**DATA SHEET**

**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)*

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**1. NAME**

**COMMON:**

Old Natchez Trace (No. 230-3H)

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**

Path to Choctaw Nation, Path to Chickasaw Nation, Natchez Trace Road from Natchez to Nashville

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**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

Route 1, Box 233, Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost # 198.8

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Mantee

**STATE:**

Mississippi

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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY (Check One)**

☐ District

☐ Building

☐ Site

☐ Structure

☐ Object

**OWNER (Check One)**

☐ Public

☐ Private

☐ Both

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION:**

☐ In Process

☐ Being Considered

**STATUS:**

☐ Occupied

☐ Unoccupied

☐ Preservation work in progress

☐ Yes:

☐ Restricted

☐ Unrestricted

**ACCESSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC**

☐ Transportation

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Comments

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**PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

☐ Agricultural

☐ Commercial

☐ Educational

☐ Entertainment

☐ Government

☐ Industrial

☐ Military

☐ Museum

☐ Religious

☐ Scientific

☐ Transportation

☐ Other (Specify)

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**4. AGENCY**

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

**REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS:** (If applicable)

Southeast

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Atlanta

**STATE:**

Georgia

**CODE:**

13

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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**

Chancery Clerk's Office

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

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**CITY OR TOWN:**

Ackerman

**STATE:**

Mississippi

**CODE:**

39735

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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE OF SURVEY:**

Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, United States Government Printing Office

**DATE OF SURVEY:**

1941

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**

Library of Congress

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

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**CITY OR TOWN:**

Washington

**STATE:**

District of Columbia

**CODE:**

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The Old Trace is obliterated to the southwest and on the west side of the parkway the section of Old Trace has been designated as one of our interpretive stops. There is a parking lot and sign that tells about the Old Natchez Trace.

The Old Trace at this particular point goes down a small hill and is mowed regularly for about 600 feet. From the end of the mow line the Trace is overgrown with small pine trees and it runs into a county road which then becomes the Old Trace. The parking lot is located about 400 feet north of the Burdine Road.

Longitude: 
Latitude: 
Acreage: 
Recommended treatment: Preservation 
Preliminary cost estimate for above: $175.00 
Photograph enclosed
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.

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 British 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
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10.03, Class VI

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

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<th>STATE</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William E. Cox, Assistant Chief Park Interpreter

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Natchez Trace Parkway

STREET AND NUMBER: R. R. 1, NT-143

CITY OR TOWN: Tupelo

STATE: Mississippi CODE: 28

PHONE: (601) 842-1572

DATE: 10-01-74

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☒ None

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 ☒ Local

☐ National ☐ State

Federal Representative Signature:

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 1/3/66

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: 1/3/66