Each kiosk includes a place-based interpretive panel.

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

Kiosk Project Update

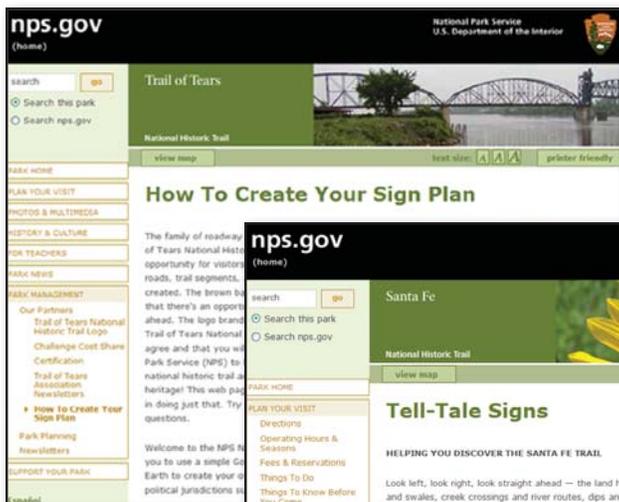
Hitting the trail? No time to plan? Just follow the directions!

Two major exhibit projects at Dodge City Ruts National Historic Landmark and at four national parks on the historic route - Fort Larned National Historic Site, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Fort Union National Monument, and Pecos National Historical Park - will provide visitors with information to visit sites in their direction of travel from each exhibit location.

The result will be a network of exhibits that cover the length of the historic route of the Santa Fe Trail from end to end. The New Mexico Santa Fe Trail National Scenic Byway Alliance is also developing exhibits of similar design.

As new exhibits are installed, the National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) staff will place them on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail website. We are also beginning to upload past exhibit projects.

Visit: <http://www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/exhibits.htm>



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

Sign Plan Released!

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



The family of roadway signs designed for the Santa Fe 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 Santa Fe 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 sign plan is the first step toward signing the trail and working with NTIR staff and others who may have jurisdiction over road sections.

To learn more about the plan, please visit:
<http://www.nps.gov/safe/planyourvisit/sign-standards.htm>

National Register Nominations

Connect Trails to Parks

Fort Union National Monument has contracted with Cornerstones Community Partnerships to conduct a survey and assessment of historic buildings at three private properties within the Tiptonville National Historic Landmark District. Each figured prominently in the history of the Santa Fe Trail. Property owners will gain information on critical stabilization and long-term preservation.

NTIR has been focusing on nominating sites and trail segments to the National Register of Historic Places. Listing properties often changes the way communities perceive their historic places, and strengthens the credibility of efforts by private citizens and public officials to preserve these resources as living parts of our community. Listing also helps in protecting sites from federally funded or licensed projects, such as cell towers and road construction.

Mapping and Database Workshop

NTIR hosted its first Mapping and Database Workshop for partners in Albuquerque, NM in late October 2010. The workshop provided an engaging forum for partners to discuss and exchange insight into successful practices and technologies used by partners across nine national historic trails administered by NTIR. The Santa Fe Trail was represented by Jeff Trotman, Roger Slusher, and Joanne VanCoevern.

NTIR has initiated agreements in Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico to prepare Santa Fe Trail nominations to the National Register. NTIR is also in the process of developing agreements to do the same in Missouri and Oklahoma. Association chapters are being asked for suggestions as to what properties they feel could be considered eligible candidates.



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