

PH 366889

DATA SHEET

Form 10-306  
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
Mississippi  
COUNTY:  
Madison  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY DATE  
NOV 7 1976

1. NAME

COMMON:

Old Natchez Trace (No. 170-30)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Path to Choctaw Nation, Chickasaw Trace, Natchez Trace

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

P. O. Box 438 - Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost #104.6

CITY OR TOWN:

Ridgeland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

3

STATE:

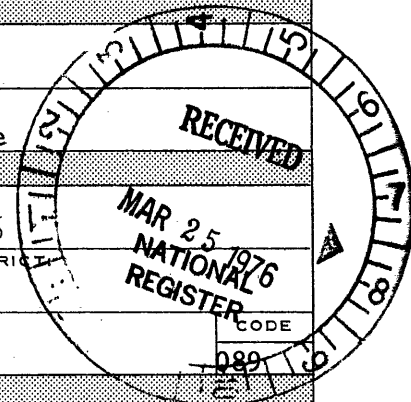
Mississippi 39157

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Madison



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. AGENCY

U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Natchez Trace Parkway

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Southeast

STREET AND NUMBER:

3401 Whipple Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Atlanta

STATE:

Georgia 30344

CODE

13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Chancery Clerk's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Canton

STATE:

Mississippi 39046

CODE

28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, United States Government Printing Office

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941

Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

District of Columbia

CODE

001

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mississippi

COUNTY: Madison

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There are two locations of the Old Trace at this site. One is very badly grown up with pine trees and undergrowth and it has high banks. The other portion is very wide. The trail is smooth and is used by visitors. This section is near the parking lot and this is an interpretive stop on the parkway. Just north of the cleared trail it is grown up with underbrush. Turner Brashers operated an inn near here beginning in 1806 and this is also interpreted as part of the Old Trace story.

Recommended treatment: Preservation  
 Preliminary cost estimate for above: \$500.00  
 Photograph enclosed

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric               | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture               | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture              | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation              |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Near this section of the Old Trace and some 300 yards south on the Old Trace was the stand or inn that Turner Brashears opened in late 1806 for travelers. Brashears, of Bladensburg, Maryland, was a trader to the Choctaw before 1792 and during the Spanish rule. Because of his knowledge of the Choctaw Nation and language, he was consulted by Spanish and American authorities. The exact site is presently unknown and is not on the parkway. Like so many, Brashears took advantage of the Trace traffic, and his story is also a part of the Old Trace.

When Europeans began to explore the Old Southwest, they found a network of trails which showed a marked tendency to follow watershed divides, avoiding wherever possible stream crossings and swamps. Several of these trails, though individually unimportant, led southwesterly from Nashville, Tennessee, to Natchez, Mississippi.

One such trail was the Chickasaw Trace which ran from Nashville to about Tupelo, Mississippi, to the Chickasaw Nation. There it intersected another trail which connected to the Choctaw and Natchez Tribes and which appears on French maps of the 1730's. The southern part of the trail appears on British maps of the 1770's as the "Path to the Choctaw Nation." These trails often shifted with the weather and population as towns sprang up nearby.

Explorers and traders traveled over these trails and they let it be known that they connected Natchez and Nashville. In 1785 a small scow from Pittsburgh loaded with flour landed at Spanish Natchez. This was the beginning of the Natchez Trace as the Boatmen's Trail. From this humble beginning, western products began to flow down the Mississippi to Natchez and New Orleans. The effect on the western economy was enormous. This was the major outlet of trade for them.

In 1798 the Mississippi Territory was formed and traffic increased so much there was a demand to improve the road. By 1810 about 8-10,000 people were using the road. It was also important to have a good line of communication between the Federal Government and the capital of the Mississippi Territory.

In 1801 President Thomas Jefferson authorized improvement on the Natchez Trace and work began in that year and ended in 1807. Postal service also began on the Old Natchez Trace in 1800 and continued until the 1830's. Stands or inns, such as Mount Locust, sprang up along the Trace until 50 were located between Natchez and Nashville.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin, including "L. King" and "A. J. ...".

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Phelps, Dawson A. "The Trace in Alabama." Alabama Review, vol. VII. (January 1949). 22-41.

. "The Natchez Trace in Tennessee History." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, vol. XIII. (September 1954). 195-203.

. "The Natchez Trace: Indian Trail to Parkway." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, vol. XXI. (September 1962). 203-18.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 25' 30"	90° 05' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .41 acre, Class VI

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <b>William E. Cox, Assistant Chief Park Interpreter</b>		DATE: <b>09/09/74</b>
BUSINESS ADDRESS: <b>Natchez Trace Parkway</b>		
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>R. R. 1, NT-143</b>		PHONE: <b>(601) 842-1572</b>
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Tupelo</b>	STATE: <b>Mississippi 38801</b>	CODE: <b>28</b>

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- Yes
- No
- None

Elton R. Hilliard  
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is  National  State  Local

Sennis of Drabelle 3/23/76  
Federal Representative Signature Date

for the Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Title

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Clayton D. Ragsdale  
Acting Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/7/76

ATTEST:  
Wm. M. ...  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/1/76

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Madison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 7 1976

(Number all entries)

Item 8. Significance

In 1812 the United States declared war on England. Gen. Andrew Jackson's Tennessee Militia was ordered down the Natchez Trace to protect New Orleans from a threatened ~~Spanish~~ <sup>British</sup> invasion. This invasion never materialized, and he and his men returned over the Trace to their homes. It was on this march that Jackson won the sobriquet "Old Hickory." The Natchez Trace Parkway was created in 1938 to memorialize the Old Natchez Trace,

Significance: 1st order

Item 10 Geographical Data

UTM Reference Old Natchez Trace (170-36)

*C* 15/773770/3591000





Form No: 10-301a  
(7/72)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)*

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Madison	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 7 1976	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Old Natchez Trace (No. 170-30)			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Path to Choctaw Nation			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
P. O. Box 438 - Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost #104.50			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Ridgeland			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Mississippi	39157	Madison	28
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT: William E. Cox			
DATE OF PHOTO: August 28, 1974			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS 38801 Negative No. 11442			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Facing northeast. Trail is used by visitors for a short hiking trail and the parking lot is to left of photographer. This is on east side of parkway. Brashears Stand was 300 yards south of this site off Government property.			

