

Chief Bill John Baker and First Lady Sherry Baker

"Tennessee is steeped in the history of the Cherokee people. Our story of survival and the places where our ancestors walked on the Trail of Tears is an essential part of America's past and must be preserved for our collective future. Cherokee Nation is proud to collaborate with the Cherokee Removal

Memorial Park to ensure we properly honor the fortitude and perseverance of our people."

-Principal Chief Bill John Baker

Of the Cherokee Nation, 2018

Remember the Removal Bike Riders honoring their ancestors on their annual trip out west.



## GROUNDS OPEN DAILY UNTIL DARK

VISITOR'S CENTER IS OPEN:

WEDNESDAY 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY THRU SATURDAY 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

6800 Blythe Ferry Lane Birchwood, TN 37308 423-339-2769

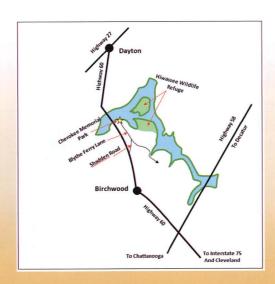
www.meigstn.net



## Things to Do

- National Park Service Passport Stamp available
- Wildlife Viewing
- Nature Trails
- Picnic Areas
- Fishing at Blythe Ferry Boat Ramp
- Kayak, Canoeing, & Paddle Boarding
- Small Conference Room with Kitchenette available during business hours.

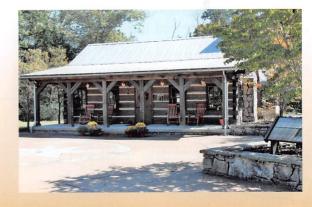




Brochures provided by Cherokee Removal Park—Blythe Ferry friends group.



MEIGS COUNTY TENNESSEE



Listed as a certified site on the National Historic Trail of Tears by the National Park Service.

PASSPORT STAMP AVAILABLE

This park was built as a memorial to the Cherokee Indians who were removed from their homeland and forced on their journey known as "The Trail of Tears".

## THE STORY COMES TO LIFE ON OUR HISTORY WALL



**Explore** the Visitor's Center, a replica of the original log homestead that offers the Cherokee story and history. It includes a meeting room with kitchenette facilities to host events.

**Examine** the granite wall that documents significant events of the Cherokee people.

**Survey** the floor of the amphitheater that shows the different routes taken by the Cherokee on their journey west.

**Observe** Blythe Ferry, named in honor of the William Blythe family; where approximately 9,000 Cherokees, 500 Creeks, and an untold number of slaves encamped before crossing the Tennessee River after their forced removal. The first encampment arrived August 27, 1838, and the last detachment left November 12, 1838.

Overlook the Hiwassee Island, known as Jolly Island in the 1800s; was also a historic Cherokee Settlement and can be viewed from the overlook. It was here young Sam Houston lived with the Cherokee Indians and received his Indian name "The Rayen".

Archaeological artifacts dug from the island dates historic and prehistoric tribal peoples that lived here.

Today outdoor enthusiasts enjoy wildlife viewing from the overlook located on the bluff. Sandhill Cranes,

Bald Eagles, and other waterfowl can be seen throughout the year.

The amphitheater and Memorial wall to the right, lists the names of the 1835 census and routes taken on their journey. At this location and on the adjoining Hiwassee Refuge Sandhill Crane's are a common winter resident.

