

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Little Rock Central High School  
National Historic Site



Photo by Ben Wagner

## A Lesson in Courage

*It's been an interesting year. I've had a course in human relations first-hand.*

Ernest Green, Little Rock Nine

In September 1957 Little Rock Central High School became a crucial battleground in the struggle for civil rights. The nation watched as nine African-American teenagers attempted to enter the all-white school only to be turned away by Arkansas National Guard troops. The crisis that followed put on trial America's commitment to its founding principles. The nine students' courageous demand for equal rights brought the nation further along its path of democracy for all.

Visit Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site and see the place where history was made. Learn more about the events that challenged the citizens of this nation to debate the meaning of equal rights—a debate that continues today. Listen as the participants tell their stories about what happened at the school, and test your knowledge of your own rights under the Constitution. This is a history lesson you'll never forget.

Photos courtesy of Central High Historical Collection/UALR Archives.





## Directions

Begin your tour at the park's visitor center. From Interstate 630 exit on Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive (Exit 2B). Turn left and travel south to Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive. Turn right on Bates Drive. Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site is at the intersection of Bates Drive and Park Street.



NPS



Arkansas History Commission

## Please Note

Central High School, although an important historical landmark, is still an operating high school with more than 2400 students in attendance. You are welcome to visit the front campus, but do not enter the school on your own. By agreement with the school, the park offers guided tours of the interior by reservation. Please check our website or call for more information about these tours.



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### Hours of Operation

9:00-4:30 Daily  
 Closed Thanksgiving,  
 December 25, and January 1.  
 Admission is free.

### For More Information

Little Rock Central High School  
 National Historic Site  
 2120 Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive  
 Little Rock, AR 72202  
 501.374.1957  
[www.nps.gov/chsc](http://www.nps.gov/chsc)