



*Washita Battlefield National Historic Site
Cheyenne, Oklahoma*

New Visitor Center Combines Function and Symbolism

<http://www.nps.gov/waba> 580-497-2742

The center has exhibits, bookstore, park film, and information about the attack.

Entry sidewalk's walls--one curved and the other angled--symbolize a clash of cultures.

Like a traditional tipi, the front door opens to the rising sun in the east.

Gallery floor and walls feature diamond patterns that represent Chief Black Kettle.

Solar tube skylights echo a tipi's smoke hole and incorporate "green" efficiency.

The building's red and sandstone colors blend the center into the surrounding terrain.

Patterns of four--a symbolic number to the Cheyenne--appear throughout the building.

The large cathedral-like gallery accentuates the site's sacredness.

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