

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, Old Natchez Trace (212-3k 213-3K), reference number 76000203 was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 11/07/1976, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of 02/01/1977. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

9/8/2008

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL DRODERTIES

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DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

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NAME			
HISTORIC	en e		
Path to Choctaw Natio	n		
AND/OR COMMON	•		
Old Natchez Trace (Nos. 2	12-3K213-3K)		
LOCATION Natchez Trac	e Parkway, between mil	lenosts #174 5 and	1 175
STREET & NUMBER	e rankway, between min	reposts #114.) and	עוב א
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CITY, TOWN	**************************************	CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
Kosciusko	X_ VICINITY OF		
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Mississippi 39090	28	Attala	007
意CLASSIFICATION			
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CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
X DISTRICT X_PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)PRIVATE	-X_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	X PARK
STRUCTUREBOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITEPUBLIC ACQUISI	TION ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECTIN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
BEING CONSIDERED	X_YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	X.TRANSPORTATION
	NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
AGENCY U.S. Department REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (II applicable) Sou	of the Interior, Natio	onal Park Service,	, Natchez Trace Parkway
3401 Whipple Avenue			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Atlanta	VICINITY OF	Georgia	30344
IDLOCATION OF LEGAL DE	SCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE.			
	Clerk's Office		
STREET & NUMBER			
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CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Kosciusko		Mississi	opi 39090
REPRESENTATION IN EX	ISTING SURVEYS		
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TITLE			
DATE	EEDEDA	ETATE COLUMN	
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	• •	•	
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__G00D

__RUINS

X.ALTERED

MOVED

X_FAIR

__UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Preservation Recommended

This area is very level, slightly undulating, and the Old Trace varies from faint sunken depressions that are regularly mowed to prevent loss of location to banks that are 8 feet high. Unfortunately sections through here were used to dump waste dirt and, this of course, filled in some of the sunken portions. It is an area of mixed forest and open fields and pasture land. The Old Trace crosses and recrosses the Kosciusko-French Camp road. The present road has only "straightened the curves" of the Old Natchez Trace. Some sections of the Old Trace could not be located.

1. Old Natchez Trace (No. 212-3K)

Mowed for 600 feet to a drainage ditch the Old Trace is grown up after that from the ditch to the boundary. There is no depression where it is being mowed and fill dirt has been placed in the Old Trace at the time of parkway construction.

Longitude: 89° 27' 11"

Latitude: 33° 12' 46".

Acreage: $800' \times 30' = .55$ acre, Class VI

Recommended treatment: Preservation

Preliminary cost estimate for above:

Photograph enclosed

2. Old Natchez Trace (No. 213-3K)

Traveling north from the parkway the Old Trace is not visible for about 300 feet until one gets on top of the cut made by the parkway. The Old Trace is a path like trail with a small depression as it goes downhill across a drainage ditch. After crossing the ditch it runs north to the county road just below a slight rise at the park boundary. The county road then becomes the Old Trace.

Longitude: 89° 27' 11"

Latitude: 33° 12' 46"

Acreage: $800' \times 30' = .55$ acre, Class VI

Recommended treatment: Preservation Preliminary cost estimate for above:

\$500.00

Photograph enclosed

SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD. __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __COMMUNITY PLANNING __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __RELIGION __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION _LAW __SCIENCE __AGRICULTURE __LITERATURE 1500-1599 _ECONOMICS __SCULPTURE __ARCHITECTURE _1600-1699 __EDUCATION **XMILITARY** SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _1700-1799 __ENGINEERING __MUSIC __THEATER X1800-1899 __COMMERCE _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY **X**TRANSPORTATION X_COMMUNICATIONS X1900-__INDUSTRY __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT __OTHER (SPECIEV)

__INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

prers 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.

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 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 memoralize the Old Natchez Trace.

Sificance: 1st order

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAP	PHICAL REFERENCES
Phelps, Dawson A. "The Tr	
Phelps, Dawson A. "The Nat	ary 1949). 22-41 chez Trace in Tennessee History." Tennessee Historica erly, vol. XIII. (September 1954). 195-203
Phelps, Dawson A. "The Nat	chez Trace: Indian Trail to Parkway." Quarterly, vol. XXI. (September 1962). 203-18.
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William E. Cox, Assistar	at Chief Park Interpreter 10-01-74
ORGANIZATION Natchez Trace Parkway	(601) 842-1572
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Rural Route 1, NT-143	STATE
Tupelo,	Mississippi 38801
12 CERTIFICATION OF	NOMINATION
	STORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
The state of the s	NO
	STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE
Historic Preservation Officer has been	I 593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to I level of significance isNationalStateLocal. URE
TITLE	DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
	PERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOG	
757 & GQ 4 +	DATE

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