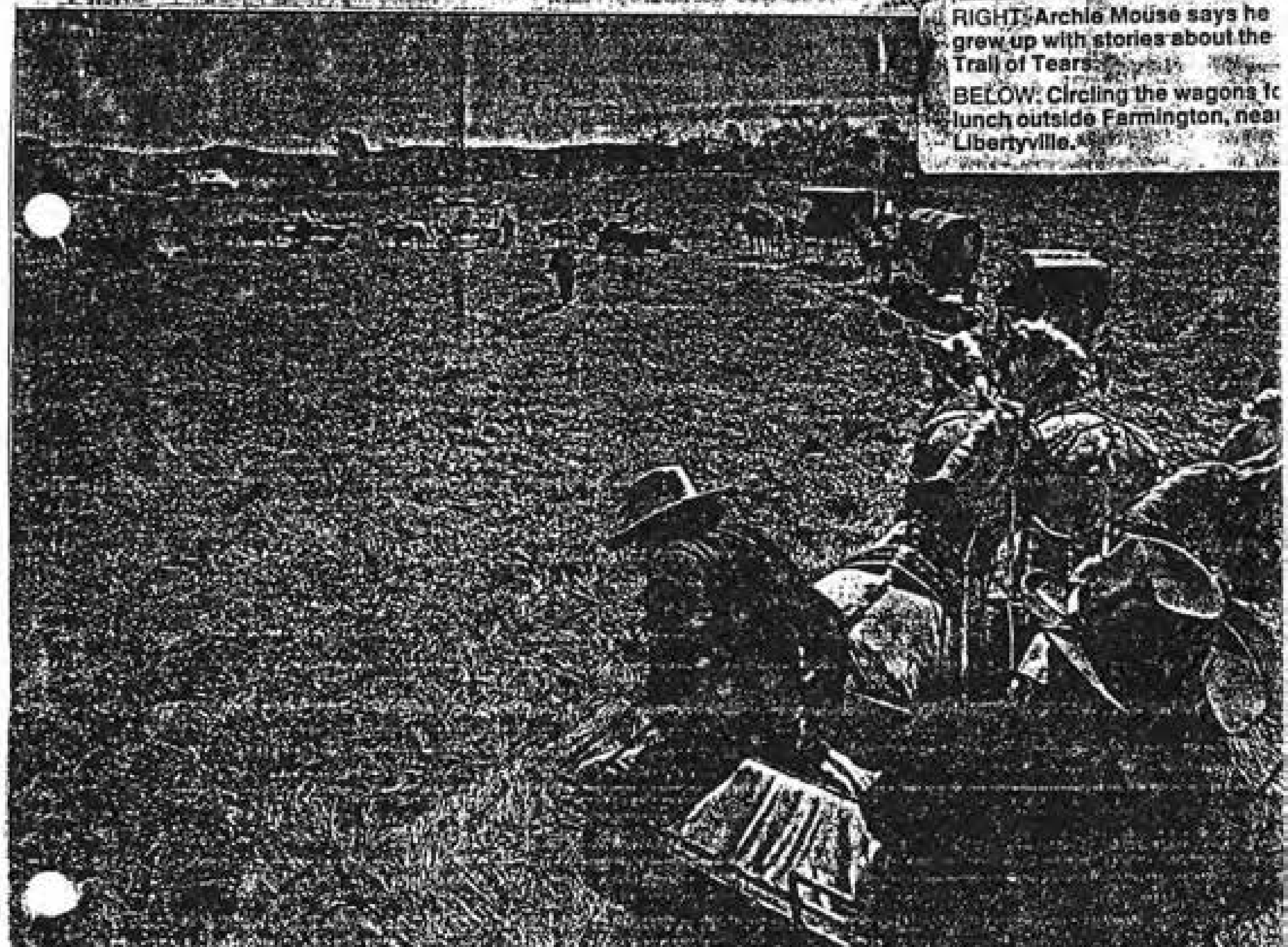
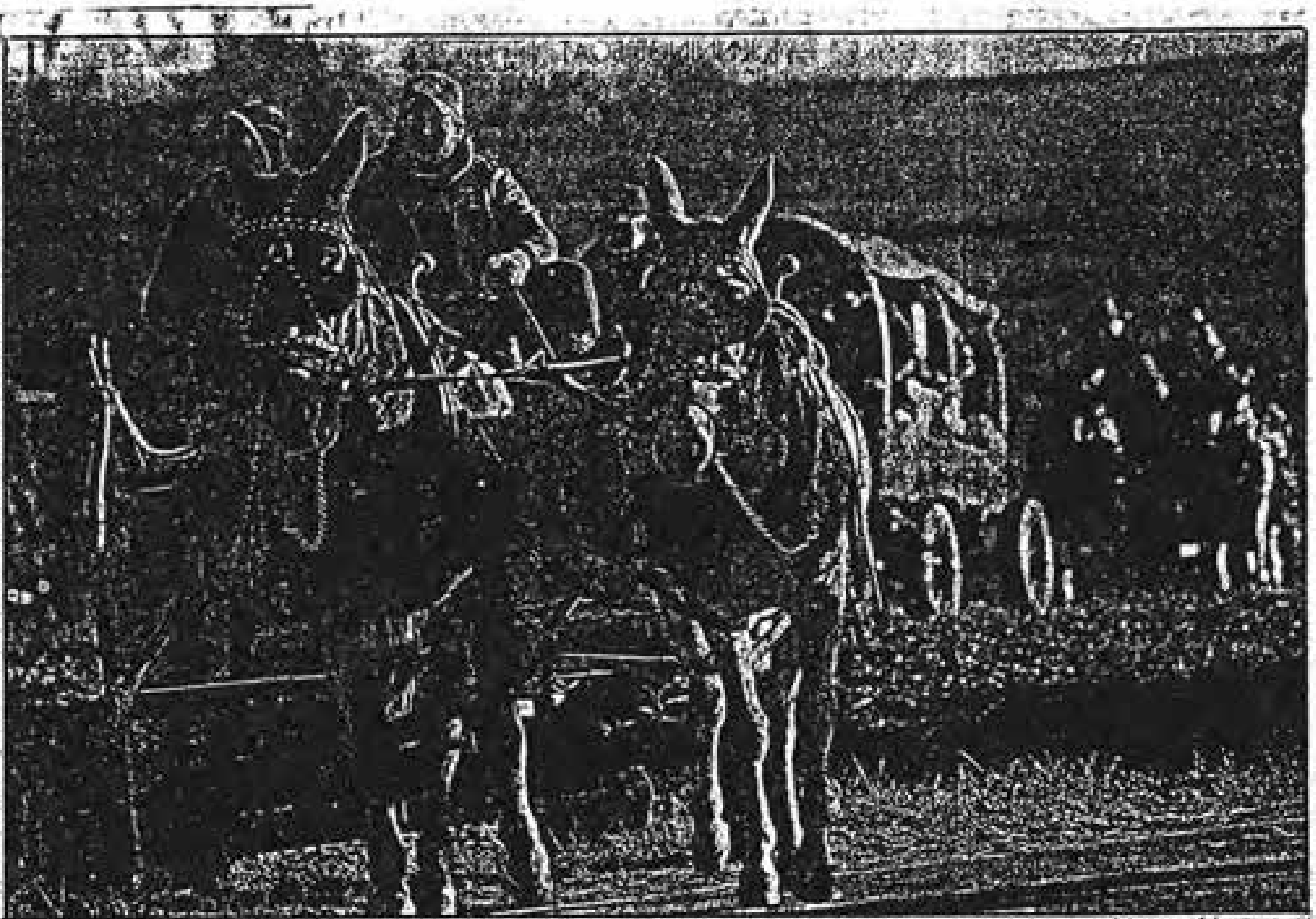
Retracing The Trail Of Tears

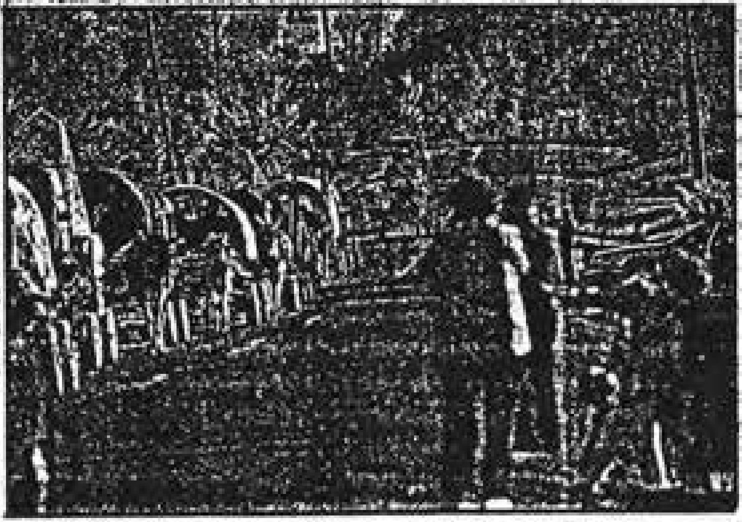


RIGHT: Archie Mouse says he grew up with stories about the Trail of Tears.

BELOW: Circling the wagons fo lunch outside Farmington, near Libertyville.



The wagon train pulls out of Farmington. Covering less than 20 miles a day, it is expected to be in Missouri until about Thanksgiving and to end in Oklahoma by early December.



The wagon train in downtown Farmington.

Steve Apted's Percherons rival Clydesdales in size.

[illegible]

[illegible] Investigator Stuart [illegible] fingerprints yesterday [illegible] in apparent [illegible] shop [illegible]

es find
peration

[illegible] where in the woods."

The antique furniture stolen from a Fletcher Mill Road residence was stored in the [illegible] house, Mecum said. The furniture is worth several thousand dollars and some of it is 150 years old, he said.

The department has one suspect at this time, Mecum said. [illegible] Chapman, 38, of route 3, [illegible] Road, has been charged with manufacturing marijuana. Ten of the plants were found growing behind his trailer, Mecum said.

"We haven't tied him in directly to the stripping operation," Mecum said. "That's part of the investigation at this point."

Chapman's trailer is near where several of the stripped vehicles were found. The property where the car [illegible]

Depression in a pasture marks exodus

By Richard Shumate

The Times

SALEM, Mo. — George Travis has a meaningful [illegible] in his cow pasture.

But try as he might, Travis, friends and neighbors cannot get the federal government to take notice and recognize the depression's ties to the Trail of Tears.

Ed Gill

For [illegible] miles across Dent County, the bowl-shaped depression [illegible] feet wide runs through a level pasture of farms and forests, surrounded by the rugged Ozark Mountains. This is what's left of the White River Trace, a mail route from St. Louis to White River, Ark., that was established in the early 1800s on top of an ancient Indian path.

Pounded out over the decades by feet and hooves, the path still can be followed. A family [illegible] next to Travis drives trucks over a portion of it.

[illegible] here and there [illegible] said Ed Gill, [illegible] who has

Please see: Trail
Page [illegible]

TRAIL OF TEARS

PART 5 OF 8

[illegible] The Times

the Trail: [illegible]

● Trail

(Continued from Page 1A)

walked the trail across the county.

Gill said he grew up hearing stories that the Cherokee used the road during their removal to Oklahoma in 1838. When a state forest was established in the eastern part of the county in 1924, those oral testimonies were fresh enough to prompt state officials to name the woods the Indian Trail State Forest because the trace went through the middle of it.

"There's no written record of it coming through here that I know of," Gill said of the Trail of Tears route. "We don't have any idea on how many (Cherokee) came through here."

Walking the route would have logical for the Cherokee, according to Greg Henson, a naturalist at Trail of Tears State Park in Cape Girardeau.

"They followed a lot of the postal routes when they got to this area," Henson said.

The Dent County Historical Society believed the National Park Service would be interested in the route for its Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. After all, the trace, if used by the Cherokee, may be the only actual remnant of a removal trail.

But instead, the park service's trail designation follows Interstate 44, 20 miles north of Dent County.

"They saw they could reach more people with less money," said Bob Runner, a member of the historical society who lobbied the park service to include the trace on its route. "But the logical place for the trail is right here."

National Park Service officials in Atlanta, who h been studying a commemorative route for the trail since 1983, don't agree.

"There was a lack of documentation (of the Dent County route), and there was documentation to support another route," said Sharon Keene, chief of the park services' planning and federal programs division.

While the 13 groups of Cherokee who went to Oklahoma overland followed the same route from southeastern Tennessee to the Mississippi River, the trail broke into various segments as they came across Missouri and Arkansas into Oklahoma.

"Weather conditions, availability of food, illness or a need for resupply may have led many travelers to follow a different route at certain locations," said authors of the park service's study.

But the study rejected as "extremely difficult, if not impossible" locating and designating all those routes.

But designating a single route through Missouri has caused some hard feelings.

The controversy has prompted park service officials to consider designating additions to the main route after it is completed.

In 1985, after they heard about the park service's plans for the trail, Runner and Gill found the trace on an 1844 survey map and organized an effort to mark it across the county. They took 90 roadgrader blades donated by the county, painted them white with an orange tear at the top and planted them along the trace.

"We said we're going to mark it out, and then we're going to talk to (park service officials)," Gill said. "They listened, but they didn't do anything about it."

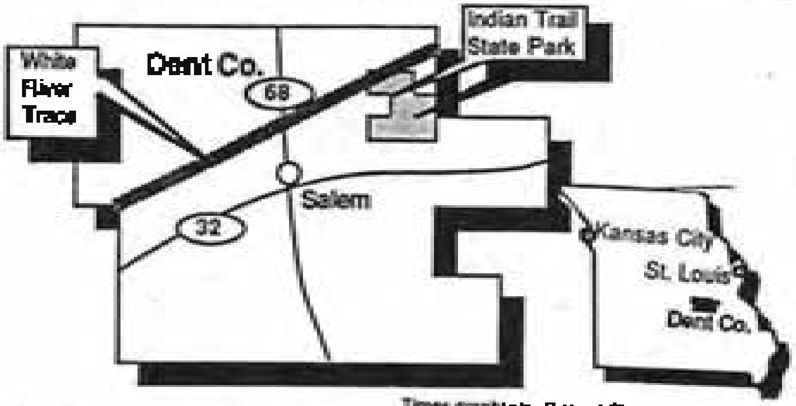
But the historical folks in Dent County have not given up on their drive to see the White River Trace recognized.

"We're pressing through any resources we can get," Gill said.

Runner puts it a little more plainly.

"We'll pester them as long as we can," he said.

Tomorrow: The Oklahoma Cherokee t



Times graphic by Robert Shumate/The Times

Trace of trail: Map locates the area in southeast Missouri where part of the Trail of Tears still is visible.

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U.S. blazing

The Trail in mind

Part 5 in a series

By Richard Shumate
The Times

Beverly Baker doesn't have a drop of Cherokee blood in her, but the [illegible] believing [illegible] self. But [illegible] graves are [illegible] spent most of my [illegible]," said Baker of Hopkinsville [illegible] of Tears Commission, Inc.

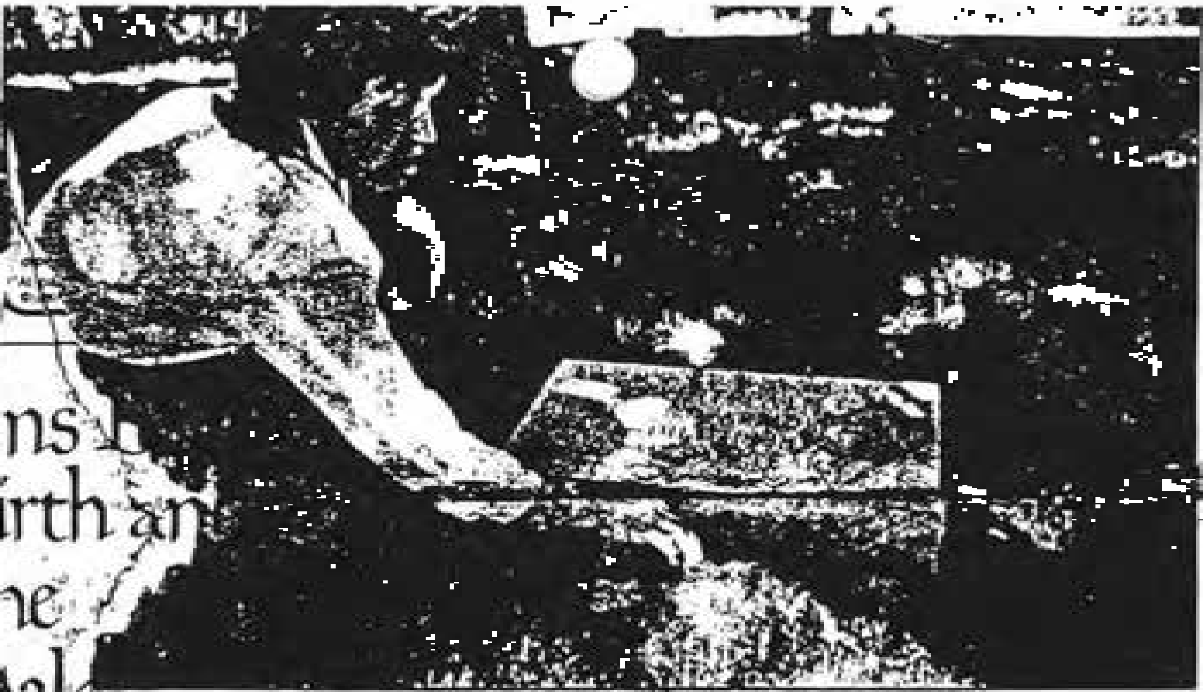
Baker is founder, president and chief go-getter for the commission. She also owns a Hopkinsville advertising agency.

She said the commission plans to build a park and visitor center around the gravesites of two Cherokee chiefs, White Path and Fly Smith, who died while camped in the city during the Cherokee exodus to Oklahoma 150 years ago.

The graves now constitute a shrine for the tribe and are among the few pieces of the removal's physical evidence.

Baker said the project could provide students and the public with educational facts about the [illegible]

Please see: Trail
Page [illegible]



JOHNNY BAILEY/The Times

[illegible]vering the past: Beverly Baker brushes away the dirt from the original stone marking the [illegible] of Chief White Path.

In October 150 years ago, a Cherokee Indian population one-fourth the size of Gainesville was pushed out of Northeast Georgia and bordering states by the U.S. government.

Gold had been discovered. Land speculators were thicker than mountain pines. And 13,000 Cherokee who had occupied the territory for 3,500 years were in the way.

In this weeklong series, which began Sunday, The Times recounts the story of the Cherokee removal.

TRAIL OF TEARS
☐ PART 5 OF 8

might b enough

By Don Hudson
The Times

ATLANTA — [illegible] Jody Davis [illegible] Atlanta Braves [illegible] Braves and the [illegible] Cubs, Davis' current team, reached a tentative agreement yesterday on a trade that would send the 1975 North Hall graduate to Atlanta for two minor-league players, one of whom would be pitcher Kevin Blankenship.

Jody Davis

"I will probably be signing sometime tomorrow morning," Davis said by telephone early morning from Montreal.

"My agent will get here at 10:30 a.m. and we will go over numbers and call Bobby Cox and him. That should do it.

Earlier yesterday, Davis [illegible] problem with one [illegible] the [illegible] trade, as the Braves had include

U.S. women run away with gold

By Paul Oberjuerge
Gannett News Service

SEOUL — Florence Griffith Joyner left her competitors in a cloud of gold dust, breaking the world record twice while winning the women's 200-meter dash yesterday at the [illegible] Games.

The greatest [illegible] in the history of women's track [illegible]

jointly by a pair of East Germans, Heike Dreschler and Marita Koch.

She got both in the final, pulling away effortlessly to win by about eight yards. Grace Jackson of Jamaica was second at 21.72; Dreschler was third in 21.95.

In one day, Griffith Joyner [illegible] .37 seconds off the world record in the 200. She also holds the mark in the 100, 10.49, set at the U.S. Trials two months ago when

AT THE GAMES

U.S. basketball climbed to the top of the international charts again yesterday after the

Former KKK gr abuse of 'Brot

By Gina Stappas Gassert
The Times

ATLANTA — The former grand dragon of the [illegible] Empire, the Ku Klux Klan testified

2

• Trail

(Continued from 1A)

quences of Indian removal and about the dignity of the Cherokee people.

But she admits to another reason behind her ambition: Tourism.

"It will draw people," she said of the park and visitor center, "and heaven knows Hopkinsville could use it. But I don't look at it as being mercenary."

Hopkinsville is a military and tobacco-growing town in western Kentucky near the Tennessee border. It's not the only city along the Trail of Tears hoping to use its history to draw tourist dollars.

Two other towns — Fredericktown, Mo., and Golconda, Ill. — have initiated commemoration efforts. Officials in other cities are studying the idea.

"The State of Missouri has told us that in the next 10 years, tourism is going to be the way to go," said Carole Magnus, who was in charge of Fredericktown's first Trail of Tears Rendezvous in mid-September, which she hopes will be an annual event. "We didn't want to call it a festival because it wasn't a fun time. We want to be very careful and respectful."

How do descendants of the removal's victims feel about commercialization of the trail?

"That's OK," said Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller, the top official in the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, "as long as the message gets out there and as long as people focus on that historical event. I think it's important that it be done, so I don't mind at all."

But, she said, all the commercial interests are fascinating.

Bruce Ross, a Cherokee in Park Hill, Okla., said if such projects keep the histsory of the Cherokee in the public eye, commercialization is all right.

"[We need] to educate the public so they will remember what the U.S. government did to the native Americans," he said.

Both Hopkinsville and Fredericktown were included in 1983 when the National Park Service drew up its Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. President Reagan signed the bill in December, creating the trail.

Baker's involvement with the Trail of Tears started at Christmastime three years ago when she read a Lousiville newspaper article about the park service's plan and the Cherokee graves, which are located near the White River on the south side of this city of 30,000.

"It's part of Hopkinsville's history," said Baker, who is a descendant of Canadian Indians and whose husband is part Cherokee. "I took that on as my little cause. All people know (about Cherokee history) is what they see on television. They didn't all wear war bonnets."

The graves had been neglected until 1954, when a housing subdivision went up in the area. A homeowner, Woodrow Hunter, discovered the graves on land behind his property. He cleared undergrowth away from the graves and maintained them.

Using a $22,500 grant from the National Park Service, the commission wrote a charter in July 1987 and went to work raising the $250,000 needed for the project. They also applied for state and federal grants and started an annual pow-wow with Indian dancers.

The commission eventually acquired eight acres around the gravesite and solicited $80,000 in goods and services.

No timetable has been set for completing the project, which has grown to include hiking trails, an 1830s Cherokee village, a museum and a gift shop.

And in the gift shop, only native American crafts will be sold.

"None of this foreign-made stuff," she s

Johnny Baker/The Times

Tourism is the future: Carole Magnus, who organized this year's first-ever Trail of Tears Rendezvous in Fredericktown, Mo., says the event plays respectfully to tourists.

Magnus, who owns a costume company, was asked by the town's administrator to direct a celebration in March after the administrator learned that Fredericktown was put on the federal trail.

"I just wander into these things. I had not even been aware of the Trail of Tears before that," said Magnus, a Michigan native of German heritage.

But once she began researching her town's role in the trail, she was hooked.

"I feel an obligation to try and set things straight," she said.

She's still researching, sending away to Harvard University for information on a diary from the Trail of Tears era that mentions Fredericktown and going through old court records for more evidence to link the town to the trail.

Fredericktown is in Madison County, on the eastern edge of the mineral-rich Ozark Mountains. Its major industry, from 1723 until the 1960s, was mining — primarily lead and cobalt.

But the closure of those mines 20 years ago has left the town of 4,000 searching for a new foundation for its economy. Nearly half of the county lies in Mark Twain National Forest, so tourism has become a logical alternative.

"It would be unfair not to admit there's an economic point of view to this thing," Magnus said. "But this is not going to be a carnival atmosphere."

The rendezvous — featuring an historical pageant, Indian crafts and a black powder shoot — was part of that effort, Magnus said.

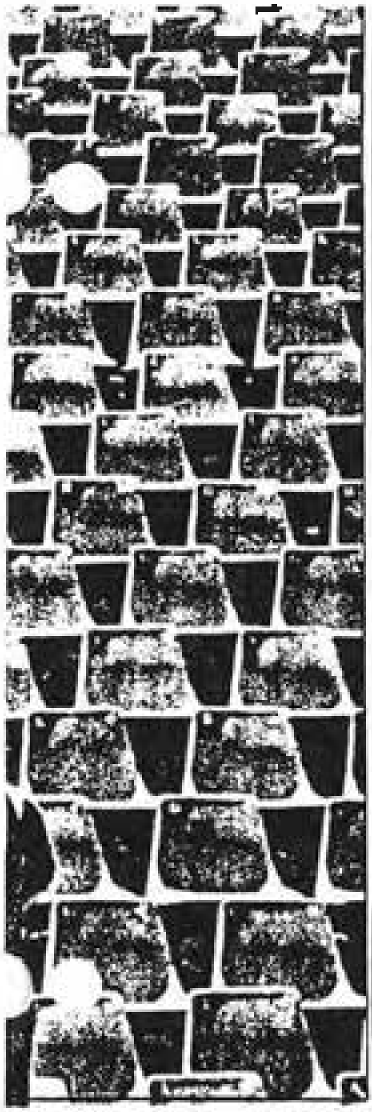
"We have to try to help ourselves," she added. "But when we have our historical pageant over here, we're not going to be hawking souveniers. We will be presenting the facts.

"You cannot put emphasis and direction on what happened unless you bring in numbers of tourists."

Tomorrow: An earlier removal to Arkansas.

MON.-SAT. 9:30-5:30

Belk



ctor of the Cherokee play
provides employment for
ake up about one-half the

In recent years, the tribe has
ken some measures to diversify
economy in an attempt to even
the unemployment levels.

In 1986, the Eastern Band pur-
ased the Carolina Mirror Co., a
ss-manufacturing firm based in
rth Wilkesboro, N.C., about 150
les east of Cherokee.

e tribe also has come to rely on
ngo parlors to provide employ-
nt. The tribal government owns
e largest parlor, Cherokee Bingo,
hich offers jackpots in excess of
[illegible]

"This is high-stakes bingo. It
ngs people in year round," he
d.

The [illegible] yior, for instance, said
[illegible] believe the rule against
tsiders owning the land causes
ich of a problem because "we can
ase it to people for 25 years with a
-year option."

"We're trying right now to build
golf course," he said.

The golf course is part of a plan to
tend the tourist season in Chero-

He makes wood work

Craftsman, 80, plied two coasts; but home is best

By Richard Shumate

The Times

CHEROKEE, N.C. — Goingback Chiltoskey's carvings crowd every shelf in his living room, and more are tucked away in dusty suitcases stacked in the corner.

"I could start a museum," said Chiltoskey, who in his 80 years has been a carver, carpenter, engineer, teacher and jewelry maker. He has shortened his first name to initials only G.B.

"It's so scattered, I can't find it all," he said of his collection of carvings, shuffling from place to place as he spoke, collecting pieces with which he could pose for a photograph.

A wolf with its snout raised in a howl, an owl of white oak, a woman with a sack slung over her shoulder, her head pushed determinedly ahead — all were carved by the man who picked up the art at age 9 from his father and older brother.

Chiltoskey may sound like an eastern European name, but it is Cherokee. He was born not far from his present home, which he built himself across the Oconaluftee River from Cherokee's main street. He began learning English when he was 10 in a school where speaking Cherokee was forbidden.

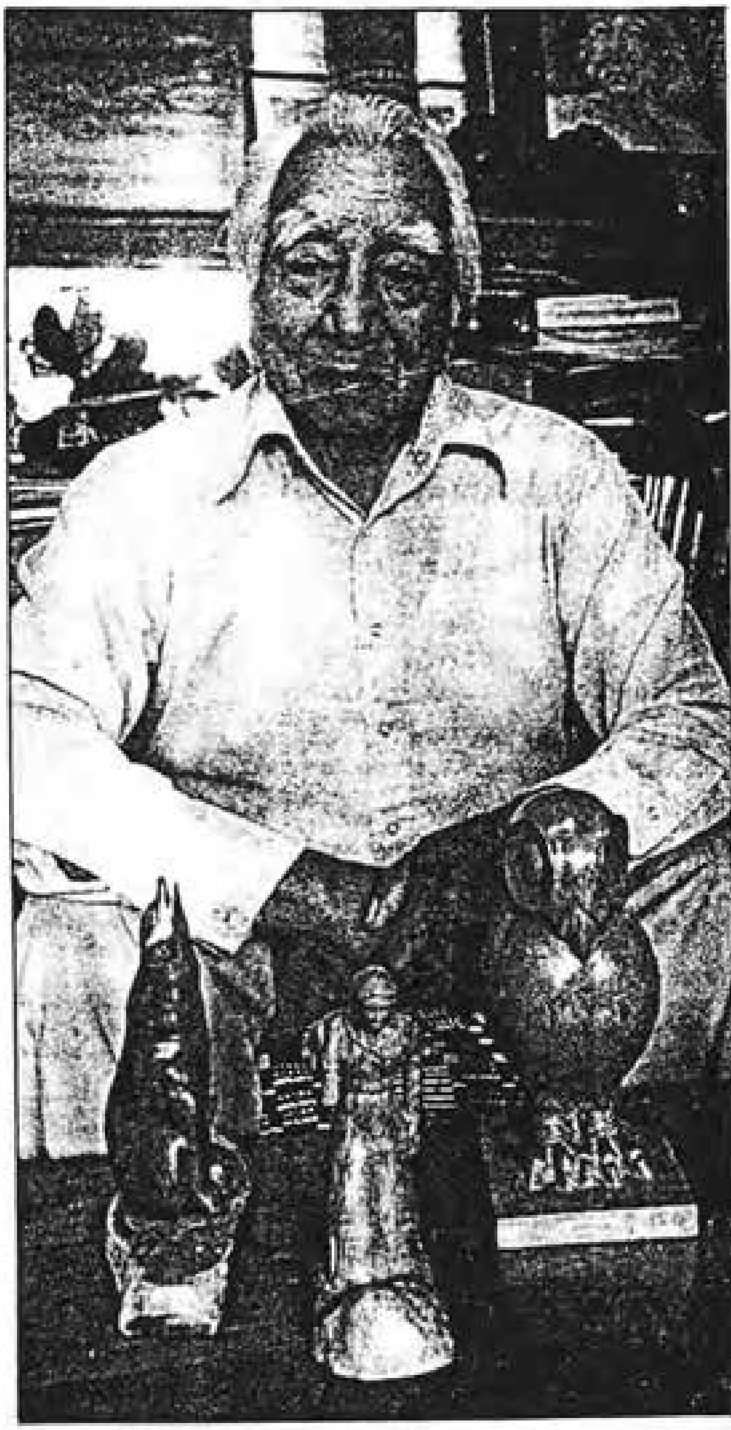
"When (my name) was translated into English, it was 'falling flower.' I guess it still is," he said.

Chiltoskey is a master carver. During World War II, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in suburban Washington, where he carved models for use in military simulations, including scale models of bombing targets.

"I had pretty interesting jobs," he said.

After the war, he went to Hollywood, a partner in a business that made miniature movie sets. But, Chiltoskey said, he didn't care for California and came back to the Qualla Boundary in 1947 to teach woodworking.

He then went to Washington, D.C., to work for the government in 1954. Meanwhile, his [illegible]



Johnny Bailey/The Times

Master carver: Prolific woodworker Goingback Chiltoskey, 80, of Cherokee, N.C., says he probably could start a museum with his collection.

in Cherokee. He returned to the boundary for good after retiring in [illegible]

But retirement meant opening another business — a woodworking shop.

"I've got to do something, you know," Chiltoskey said. "I like to make [illegible] for butter and things like that."

Chiltoskey spent most of his life as an Indian in a white culture. But he said that didn't

"I didn't have any prob
lems," he said. "I behaved my
self."

A champion at using th
blowgun, a traditional Cheroke
weapon, Chiltoskey also collect
pieces of different kinds
wood, including 38 varieti
found in the steep mountains o
and around the boundary.

"I've got a whole hun
more from other parts of th
world. But [illegible]

Tennessee riverboat ride

By Richard Shumate

The Times

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — From the riverboat Southern Belle, decked in red, white and blue bunting, a tourist can take in the industrial heart of Chattanooga while sipping a drink in the sunshine.

But 150 years ago, there was no industrial heart — no Chattanooga, even.

And the people boarding rough, flat-bottomed boats at Ross's Landing were not tourists but Cherokee being forced into a new land.

Ross's Landing was the beginning of the water route on the Trail of Tears. In the 1830s, it was a remote trading post established on the Tennessee River at a break in a ridge of cliffs.

Today, the landing sits in the shadow of Chattanooga's skyline and is the point of departure for the Southern Belle, a paddlewheel boat that cruises up and down the river for the business and pleasure of its 20,000 passengers annually.

The original plan to transport the Cherokee west called for the tribe to be shipped by boat, starting at Ross's Landing. The landing's trading post had been established in 1816 by the father of John Ross, chief of the Cherokee when they were forced from their Georgia homes.

The removal by boat began in June 1838. But the Tennessee River of today is not the same river the Cherokee would have seen, according to Capt. Frank Hobbs, who pilots the Southern Belle.

"At that time, the only time you could run this river was when it was in flood stage," he said. Various U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dams and locks have made the river wider and deeper, navigable from Knoxville to its confluence with the Ohio River in Kentucky.

The Southern Belle draws down into the river only four feet.

"We can run just about anywhere," Hobbs said.

As the boat passes under the Chief John Ross Bridge, a city landmark erected [illegible] years ago, and between the industrial sites on both banks of the river, Hobbs tells the history of the landing and the Ross family.

Navigation problems during the summer of 1838 eventually led the federal government to abandon the water route, moving the rest of the Cherokee by overland routes.

About 3,000 Cherokee had been shipped via the water route before it stopped in late in the summer of 1838. The route followed the Tennessee River to the Ohio, down the Ohio to the Mississippi and then up the Arkansas River to eastern Oklahoma.

But that summer, the Southeast suffered from a severe drought and hot weather — much as the region endured over the summer 150 years later. Long stretches of the river were too shallow to navigate, so the Cherokee had to be marched through adjacent swamps.

Alarmed by reports of a mounting death toll from disease and heat, Ross persuaded federal authorities to allow him to oversee an overland removal, beginning in October.

After the Cherokee left, the settlement surrounding Ross's Landing took the name Chattanooga. It grew to be Tennessee's fourth-largest city.

The landing itself is a park that is popular among the city's lunchtime crowd, as well as home of the Chattanooga Riverboat Co., which operates the Southern Belle and a restaurant.

Starting point: Frank Hobbs, captain of a riverboat that operates from
of Tears

Th
of
W

THE ROUTE

…view
…lemy
…der dies

…obertson

[illegible] business [illegible] Saturday [illegible] Medical Center [illegible] illness.

[illegible] of the founders [illegible] private [illegible] in 1970 [illegible] president and [illegible] Dunlap [illegible] for 26 years [illegible] the wholesale [illegible] following his [illegible] that position in [illegible]

[illegible] He was [illegible]

[illegible] was a great [illegible] Anything [illegible]

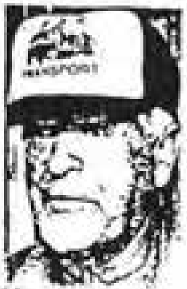
[illegible] First Baptist [illegible]

Indian camp starts snake legend

By Richard Shumate

The Times

CHARLESTON, Tenn. — There isn't much left of Rattlesnake Springs, one of the most historic sites in eastern Tennessee.



Moore

The casual visitor will see an empty, weathered house with a rusted tin roof. The cold water of a small underground spring flows from under the porch of the abandoned structure.

A yellowed plastic milk carton and a soft drink can have been discarded into a pool created by the spring. Parts of dead animals, apparently dragged under the porch by bigger wildlife, are strung along the edge of the pond.

Orange day lilies bloom along the shallow stream that runs from the spring, which cows graze across a barbed wire fence in a pasture under the shadows of a cornstalk.

This is Rattlesnake Springs today. Two miles southeast of Charleston, this is where the overland route for the Trail of Tears began.

[illegible] said John Moore [illegible] whose great-grandfather [illegible] the local [illegible] Rattlesnake Springs [illegible] Cherokee removal 150 years ago.

[illegible] the spring [illegible] Moore [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Rattlesnake Springs [illegible] Tennessee and Georgia. The Indians [illegible] at the Springs [illegible] assembled into [illegible]

Please see: Snakes
7A

JOHNNY [illegible]

Lonely spring: The beginning of the Cherokee Trail of Tears was at Rattlesnake Springs, Tennessee. All that remains is an old farm house with the spring flowing from under the porch.

TRAIL OF TEARS

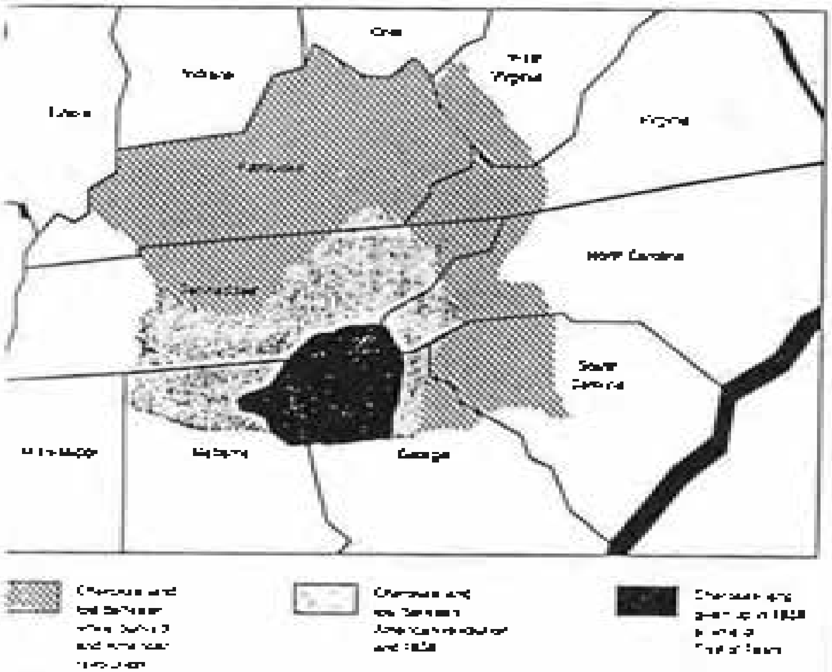
PART 2 OF 8

In this weeklong series, which began Sunday, The Times recounts the story of the Cherokee removal — the exodus of the first Georgians to Oklahoma 150 years ago.

By

Cherokee zenith

Tribe once had land in 8 states


Illinois
Indiana
Ohio
West Virginia
Virginia
Kentucky
Tennessee
North Carolina
South Carolina
Mississippi
Alabama
Georgia
Cherokee land lost between [illegible] and American Revolution
Cherokee land lost between American Revolution and 1819
Cherokee land given up in 1835 leading to Trail of Tears

THE ROUTE

From the Mississippi River to Oklahoma

In the winter of 1838-1839, as the Cherokee were trying to cross the Mississippi River, an unusual event took place — an especially cold winter sent chunks of ice down the river in December.

Ice usually does not begin to form until January or February, according to Greg Henson, a naturalist at Trail of Tears State Park near Cape Girardeau, Mo., where the Cherokee crossed the river.

Besides combating the ice, the Cherokee also had to cope with the river's strong current. By the time a boat crossed the mile-wide river, it could have been as much as a mile downstream. At Green's Ferry, where most of the Cherokee crossed, that could have spelled trouble because high bluffs rise straight up from the river's edge above and below the crossing.

"This is a natural break in the bluffs. That's one of the reasons why they picked this spot," Henson said. "It's always seemed amazing to me that they could cross the river under those conditions."

Because crossing the river took so long, the first groups making the crossing in each detachment had to stop and wait for the rest of their group. The Cherokee were divided into 13 contingents of about 1,000 people each. They camped at Moccasin Springs.

After navigating the river, the Cherokee marched through Jackson, Mo. The town named for the then-president, Andrew Jackson, was the third largest city in Missouri. Today its population numbers 7,000.

In Missouri, the various Cherokee detachments took different routes across the state, following the availability of game. But all had the often brutal experience of a Missouri winter.

"It can get down to zero and below and stick there for a week," said George Knecht of Fredericktown, who has lived through more than five dozen Missouri winters. "High humidity makes the temperatures seem even colder."

While some of the overland detachments went south into Arkansas shortly after the river crossing, most went to the southwest toward Springfield. The route then turned south across the hilly corner of Arkansas.

Part of this route, through Benton County, had been a popular footpath since a prehistoric group called the Rock People came through the area in 800 A.D. Today, it is U.S. Highway 62.

After cutting through Arkansas, the Cherokee entered their new homeland. The center of it at that time was Ft. Gibson, a U.S. Army outpost from which the Trail of Tears survivors received supplies.

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● Snakes

(Continued from 1A)
new land in Oklahoma.

The first group left Oct. 1, 1838. The last group, which included Cherokee Chief John Ross, left four months and a half later.

Mostly, [illegible] left in the [illegible] were left behind.

"I used to pick them up in the yard," he said.

But in recent years, the [illegible] where the Cherokee camped have been [illegible]. "I guess you'd call them [illegible]," Moore said.

Legend has it that the spring took its name from the Cherokee, who put snakes into the water [illegible]

CHIMNEY SWEEPING

MR. KLEEN COMPANY

Advice To People Who Don't Like To Invest In Stocks Or Real Estate

Straight Tal[illegible]ssets, Inc.

the Trail of Tears survivors received supplies

grated there.

O 4!!
lebrates its

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Snakes

(Continued from 1A)
new land in Oklahoma.

The first group left Oct. 1, 1838. The last group, which included Cherokee Chief John Ross, left a month and a half later.

Moore, who has resided in the area all his life, said he has found axes and other artifacts the Cherokee left behind.

"I used to pick them up in the yard," he said.

But in recent years, the fields where the Cherokee camped have been picked clean by "prospectors, I guess you'd call them," Moore said.

Legends offer that the spring took its name from the Cherokee, who put snakes into the water to scare their white captors.

Moore said that when he was a boy, his family stored its milk in the cold spring.

About 15 years ago, when Moore, his father and his brother owned the farmhouse over the spring, state officials approached them about putting a park on the site.

"I'd of let them put a park down there," Moore said. But his father didn't want to put up with the traffic.

Now, a lone historical marker a mile away on U.S. Highway 11 points out the site. The marker recounts what happened at Rattlesnake Springs, but it doesn't point the way to the spring itself.

Tomorrow: Those who escaped have prospered.

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Something called MRE, which is short for "meal ready to eat," has replaced the C-rations that members of the military got to know so well during World War II and in Korea and Vietnam.

I remember in Korea that some things included in the C-rations were not that bad. Canned hamburgers were pretty good and actually rather popular. But other canned goods such as lima beans and corned beef hash were frowned upon.

Acquiring the desired C-rations actually once spawned an athletic contest involving an infantry company that held an isolated position in the Korean hills.

Every other day, cases of C-rations were dropped by helicopter and each squad sent a runner to the drop zone to select rations for that particular

Losing a child: How parents can turn grief into healthy mourning

By Larry Fricks

Times district staff

DAHLONEGA — Children preceding their parents in death seem to cause a grieving experience deeper than any other, says an expert on the subject.

Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt — a Fort Collins, Colo., clinical thanatologist (one who studies death) who has published two books on death and grief — says the death of a child is an assault on the parents' future and is unnatural because we are supposed to precede our child's death.

Larry Banister, of Banister Funeral Homes in Dahlonega and Dawsonville, says a funeral for a child is by far the most difficult.

"The children are the toughest ones (funerals) I've ever seen," Banister says. "The grieving seems to get worse and worse (after the funeral)."

But Anne and Amos Amerson of Dahlonega — who

Amos Amerson

Anne Amer

to Greg Henson, a naturalist at Trail of Tears State Park in Cape Girardeau.

"They followed a lot of the postal routes when they got to this area," Henson said.

The Dent County Historical Society beleieved the National Park Service would be interested in the route for its Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. After all, the trace, if used by the Cherokee, may be the only actual remnant of a removal trail.

But instead, the park service's trail designation follows Interstate 44, 20 miles north of Dent County.

"They saw they could reach more people with less money," said Bob Runner, an member of the historical society who lobbied the park service to include the trace on its route. "But the logical place for the trail is right here."

National Park Service officials in Atlanta. who have been studying a port another route," said Sharon Keene, chief of the park services' planning and federal programs division.

While the 13 groups of Cherokee who went to Oklahoma overland followed the same route from southeastern Tennessee to the Mississippi River, the trail broke into various segments as they came across Missouri and Arkansas into Oklahoma.

"Weather conditions, availability of food, illness or a need for resupply may have led many travelers to follow a different route at certain locations," said authors of the park service's study.

But the study rejected as "extremely difficult, if not impossible" locating and designating all those routes.

But designating a single route through Missouri has caused some hard feelings.

The controversy has prompted Runner and Gill found the trace on an 1844 survey map and organized an effort to mark it across the county. They took 90 roadgrader blades donated by the county, painted them white with an orange tear at the top and planted them along the trace.

"We said we're going to mark it out, and then we're going to talk to (park service officials)," Gill said. "They listened, but they didn't do anything about it."

But the historical folks in Dent County have not given up on their drive to see the White River Trace recognized.

"We're pressing through any resources we can get," Gill said.

Runner puts it a little more plainly.

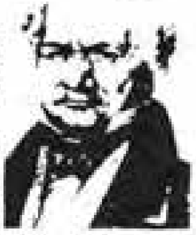
"We'll pester them as long as we can," he said.

Tomorrow: The Oklahoma Cherokee today.

The Ridge Hardnose warrior

Born: 1771 in a Hiwassee River village in eastern Tennessee.
Died: June 22, 1839 near Park Hill, Okla.

In his youth, The Ridge was a firebrand who pushed the Cherokee blood law. In his old age, it came back to haunt him.



A full-blood Cherokee, The Ridge (an English translation of his Cherokee name) was a frontier warrior, reputedly fighting for the British in the American Revolution.

Opposed to giving an inch of land to the whites, The Ridge in 1806 executed Chief Doublehead, who had violated the tribe's blood law by signing a treaty with the U.S. government — always punishable by death.

The Ridge settled on a plantation between the Etowah and Oostanaula rivers near Rome. A rich planter and elegant dresser, he owned slaves and an 1,100-tree peach orchard. His son, John, was educated in Connecticut and married outside the tribe.

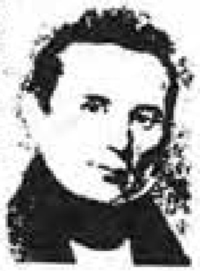
As the federal government applied pressure to remove the Cherokee, The Ridge eventually decided voluntary emigration to Oklahoma was sbest for the tribe. He joined his son and newphews, Stand Watie and Elias Boudinot, in signing the Treaty of New Echota, in which the Cherokee surrendered their land in Georgia.

"I have signed my death warrant," The Ridge reportedly said.

His prediction came true on June 22, 1839 in the new Cherokee nation in Oklahoma. He was shot 12 times, then trampled by his horse. Nearby, his son was stabbed 25 times and his jugular vein cut.

Elias Boudinot

Born: 1803 near present-day Rossville, Ga.
Died: June 22, 1839 near Park Hill, Okla.



Involving himself in the political stuggles of the Cherokee nation, Elias Boudinot sacrified his promising youth for what he believed was best for his people.

A nephew of The Ridge, Boudinot's original name was Galagina Watie. During missionary school in Connecticut, he took the name of his benefactor at the school and was ordained.

In 1828, he returned to New Echota, the Cherokee capital, to participate in a revolutionary venture — the Cherokee Phoenix. Printed in both Cherokee and English, the made the Cherokee the only Indians to adopt a phonetically written means of communication.

U.S. blazing motor trail

By Richard Shumate
The Times

ATLANTA — The federal government that forced the Cherokee west in 1838 is — 150 years later — in the process of commemorating the route the Indians took.

Some Cherorkee see an irony in that. But officials at the National Park Service, responsible for designating the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, say they are committed to an accurate commemoration of the trail and will not try to put a "positive spin" on a not-so-positive part of history.

"The National Park Service and its historians have studied the trail and don't believe it was one, big, happy wagon train," said Paul Swartz, director of planning for the service's regional office in Atlanta. "Commemoration is remembering history. Not all history is pleasant."

In 1983, Congress ordered the park service to study the feasibility of adding the Trail of Tears to its National Trails System. The study was finished in 1986. And last December, President Reagan signed into law a bill creating the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

The historic trail follows the land and the water routes of the Indian removal and goes through 10 states — Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Oklahoma. The law authorizes an interpretive center to be constructed in each state — specific sites yet to be determined by park service officials.

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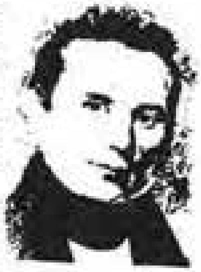

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By 1832, Boudinot believed the Cherokee should go west voluntarily. When Cherokee Chief John Ross, a removal opponent, forbade him from taking that position in the newspaper, Boudidnot resigned as editor.

Three years later, he co-signed the Treaty of New Echota, agreeing to exchange Cherokee homeland in Georgia for land in Oklahoma — a move subjecting him to execution under tribal law.

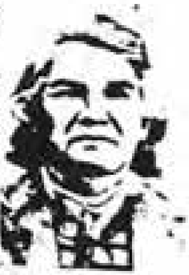
"Oh, what is a man who will not dare to die for his people? Who is there here who will not perish if this great nation may be saved?" Boudinot reportedly said at the treaty signing.

Eighteen months later, he was hit in the head six times with a tomahawk by an anti-treaty group.

Stand Watie Leader and traitor

Born: Dec. 12, 1806 near present-day Rome, Ga.

Died: Sept. 9, 1871 in Park Hill, Okla.



Viewed as both a leader and a traitor by his people, Stand Watie was the only Cherokee whose power rivaled that of the great tribal chief, John Ross — his lifelong enemy.

Watie, nephew of The Ridge and brother of Elias Boudinot, first entered public life during the 1830s. Along with Boudinot and The Ridge's son, John, Watie joined a group that was convinced the Cherokee should go west voluntarily — squarely pitting them against Ross and violating the Cherokee blood law.

Among those who signed the Treaty of New Echota, Watie migrated to Oklahoma in 1837.

On June 22, 1839, groups of the anti-removal Cherokee killed Boudinot, The Ridge and his son. Only Watie escaped. Blaming Ross for the murders, Watie stepped up to lead the Cherokee anti-Ross faction.

During the Civil War, Watie ardentently backed the Confederacy. He grew powerful enough to force Ross into an alliance with the South to keep the Cherokee Nation unified.

Watie led the Cherokee Mounted Rifles during the war and rose to the rank of brigadier general. He was the last Confederate general to surrender.

After the Civil War, Watie turned to farming. He lived until 1871 — outlasting Ross by five years.

Swartz, director of planning for the service's regional office in Atlanta. "Commemoration is remembering history. Not all history is pleasant."

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The portions of the route in Georgia and North Carolina trace paths taken by the Cherokee when federal troops rounded them up prior to the beginning of the forced march westward. The two paths converge at Rattlesnake Springs, Tenn., where the overland trail begins.

The water route starts at Chattanooga, following the Tennessee River through Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky, then proceeds down the Ohio and the Mississippi and up the Arkansas River to Oklahoma.

Park service officials recommended that the trail be a marked motor route, following roads and highways as closely as possible to the trail's original paths.

"We used county roads and state roads primarily," Swartz said. "But the linkage was there overall."

Some glitches remain, however. For example, no bridge exists where the designated trail crosses the Ohio River. And the nearest ferry crossing requires motorists to make an hour's detour.

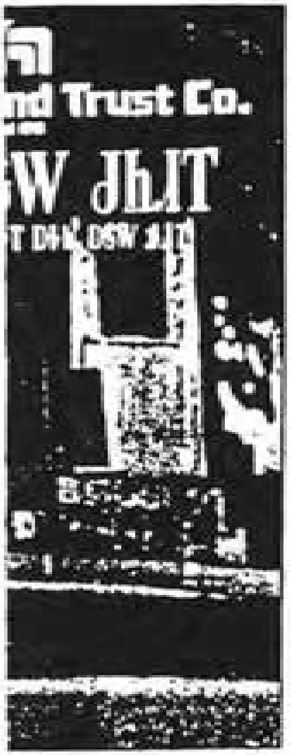
The park service rejected an idea that would have made the Trail of Tears a scenic or a walking trail, primarily because acquiring land for and constructing an 800-mile trail would have cost $115 million.

Designating the Trail of Tears with signs will cost the federal government about $270,000, which does not include the cost of constructing the interpretive centers.

Park service officials now are working on a management plan for the trail, which must be completed by mid-1990. However, a completion date for the marked trail itself has not been determined.

One state is a step ahead of the federal government. Tennessee has established its own Trail of Tears motor route.

Chance of showers
Low tonight 56
Clearing, cool
More weather: Page



JOHNNY BAILEY/The Times

...s in Tahlequah, Okla.

Cherokee struggle continues at Trail's end

By Richard Shumate
The Times

TRAIL OF TEARS
□ PART 7 OF 8

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. —

The small, rolling hills of the Green Country, stretching out over 7,000 square miles of northeastern Oklahoma, give "new meaning to the word rural," says one resident.

This was the Cherokee promised land, nicknamed because its wooded hills and open grasslands differed dramatically from the brown prairies of western Oklahoma.

Stripped of their ancestral homes in the southern Appalachians, the Green Country was the end of the Indian exodus 150 years ago. The Cherokee were given the new territory by a federal government bent to the popular will to push the tribe 800 miles west along the Trail of Tears.

Today, the 85,000 Cherokee on the Oklahoma nation's membership rolls are people who, by and large, live much like their white counterparts. They share the attitudes and accents of other Oklahomans. They don't fit the Tonto stereotypes imagined by those who learned Indian history from television westerns.

The Cherokee capital, Tahlequah, is typically Smalltown USA — except for the street signs in both English and Cherokee and the orange flag of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma flying over the town square.

"We don't like to use the word assimilated because that implies that we have abandoned our culture," said Bruce Ross, a Cherokee who resides in Park Hill, a small town near Tahlequah that was one of the first settlements set up by Trail of Tears survivors.

"Here, nobody thinks twice about Indian and non-Indian," said Lynn Howard, who is the Oklahoma nation's communications director.

But what evolved was not a homeland run by and for Cherokees, safe from white interference. In each of the 14 counties in the original Cherokee Nation, tribe members now compose a minority.

The county with the largest concentration of tribal members, Adair, is only [illegible] Cherokee. And Cherokee County, with the county seat of Tahlequah, is one-fourth Cherokee.

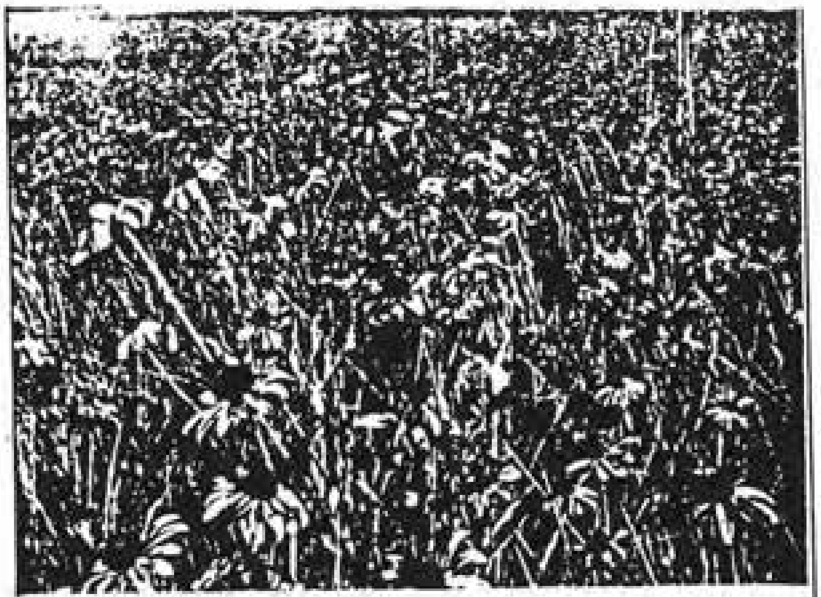
The final promise to the Cherokee — a western homeland to be theirs as long as the rivers flowed and the grass grew — was a casualty of the Civil War and the frontier thirst for land. The Cherokee and the other tribes in Oklahoma backed the Confederacy.

As a result, the Indians were forced to give up about half of their combined territory at the

Please see: Change
Page 5A

THROWIN' THEM THE CURVE

SAT scores slip in most local school systems



Johnny Bailey/The Times

Oklahoma landscape: The rolling hills and lush meadows of northeastern Oklahoma was characteristic of what the Cherokee survivors encountered at the end of their Trail of Tears.

Cherokee found different climate

By Richard Shumate
The Times

The earth was flat and very soft and wet at first. The animals were anxious to get down to the earth, so they sent out different birds to see if it was dry enough yet. But they found no place to light and came back.

At last it seemed to be time, so the animals sent out the Great Buzzard. He flew all over the earth, low down near the ground and it was still soft. When he reached Cherokee country he was very tired and his wings began to flap and strike the ground.

Wherever they stuck there was a valley and where they turned up again there was a mountain. When the animals saw this they were afraid the whole world would be mountains, so they called him back. But to this day, the Cherokee country remains full of mountains.

—Cherokee legend.

When they were forced westward, the Cherokee left behind the cool, rainy Southern Appalachians

It was a more petite buzzard that created the Green Country of northeastern Oklahoma.

The Midwestern climate also differs, with hotter summers and colder, snowier winters.

The Statistical Abstract of the United States shows the following contrasts in weather between Oklahoma City and Atlanta, the closest urban centers to the new and old homelands for which weather information is provided:

- Average high temperature in Oklahoma City during July is 93.5 degrees, more than five degrees hotter than the 87.9-degree average high in Atlanta. Humidity is about 10 percent lower in Oklahoma City.
- Average low temperature in Atlanta during January is 32.6 degrees. In Oklahoma City: 25.2 degrees, almost eight notches colder.
- Annual precipitation: Atlanta — 48.61 inches; Oklahoma City — 30.89 inches.
- Average yearly snowfall in Oklahoma City is 9 inches, while it is only 2 inches in Atlanta

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The sparks that touched
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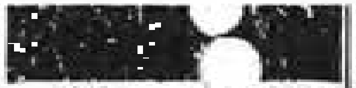

Johnny [illegible]/The Times

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All three had signed the Treaty of New Echota, which exchanged Indian territory in Georgia for land in Oklahoma and precipitated the Cherokee removal west.

All three had violated the Cherokee blood law, which fixed the death penalty for giving land to whites.

The murders divided the nation. Supporters of the victims were led by Boudinot's brother, Stand Watie, who said the three were assassinated. Anti-treaty forces countered that the slayings amounted to simple justice.

"They were not assassinated," said Bruce Ross, great-great grandson of the leader of the anti-treaty side, Chief John Ross, and curator of a museum in Park Hill. "In the eyes of the Cherokee people, they were executed because they were in violation of the blood law."

A knife used in the murders was handed down from generation to generation before the Ross family donated it to a museum in Oklahoma City. Members of the family and many historians support the theory that Ross himself was not involved in the deaths.

Bruce Ross said John Ross's son, Allen, was involved, along with tribal leaders close to Ross.

"Allen's part was to make sure John Ross was kept out of it," Bruce Ross said.

But Agnew is not so sure.

"If you knew anything about John Ross, you knew he was a consummate politician. He saw immediately everything that was going on," Agnew said. "I think Ross knew, Ross condoned and later he pardoned those involved.

"But there is not a shred of evidence."

The two factions also split along class lines, with Ross and his supporters generally more educated, more prosperous and with more white blood than their Watie opposition.

ancestor's wishes o. moval were not murdered but executed because they violated tribal

The bloodshed came to an end only when President James K. Polk intervened, telling Ross and Watie that if they couldn't get along, the federal government would separate the factions. In 1846, the two men declared a truce.

The period from 1846 to the Civil War is known as the Golden Age of the Cherokee. With the civil strife over, the tribe constructed schools and settlements throughout northeastern Oklahoma.

But the fragile peace between Watie and Ross lasted only until 1860, shattered by the Civil War, a conflict among white men.

Ross wanted to remain neutral, while Watie allied himself with the Confederacy. But because of internal political pressure and being surrounded by Confederate forces in Arkansas and southern Missouri, Ross signed an alliance with the rebels as other Indian tribes already had done.

"Ross gave in to pressure to ally with the South in order to avoid splitting the tribe," Agnew said.

"The alliance was a piece of paper," Bruce Ross said. He believes John Ross actually made the alliance in conjunction with Union forces, to delay a Confederate occupation of the Indian territories until the Union forces could reach the area.

But whatever the reasons for the alliance, it turned out disastrous. Union forces occupied the Indian nation, triggering a guerrilla war with Watie's forces. And after the Confederacy collapsed, the Union retaliated by taking what is now western Oklahoma away from the Indian tribes and opening it up to white settlement.

"No Georgian, nobody else in the South, was required to make the sacrifices that the Indians were," Agnew said.

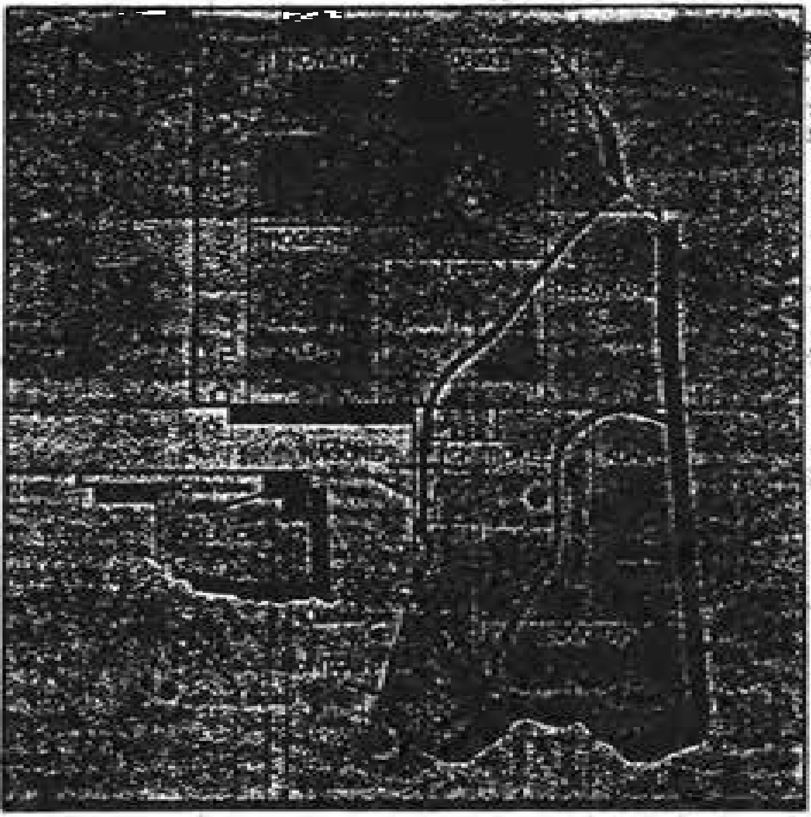
After part of Oklahoma was opened to white settlement, the newcomers began looking toward the Indian lands.

"The whites simply could not resist. It was just a matter of time," Agnew said.

In 1905, the Cherokee made a last-ditch effort to save their nation, proposing it become the state of Sequoyah — a move rejected by Congress.

Instead, in 1907, the white and Indian lands were merged into the state of Oklahoma.

The land claims of the Cherokee and other tribes were extinguished, replaced by small allotments of land to individual tribal members. Tribal governments also ceased to exist, and chiefs were appointed by the president until tribal governments were revived in 1971.



Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma

The Cherokee have jurisdiction in parts of 14 Oklahoma counties.

"As the economy worsens, peo- a lot of our problems much more chief deals with adv

Johnny Bailey/The Times

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At Trail's end, bloody feuding began

By Richard Shumate
The Times

PARK HILL, Okla. — The Trail of Tears may have ended with the Cherokee arrival in Oklahoma, but the Indians' suffering did not.

For the next seven years, the divisions within the nation, caused mainly by the fallout from removal, triggered what was tantamount to a civil war between factions seeking [illegible] the new Cherokee nation.

"There were two or three murders a week — tremendous bloodshed," said Brad Agnew, an expert on Oklahoma history and a professor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

The sparks that touched off the tinderbox involved three gruesome murders near the tribal settlement of Park Hill on June 22, 1839.

The Ridge, a Cherokee leader of enormous stature, was shot 12 times, then trampled by his startled horse. Someone wielding a tomahawk crushed the skull of Elias Boudinot, former editor of the Cherokee Phoenix. John Ridge, Connecticut-educated son of The Ridge, was stabbed 25 times and his jugular vein was cut.

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Johnny Bailey/The Times

Violators executed: Bruce Ross, curator of a museum in Park Hill, Okla., and the great-great-grandson of Cherokee Chief John Ross, says three Indian leaders who went against his ancestor's wishes on removal were not murdered but executed because they violated tribe law.

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to Tahlequah, maintaining a economy. But rural coun- o the west have not been so y.

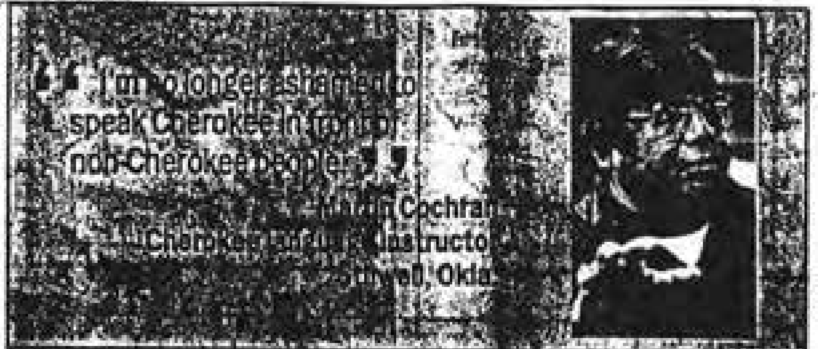
Adair County, per capita in e is $5,200 a year — half the average and the lowest in Ok- ma. By contrast in Georgia, County's per capita rate is t $9,100 annually.

so in Adair, the percentage receiving public assistance is times the state average. y commute to nearby cities in sas, primarily to work in try plants.

en tourism, which has been a end to the Eastern Band of okee in North Carolina, has een developed extensively in eastern Oklahoma. While the h Carolina tribe spends a ,000 promotional budget an- y, the Oklahoma Cherokee on the state and local tourist ctions to promote their area.

e rows and rows of shops that main street in Cherokee, N.C., the roadside chiefs in head- es are missing in Tahlequa, e a tourist would find few ho-

Mankiller and those who re- n Tahlequah say that despite



"I'm no longer ashamed to speak Cherokee in front of non-Cherokee people."

Cochran

Chero[illegible] instructo

[illegible], Okla.

the tourism windfall of the North Carolina tribe, they aren't anxious to follow the same path.

"I hope not. I think that you can be overrun really with too much commercialization," Mankiller said. "What we want to do is promote tourism, but we want it to be basically controlled by local people."

The Oklahoma tribe's approach to tourism is to keep in touch with Cherokee heritage.

"We don't want to go for flashy signs," said Samuel Youngworth, a non-Cherokee who directs the Tahlequah's downtown revitalization effort.

With several large reservoirs surrounding the city, including Lake Tenkiller, and the adjacent Illinois River, marinas and rafting companies are contributing to a growth in the economy via tourism.

Moreover, Lake Tenkiller was ranked fourth in Rand McNally's recent survey of top retirement spots.

Oklahoma's recent economic troubles, triggered by a drop in oil prices, also may have influenced the poor economic plight of the Cherokee.

"As the economy worsens, people are more in need of our services," Howard said.

The nation operates two hospitals, five clinics, and a commodity program that provides 70 pounds of food per month per person, to those who need it.

The nation also has political sovereignty over the land it owns, about 45 square miles, and over land alloted to individual tribal members in 1907 when the nation was broken up.

While it recently instituted a police force, the tribe, unlike its Eastern counterpart, has no court system.

As the 1907 property allotments have passed through the generations, the Green Country has grown dotted with mini-towns as extended families construct houses in clusters on the family land. Bringing these rural outposts water and sewer services has been one of the major initiatives of the Mankiller administration.

Although the Cherokee Nation may not exercise the power it did before statehood, it can help the Cherokee to help themselves, according to Ms. Mankiller.

"When we have our own tribal government, we're able to resolve a lot of our problems much more efficiently and effectively th when we don't have a tribal g ernment," she said.

Since the late 1960s, the Che kee and other Oklahoma tri have been involved in a s against the federal governm over who owns the bed of the kansas River. The river is now p of the Kerr-McClellan Navigat System, an inland shipping la that has made the landlocked cit of Tulsa and Muskogee import ports.

If the Indians win, and th have won all the initial skirmish it could be worth millions.

But no matter what happens is apparent that William Her Perrin, a Kentucky historian w wrote about the Trail of Tears 1884, will be proven wrong.

"As a race, the Indians a doomed by the inexorable laws humanity to speedy and everla ing extinguishment," Perr wrote.

Five years ago, the Cherokee tion showed 55,000 members the rolls. Of today's 88,000, abo three-fourths of them reside in O lahoma, while the rest are spr across the nation — primarily California, Texas and Kansas.

The boost in numbers came aft the Cherokee took tribal enro ment duties back from the feder government

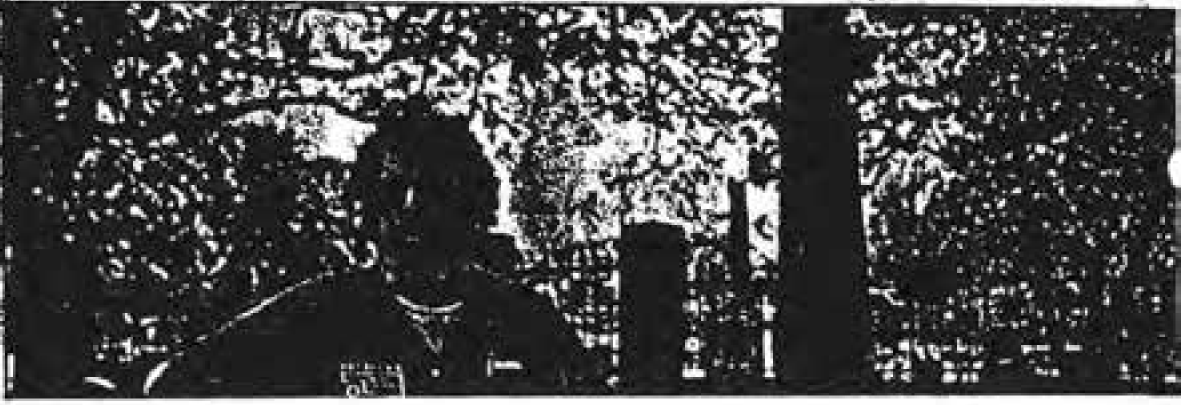
Before that, prospective enr ees had to certify the amount Cherokee blood they had throu the federal Bureau of Indian A fairs. But when the Cherokee to over the certification process 1984, Indian officials discover the government bureau was 10,0 applications behind, said Ms. Ho ard said.

Tomorrow: A [illegible] chief deals with adve[illegible]

t Trail's end, bloody feuding began

ichard Shumate

imes



RK HILL, Okla. — The Trail of may have ended with the okee arrival in Oklahoma, but dians' suffering did not.

the next seven years, the di- ns within the nation, caused ly by the fallout from removal, ered what was tantamount to a war between factions seeking [illegible]

here were two or three mur- [illegible]

Many thought being

(Continued from 1A)

close of the war. In 1889, the forsaken territory was opened to white settlement. Then, in 1907, Congress extinguished tribal governments, combining the Indian and white lands into America's 46th state: Oklahoma.

During the next 60 years, many Cherokee dropped their traditional ways.

"Many people thought being a Cherokee was a disgrace," said Martin Cochran, 43, an educator from Stillwell and one of about 3,000 full-blooded Cherokee left today. Although Cherokee was his primary language 25 years ago, he said he would only whisper it in public.

But no more. The civil rights movement of the 1960s stirred a new pride in being Cherokee. Tribal government was revived in 1971, although today it serves more as an agency for administering social programs than as sovereign nation. Its budget last year was $50 million.

Interest in Cherokee language and culture has resurfaced.

"I'm no longer ashamed to speak Cherokee in front of non-Cherokee people," Cochran said.

But the new pride has not conquered a myriad of economic problems the Cherokee face — unemployment rates as much as 7 percent higher than that of non-Indians, low wages for those who can find work and high percentages of the population on public assistance.

John Birdtail, 30, expresses a frustration from years of surviving on odd jobs and the money he can panhandle from visitors to the old Cherokee capitol building in Tahlequah.

"I'll tell you what I'm tired of," Birdson said. "I'm tired of unemployment, I'm tired of food stamps and I'm tired of free cheese. I believe it's going to be the same for the next 20 to 30 years."

Tribal leaders share his concern.

"The single most difficult problem we face is job creation, without a doubt," said Wilma Mankiller, who became principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma three years ago.

Northeastern Oklahoma lacks industry. In Tahlequah, the largest employers are Northeastern State University and the Cherokee Nation itself.

"Industry tends to go where other industry is located," Mankiller said. "And I don't think there are a whole lot of companies out there that are just dying to go to remote rural areas. So we've got to be very aggressive in pursuing them.

"We're just like 10,000 other small communities . . . trying to support the expansion of existing business and attract new business to our area to stimulate growth in the economy and create jobs."

NSU, the state's fastest growing public university, draws 7,600 students to Tahlequah, maintain
steady economy. But rural c
ties to the west have not bee
lucky.

In Adair County, per capit
come is $5,200 a year — half
state average and the lowest in
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poultry plants.

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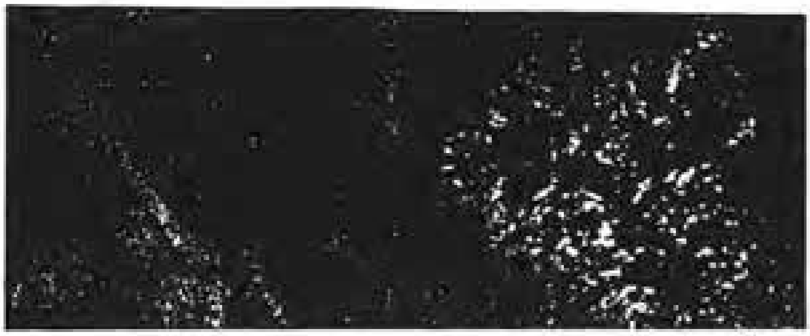
John Birdtail
Unemployed
Tahlequah, Okla.



At Trail'

By Richard Shumate
The Times

PARK HILL, Okla. — The Trai
Tears may have ended with
Cherokee arrival in Oklahoma,
the Indians' suffering did not.

For the next seven years, the

Chief Mankiller bows to no man in tribe

By Richard Shumate

The Times

TRAIL OF TEARS

☐ FINAL OF SERIES

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — Wilma Mankiller was 11 when the federal bureaucracy snuffed out her family's simple life of growing peanuts and strawberries for cash in the hills of Oklahoma.

"We had seen television once, I think," she said. "I had never ridden roller skates or a bicycle or used a telephone or any of those kinds of things.

"We were taken from that kind of environment, got on a train and two days later ended up in downtown San Francisco."

Mankiller's father was a full-blood Cherokee. And in the 1950s the federal government had decided that he and thousands like him needed to be mainstreamed.

They were to be taken from their tribal homelands and put in urban areas where they could get jobs and climb from the trenches of poverty.

So the Mankillers — white mother, Cherokee father and 11 children — were relocated. But with few skills and no experience in urban life, Mankiller's father found the cure to be worse than the poverty. Thirty years later, she still refers to it as a "terrible, terrible program."

"They did it like they tend to do everything — without consulting the people that it would affect. It was probably a very well-intentioned but very ill-advised program," she said. "Most people ended up in urban ghettoes."

Mankiller, 42, still copes with the federal government that stripped her people of their land in 1838 and relocated her family in 1957. But now she represents more than herself or her family. She stands for a nation.

Three years ago, she was chosen principal chief of the 88,000-mem-

Please see: Chief
Page 5A

number goesto 19 percent.

"The number doesn't surp me; it's probably low," said Crace, city manager, when as about the number of employees.

Under current city ordinan employees may be related as l as they are not hired to work ur the direct supervision of ano relative.

Crace said that 20 years finding 100 non-relatives in a s town probably would have l difficult.

"We've grown out of t Crace said. "Gainesville is a active community and employ center that it has been in the and we can move to new stan without losing quality."

Please see: Family
Back page this section.

For sale: Kenny Rogers pulls up $12 million roots

Associated Press

COLBERT, Ga. — Entertainer Kenny Rogers' ranch in eastern Georgia is for sale for $12.5 million — complete with many extras, as they say.

Called Beaver Dam Farms, it has 312 rolling acres, a 15,000-square foot main house, a guest house, a couple of picturesque lakes, five stables with a pool for the horses and a golf course in the front yard.

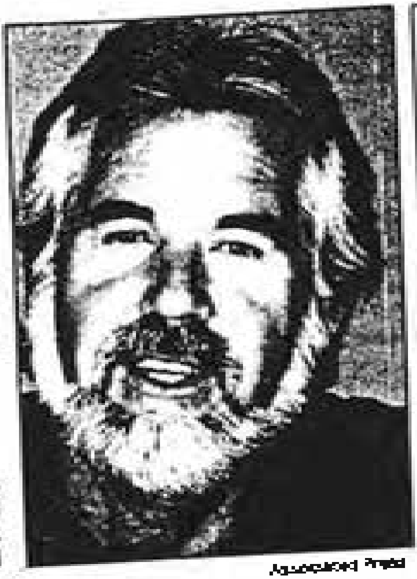
The main house includes 10 bedrooms and 11 bathrooms and has a complete photography laboratory. There's also a main barn with 46 stalls, luxury apartments and office space; a small 12-stall barn with a two-bedroom apartment; an equipment barn; and the six-bedroom, four-bath guest house.

"To use the word 'barn' is stretching the meaning," said Morris Bullock, a real estate agent handling the sale. The main barn also has an automatic car wash and a laboratory for the care of the horses.

Rogers, who bought about 1,200 acres of pasture and woods in Colbert seven years ago, originally put the property up sale about three years ago. At that time the price tag was $11 million, but that was before the par 72, 6,200-yard golf course was built.

The country singer intended to raise Arabian horses on the farm, but changed his mind.

"There's nothing ordinary about this place," he said.



Associated Press

Dream home: Kenny Rogers intends to sell his $12 million Georgia estate.

UPDATE

AG CONGRESS

The Georgia Agricultural Congress is scheduled for Sept. 29 at the Georgia Farm Bureau Headquarters building in Macon. The seminar is sponsored by the Georgia Farm Bureau, Georgia Agribusiness Council and the Division of Agricultural Economics and Extension Service at the University of Georgia.

All farmers and agricultural people are invited to attend the meeting. The program will address the present and future of agriculture as it relates to domestic policy as well as international trade, announced Kathryn Talley, spokeswoman.

GIVING BLOOD

Self donations, giving t yourself, also known a logous donations, are gr popularity.

Jo Brewer, laboratory at Northeast Georgia Center, said the recent t ward autologous donatio with the fear of ar contaminated blood suppl

The medical center's la now acts as a satellite fa directed donations. Th arrangement with the Red Cross, family mem give directed donation hospital on the first Thursday of each month.

JOHNNY SAUSE/The Times

Cherokee chief: Wilma Mankiller, principal chief of the 88,000-member Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, stands in front of the original Cherokee capitol building in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Chief Mankiller bows to no man in tribe

By Richard Shumate
The Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — Wilma Mankiller was [illegible] when the federal bureaucracy [illegible] out her family's simple life of growing peanuts and strawberries for [illegible] in the hills [illegible] erty. Thirty years later, she still refers to it as a "terrible, terrible program."

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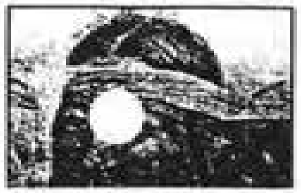

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its famil
aims at r

By Priscilla E. Daves
The Times

When Gainesville city employees talk about being one big family they aren't always kidding — and they aren't always talking about a happy family either.

Approximately 15 percent of the city's employees are related to someone else in city government, whether a commissioner, a supervisor or someone in another department.

Tuesday, the Gainesville city commission is expected to approve an ordinance that would outlaw hiring relatives of at least the management of the city. In this case management includes the city manager, the city commission, all department heads and members of the civil service board.

"We've turned the rock over and we've done something about it," said Mayor Ernest Moore. "We are the only government in Hall County that is doing something about (nepotism), you could say we are the only one in the state."

Gainesville has 405 employees. Of those, The Times was able to connect 69 employees who have some relationship to another person in city government. When recently retired, terminated or deceased relatives are added in, the number goes to 19 percent.

"The number doesn't surprise me; it's probably low," said Grace, city manager, when asked about the number of employees.

Under current city ordinance employees may be related as long as they are not hired to work under the direct supervision of another relative.

[illegible]

of a plan to
e in Chero
ther
Jackson Is

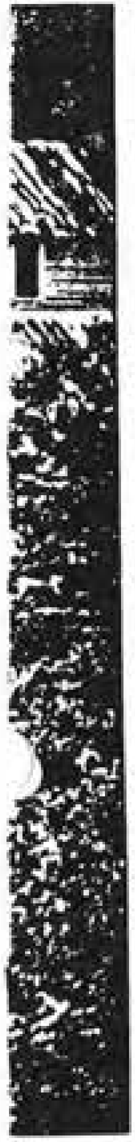
He then went to Washington, D.C., to work for the government in 1954, Meanwhile, his wife, Mary (they married in 1950) taught school back home

nature and things like that.

Chiltoskey spent most of his life as an Indian in a white culture. But, he said, that didn't cause any complications

and around the boundary.

"I've got a whole bunch more from other parts of the world. But I haven't got it organized yet," he said.



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NANCY WARD

'The Pocahontas of Tennessee'

Born: 1738 in southeastern Tennessee

Died. 1822 near Benton, Tenn.

Nancy Ward, a Cherokee, was known by whites as "the Pocahontas of Tennessee" — a reference to American Indian maiden who worked to keep peace between her people and the American colonists in the early 1600s

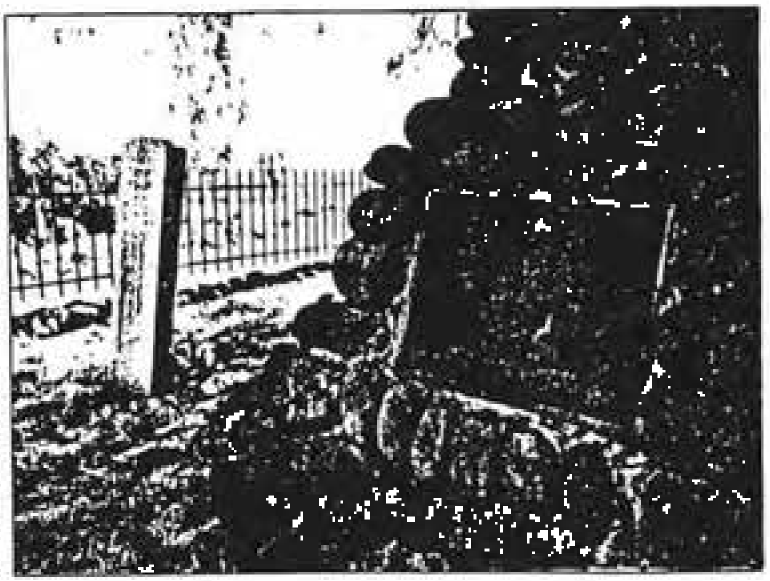
Ward operated an inn along the Ocoee River in what is now Polk County, Tenn., just north of the Georgia border. She was also known as "the wild rose of the Cherokee."

Ward's fame came as a result of her aid to white settlers in the frontier of eastern Tennessee — land that was claimed by her tribe. She also tried to promote peace between her people and their white neighbors

In 1776, she warned white settlers of an impending Cherokee attack. In 1780, she smuggled food to whites who were under siege.

Ward is credited for introducing several new practices among her people that she learned from the white settlers including the use of milk cows

Ward is buried beneath a cedar tree on a hill overlooking U.S. Highway 411 near Benton, Tenn.



Johnny Bailey/The Times

Grave of a princess: The Nancy Ward gravesite is located beside Highway 411 east of Chattanooga in southeastern Tennessee

TSALI

Legend of sacrifice

The story of Tsali, a Cherokee who was called Charley by white settlers who came to know him in the North Carolina mountains, has become a legend among the Cherokee who escaped westward removal.

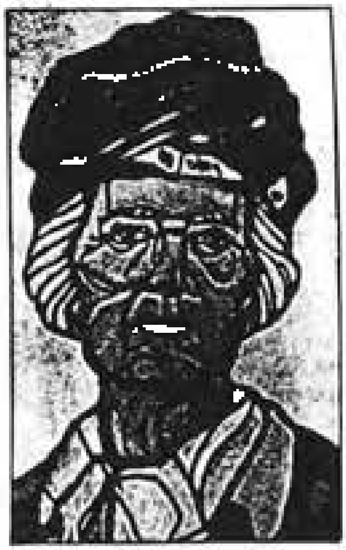
According to the legend:

In May 1838, when federal troops entered western North Carolina to round up the Cherokee for the march west, they captured Tsali and his family. While herding them toward a removal fort, one of the soldiers prodded Tsali's wife with a bayonet, prompting a fight between the men in the family and the soldiers. One soldier was killed

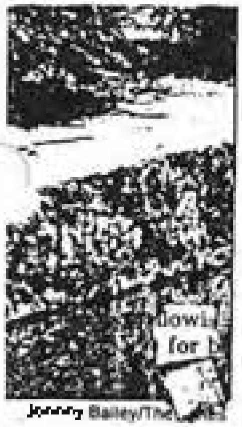
Tsali and his family fled deep into the mountains. Gen. Winfield Scott, unable to find the family but also unwilling to let the death of a federal soldier go unavenged, sent an emissary to Tsali with a deal. If he would give himself and his family up to the troops, the rest of the Cherokee in the Carolina mountains would be allowed to stay

Tsali accepted. And then, he and two of his sons were executed by a firing squad. At Tsali's request, the rifles were fired by his own people

The Cherokee in western North Carolina today proclaim themselves to be the descendents of the people who were allowed to stay because of Tsali's sacrifice.



Tsali: Known as "Charley."



Johnny Bailey/The Times

cated in a city park

Tennessee accents. home in Georgia was inute man who won a set up by the state in de up Cherokee land. house still exists in e, a suburb of Chatta- ed after him. The re ne — a replica is the town's police cars side of a pond in a city

buried in a garden Hermitage, under a d gazebo, next to his grave is at a family Park Hill, Okla., un- foot-tall obelisk — great grandson ncomis "a miniature monument."

that the other side of the Mississippi was going to be OK,'' Macpherson said.

Tomorrow: Raising the public's consciousness through tourism.

TOURIST SITES

Following is a list of tourist sites in southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia related to the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

Red Clay

Cherokee Council grounds where the tribe held some of its last meetings before removal west. Located on Tennessee Highway 60 south of Cleveland on the Georgia-Tennessee border.

Sequoyah Birthplace Museum

The facility contains a history of the life of Sequoyah, inventor of the written Cherokee language, who was born nearby. Located just off U.S. Highway 411 in Vonore, located between Knoxville and Cleveland.

Nancy Ward Grave and Removal Fort Blockhouse

The gravesite of Cherokee heroine Nancy Ward is a few miles south of Benton, Tenn. on U.S. 411. Further north, at the edge of Benton, is a blockhouse that is the only known remnant of a Trail of Tears removal fort.

JOHN ROSS

Merchant, politician, Indian chief

n. 3, 1790 at Turkeytown, a Cherokee settlement on the r near today's Centre, Ala.

g. 1, 1866 in Washington, D.C.

ss was only one-eighth Cherokee, but he chose to live as nd was arguably the tribe's greatest chief.

ndian name was Coowescoowee, or "the white bird." As family moved to what is now Rossville, Ga., which was er him following his death. His family operated a trading s Ross's Landing on the nearby Tennessee River, which nucleus of what eventually became Chattanooga, Ten.

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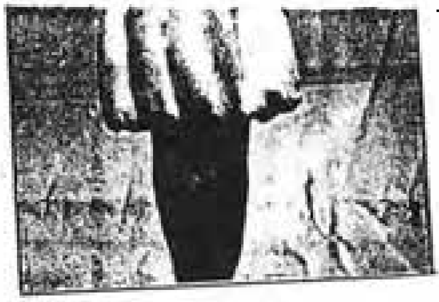
failed, he helped lead the Cherokee west and a new nation in Oklahoma. His first wife, Quatie, died rail.

the Civil War, Ross was sympathetic to the Union, e tried to keep the Cherokee Nation neutral. But when his cal rival, Stand Watie, sided with the Confederacy, Ross alliance with the South to keep the Indian Nation from ed.

roops responded by occupying northwestern Oklahoma,



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Saturday
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MON.-SAT. 9:30-5:30

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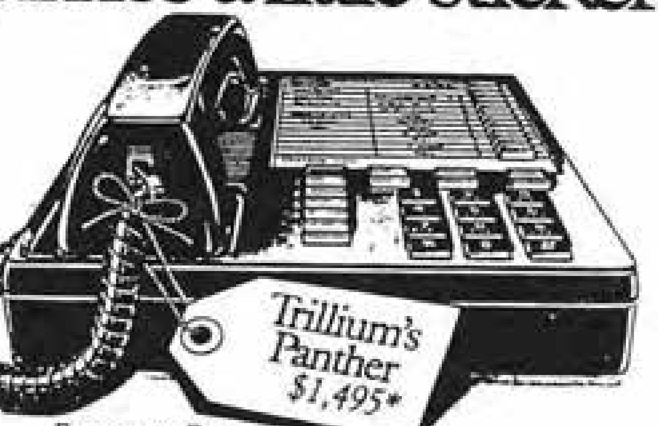

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ANDREW JACKSON

Soldier, lawyer, 7th president

Born: March 15, 1767 at Waxhaw, a settlement on the border of North and Carolina

Died: June 8, 1845 at The Hermitage, Tenn.

drew Jackson was a child of the frontier and the son of Scotch-Irish immi-. Orphaned at 14, Jackson had little formal education.

e future seventh U.S. president got his first taste of war at 13, when he in the American Revolution. Taken prisoner, the young Jackson was ed by a British soldier's sword when he refused to shine the soldier's [illegible]

1784 Jackson began studying law in North Carolina and was admitted to the bar in 1787. A year later, he moved to Nashville, Tenn. Then a fledgling town, he established himself as an attorney and land speculator. He also served U.S. representative and U.S. senator from Tennessee.

Jackson's national star rose during the War of 1812. First, he led a suc- campaign against the Creek Indians in what is now Alabama. In March 1814, he led a decisive battle at Horseshoe Bend, near present-day Montgom-, with the help of Cherokee warriors, defeated the Creeks, who had themselves with the British.

Then in January 1815, Jackson defeated the British in the Battle of New s, the last battle of the war.

e returned to his estate, The Hermitage, near Nashville. By 1824, he had ed the national scene, this time as a candidate for president. He lost that . But he won in 1828, campaigning partially on a platform of removing the kee and other eastern Indian tribes to west of the Mississippi.

e removal policy went into effect during Jackson's second term, although kee removal took place during the administration of his successor, Martin ren.

Native Americans hold Jackson responsible for the tragedy of [illegible]

Jackson returned to The Hermitage in 1837. He died eight years later and is buried next to his wife, Rachel, who died less than four months after Jackson's election.

JOHN ROSS

Merchant, politician, Indian chief

Born: Oct. 3, 1790 at Turkeytown, a Cherokee settlement on the Coosa River near today's Centre, Ala.

Died: Aug. 1, 1866 in Washington, D.C.

John Ross was only one-eighth Cherokee, but he chose to live as an Indian and was arguably the tribe's greatest chief.

Ross's Indian name was Coowescoowee, or "the white bird." As a boy, his family moved to what is now Rossville, Ga., which was named after him following his death. His family operated a trading post called Ross's Landing on the nearby Tennessee River, which formed the nucleus of what eventually became Chattanooga, Tenn.

Educated in white schools, Ross evolved into one of the chief spokesmen for the Cherokee by the time he was 26. In 1827, he was the chief author of a constitution for the Cherokee Nation. In 1828, he was chosen the tribe's principal chief, a post he would hold until his death.

Ross was an implacable foe of the Cherokee removal to the West, choosing to fight the federal government in the U.S. Congress and in federal courts.

When that failed, he helped lead the Cherokee west and established a new nation in Oklahoma. His first wife, Quatie, died along the trail.

During the Civil War, Ross was sympathetic to the Union, although he tried to keep the Cherokee Nation neutral. But when his chief political rival, Stand Watie, sided with the Confederacy, Ross signed an alliance with the South to keep the Indian Nation from being divided.

Federal troops responded by occupying northeastern Oklahoma, arresting Ross and taking him East. He later was pardoned for his role in the Confederate Alliance. He spent the rest of the war in Philadelphia and even became friendly with Abraham Lincoln.

He is buried in a family cemetery in Park Hill, Okla.

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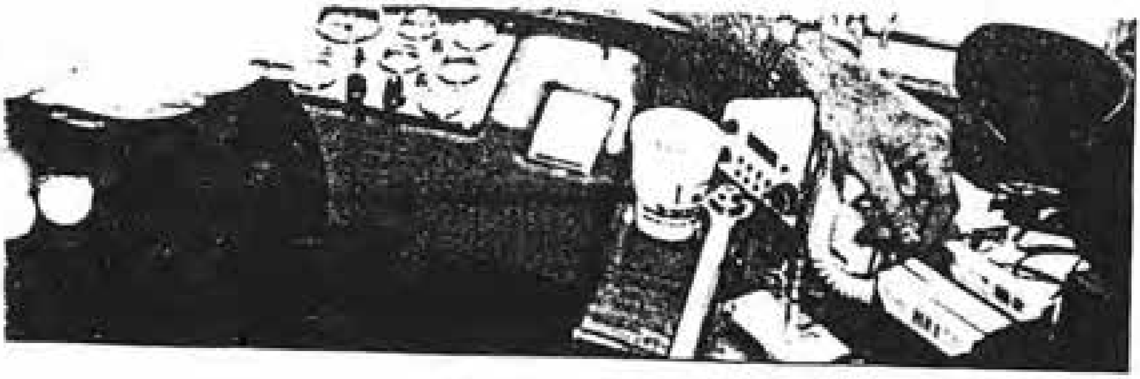
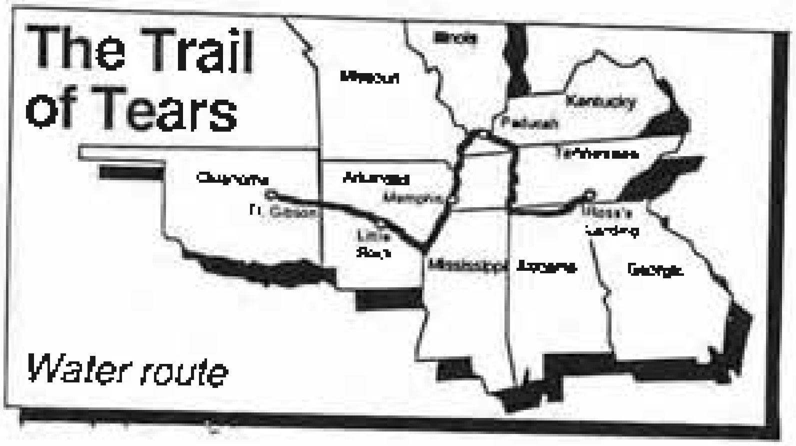


JOHNNY BAILEY/The ...

of a riverboat that operates from Ross's landing, the beginning of the water route of the Trail

ed by reports of a mount- toll from disease and heat, persuaded federal authorities him to oversee an overland , beginning in October the Cherokee left, the set- surrounding Ross's Land- the name Chattanooga. It of Tennessee's fourth larg-

nding itself is a park that is among the city's lunchtime s well as home of the Chat Riverboat Co., which oper- Southern Belle and a



THE ROUTE

om the Mississippi River to Oklahoma

the winter of 1838-1839, as the Cherokee were ying to cross the Mississippi River, an unusual vent took place — an especially cold winter sent unks of ice down the river in December.

Ice usually does not begin to form until January February, according to Greg Henson, a naturalist Trail of Tears State Park near Cape Girardeau, o., where the Cherokee crossed the river.

Besides combating the ice, the Cherokee also d to cope with the river's strong current. By the ne a boat crossed the mile-wide river, it could have en as much as a mile downstream. At Green's rry, where most of the Cherokee crossed, that uld have spelled trouble because high bluffs rise aight up from the river's edge above and below crossing.

"This is a natural break in the bluffs. That's one the reasons why they picked this spot," Henson id. "It's always seemed amazing to me that they uld cross the river under those conditions."

Because crossing the river took so long, the first ups making the crossing in each detachment d to stop and wait for the rest of their group. (The rokee were divided into 14 contingents of about 00 people each). They camped at Moccasin ing

After navigating the river, the Cherokee marched through Jackson, Mo. The town named for their nemisis, Andrew Jackson, was the third largest city in Missouri. Today, its population numbers 7,000.

In Missouri, the various Cherokee detatchments took different routes across the state, following the availability of game. But all had the often brutal experience of a Missouri winter.

"It can get down to zero and below and stick there for a week," said Georgie Knott of Fredericktown, who has lived through more than five dozen Missouri winters. High humidity makes the temperatures seem even colder.

While some of the overland detatchments went south into Arkansas shortly after the river crossing, most went to the southwest toward Springfield.The route then turned south, across the hilly corner of Arkansas.

Part of this route, through Benton County, had been a popular footpath since a prehistoric group called the Rock People came through the area in 800 A.D. Today, it is U.S. Highway 62.

After cutting through Arkansas, the Cherokee entered their new homeland. The center of it at that time was Ft. Gibson, a U.S. Army outpost from which the Trail of Tears survivors received supplies.

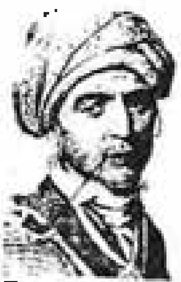
SEQUOYAH

Creator of 'talking leaves'

Born: 1776 in the Cherokee settlement of Tuskegee in southeastern Tennessee

Died: August 1843, in San Fernando, Mexico

Of all the Cherokee leaders, perhaps the most revered is Sequoyah, who brought his people "talking leaves."



Sequoyah

Born illegitimate to a white father and a Cherokee mother, Sequoyah walked with a limp from birth. He had resided in a Cherokee settlement in northern Alabama from his early youth. A jewelry maker and artist, he also fought with Andrew Jackson at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, the victory that first propelled Jackson into the limelight.

Sequoyah — who never read, wrote or spoke English — grew intrigued with the white man's "talking leaves" — his name for books. He believed that the white man's books, which allowed him to store knowledge, gave him an advantage over the Cherokee.

Between 1809 and 1821, the uneducated Sequoyah developed the Cherokee syllabary — 86 characters representing syllables in the Cherokee language. The alphabet of sounds made the tribe the first Native American people to have a written language. It provided the foundation for a written constitution and a tribal newspaper.

Sequoyah is believed to be the only person in history to develop a written language single-handedly.

In 1817, Sequoyah was among a small group of Cherokee who moved west to Arkansas under the terms of a treaty with the United States. In 1828, they were moved further west, into Oklahoma, where Sequoyah settled into a one-room cabin near the present-day city of Sallisaw. He made his living by operating a salt works.

After the Cherokee exodus known as the Trail of Tears, Sequoyah helped negotiate a truce between tribal factions warring for control. He died in Mexico while visiting some Cherokee who had emigrated there.

TO 4!!
elebrates Its

● Snakes

(Continued from 1A)

new land in Oklahoma.

The first group left Oct. 1, 1838. The last group, which included Cherokee Chief John Ross, left a month

area all his life, said he has found axes and other artifacts the Cherokee left behind.

"I used to pick them up in the yard," he said.

But in recent years, the fields

scare their white captors.

Moore said that when he was a boy, his family stored its milk in the cool spring.

About 15 years ago, when Moore, his father and his brother owned

Jobs on stage: Bill Hardy, director of the Cherokee play "Unto These Hills," says the drama provides employment for North Carolina tribe members, who make up about one-half the cast annually

[illegible] vate a [illegible] chicken playing basketball or a duck playing the piano. Fudge is sold from a shop with totem poles in front.

And many of the crafts for sale are not authentic Cherokee.

"A lot of people complain because there's too much of the Western ceramics," Walkingstick Parnell said. "But with the summer schedule, that's all that the people can afford."

A few years ago, some merchants tried to sell only authentic Cherokee items. But the tourists, more familiar with the Plains traditions, didn't buy, she said.

"The Cherokee were very dull, comparatively," she said.

The Eastern Band, as these Cherokee in North Carolina are formally known, are the members of the tribe that escaped the 1838 roundup that led to the march west over the Trail of Tears.

About 1,000 escapees hid in the heavily forested mountains of western North Carolina — an area too remote and rugged for an effective sweep by federal troops. Few white settlers moved into this part of North Carolina until the 1870s, and the steep mountains provided poor farmland. So there was little pressure to remove the tribe.

With the help of a white benefactor, Will Thomas, who was the adopted son of a Cherokee chief, the tribe began buying land. In 1876, the Qualla Boundary, the formal name of the tribe's homeland, was formed. In 1924, the land was put into a trust administered by the federal government, and the eastern Cherokee became U.S. citizens.

Today, the Eastern Band has 10,000 members, with 6,000 living on the 56,000 acre boundary (the Cherokee do not call it a "reservation") that stretches across five North Carolina counties.

"There were no roads here (in the 1920s)," said Goingback Chiltoskey, 80, of Cherokee, who grew up on the boundary. "Then people began to pour in to see what was in here."

The Cherokee historically have not received much favor from the federal government, but the selection of the land next to the boundary as the site for Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1930 proved a boon for the area. The park is the most visted in the national park system, drawing more than 18-million tourists annually.

The Cherokee tribe operates a museum visited by some 95,000 people last year. An outdoor drama portraying the Cherokee removal, "Unto These Hills," and a recreated 1750s Cherokee village attract 100,000 more visitors each summer.

"The drama provides a fair amount of employment itself," said Bill Hardy, a University of North Carolina professor who has directed "Unto These Hills" for 20 years.

Still, about half of the drama's cast of 120 are not Cherokee, but white college-age students.

While resort towns on the western side of the park — Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge, Tenn. — have a larger chunk of the tourism business, three of every four people residing on the boundary earn their living from tourism, said Jonathan Taylor, principal chief of the Eastern Band.

But the tourists stop coming between October and May, and that causes an economic downturn during the winter months. Wolfe, for example, has no other job.

"I just rest in the winter," he said.

The standard of living among Cherokee people isn't much different than their white neighbors in the Carolina mountains. But Swain County, where the town of Cherokee and most of the boundary is located, has an unemployment rate that jumps from less than 10 percent in July to more than 20 percent in the winter months — consistently one of the highest rates in the state.

In recent years, the tribe has taken some measures to diversify the economy in an attempt to even out the unemployment levels.

In 1986 the Eastern Band purchased the Carolina Mirror Co., a glass-manufacturing firm based in North Wilkesboro, N.C. — about 150 miles east of Cherokee.

The tribe also has come to rely on bingo parlors to provide employment. The tribal government owns the largest parlor, Cherokee Bingo, which offers jackpots in excess of $100,000.

"This is high-stakes bingo. It brings people in year round," he said.

Chief Taylor, for instance, said he does not believe the rule against outsiders owning the land causes much of a problem because "we can lease it to people for 25 years with a 25-year option."

"We're trying right now to build a golf course," he said.

The golf course is part of a plan to extend the tourist season in Cherokee beyond late September.

Tomorrow: Andy Jackson is no Indian here.

Craf
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but

By Ric

The Time

JOHNNY BAILEY/The Times

Call me chief: Cherokee "Chief" Dennis Wolfe keeps watch over Highway 19 in Plains Indian dress.

Eastern Band of Cherokee earns its way giving tourists what they want

By Richard Shumate

The Times

CHEROKEE, N.C. — A tip is required **before** tourists can snap a [illegible] of Dennis Wolfe, [illegible] in front of his [illegible].

[illegible] headdress of red and yellow feathers that falls past a pair of [illegible] shoulders to his ankles. Wolfe stands in the summer sun at the side of U.S. Highway 19 in downtown Cherokee. He's been standing in this spot each day for the past [illegible] summers.

"[illegible] here making a living," said Wolfe, [illegible] who has been a [illegible] attraction [illegible].

[illegible] And he [illegible] the Plains Indians, not the Southeast [illegible] of his ancestors.

"That's what people want," he said.

Wolfe and the other [illegible] Cherokees who reside in western North Carolina have [illegible] well [illegible] giving tourists what they want. In the last [illegible] years, the [illegible] of Cherokee [illegible] Great Smoky Mountains National Park has changed from a [illegible] agricultural [illegible] one of the Southeast's [illegible] attractions.

"Tourism has been essentially the No. 1 industry probably since the park came in [illegible]," said [illegible] director of the tribe's travel and tourism [illegible].

[illegible] through the town [illegible] Highway 19 [illegible] where

Please see: Cherokee
Page [illegible]

TRAIL OF TEARS

PART 3 OF 8

In this weeklong series, which began Sunday, The Times recounts the story of the Cherokee removal — the exodus of the first Georgians to Oklahoma 150 years ago

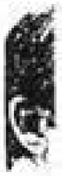
Temp shoul broke

Gainesville for Park vis

By Gina Stappas Gas

The Times

City officials [illegible] they now have a [illegible] the [illegible] new [illegible] stands at City Park stadium.



Stan

Ed Standera, Gainesville public works director, said at a press conference [illegible] that the new stands will be [illegible] stronger and [illegible] directly behind [illegible] now. Those [illegible] should be ready [illegible] visiting spectators [illegible] Hall County [illegible] 14.

"We will put [illegible] where the existing [illegible]," Standera said.

Gulf shar goodbye

Gannett News Service

SANIBEL ISLAND [illegible]

[illegible]

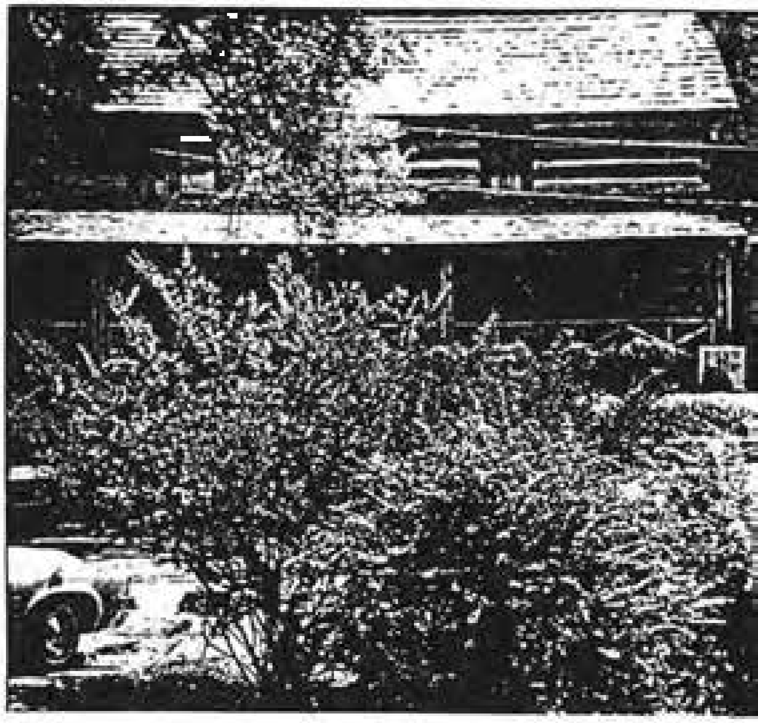
INDEX

NEWSBEAT

Johnny Bailey/The Time

The Hermitage: The home of President Andrew Jackson now is a museum near Nashville

Cherokee nomads passed close to president who evicted them



By Richard Shumate

The Times

THE HERMITAGE, Tenn. The Cherokee exodus west during 1838 took the Indians ironically close to the home of the man most responsible for making them move.

Retired from the presidency, Andrew Jackson was at his estate, The Hermitage, when Chief John Ross came through early in the winter of 1838, leading his people into western exile.

"The story is that John Ross came up to the house once," said Sharon Macpherson, a researcher at The Hermitage. "But we just don't know."

The trail passed through the middle of Nashville, about 15 miles west of The Hermitage. But no documents exist to verify the legend of this one last meeting.

But whether they met or not, the lives of Jackson and Ross had

Johnny Bailey/The Times

m near Nashville

d close
l them

● Jackson

(Continued from 1A)

the West.

"I don't find any of those racial attitudes that are attributed to him," she said.

Jackson's label as an Indian hater further is muddied by his adoption of an Indian boy, Lincoya, whom Jackson found on the battlefield after his victory over the Creek Indians in 1814.

"You don't do that if you hate them, it seems to me," said Brad Agnew, a history professor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., the post-removal Cherokee capital.

Yet Jackson's letter that accompanied the boy when he was sent to Jackson's wife at The Hermitage seemed to indicate that the Indian youth was intended to be a playmate for Jackson's white adopted son, "to amuse him and to make him forget the loss." The boy's black slave playmate had died.

"Keep Lincoya in the house — he is a savage," Jackson wrote.

Jackson also had an apparent business interest in removal of the Indians.

Land speculators wanted the Indians out of the Southeast because they had sold titles on huge tracts of land in areas still claimed by the Indians. Unless the Indians left, the white settlers who purchased the land titles could not occupy their holdings, and the speculators couldn't make a profit.

Jackson was a prominent land speculator, leading some historians to suggest that profit might have been a motive behind his passion for Indian removal.

But assuming that Jackson was not an Indian hater or pushing Indians out for profit — and those are assumptions that many people, especially Cherokee, don't accept — what might have been his reasons for pushing hard for removal?

"Jackson looked at the various alternatives and came to the conclusion that the only really viable alternative was removal," Agnew said.

And perhaps he saw Oklahoma as a chance to save Indian lives that might have been wasted in unavoidable bloodshed as white settlers multiplied in the Southeast.

"I think he genuinely believed that the other side of the Mississippi was going to be OK," Macpherson said.

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The Times

GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1988

Cherokee remember Andrew Jackson as man who forced nation to move

Fourth in a series

By Richard Shumate

The Times

THE HERMITAGE, Tenn. — "In the eyes of the Cherokee, if you were to put Adolph Hitler and Andrew Jackson in the same room, there would be a halo above Adolph Hitler," says one descendant of a Cherokee leader exiled from Georgia to Oklahoma 150 years ago.

The stinging indictment of America's seventh president is that of Bruce Ross, an Oklahoman who is five-sixteenths Cherokee and the great-great grandson of John Ross, the Cherokee chief who fought without success against Jackson and other supporters of Indian removal.

the Cherokee and other Eastern tribes to Oklahoma. But because he had set in motion the events leading to the Trail of Tears, Andrew Jackson became the focus of native American resentment and blame.

In the ensuing century and a half the anti-Jackson fervor has not tempered.

For example, when President Ronald Reagan made a statement during last summer's Moscow summit that outraged Indians, one tribal leader called Reagan "the worst president for native Americans since Andrew Jackson."

But is the continuing indictment of Old Hickory fair? Was he driven by racism and hatred of Indians, or simply honoring the political passions of the frontier, where he grew

versally anti-Indian?

The removal was more rooted in politics, says Sharon Macpherson, a researcher at The Hermitage, Jackson's home on the eastern outskirts of Nashville. She has helped edit a collection of Jackson's papers.

"The further I go (in studying Jackson), what I see is 'What other attitude would you expect a national leader to have at that time, especially a national leader from west of the Alleghenies?'" Macpherson asked. "It would have been unusual for him to have been otherwise."

She said she believes Jackson's passion for removing the Indians was rooted in political necessity and his belief that the tribes would be better off in their own territories —

TRAIL OF TEARS

❑ PART 4 OF 8

In this weeklong series, which began Sunday, The Times recounts the story of the Cherokee removal — the exo-

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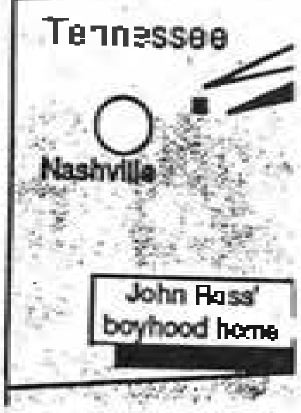


‘A dark page’

Cherokees meet in Oklahoma to commemorate Trail of Tears

Associated Press

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — Cherokees gathered on the lawn of their old national capitol here Friday to mark the 150th anniversary of what Chief Wilma Mankiller called "without a doubt one of the darkest pages in our history."

The tribe's forced removal from its homeland in the southeastern United States ended in late March 1839. The brutal forced marches of groups of Cherokees left an estimated 4,000 dead, many buried in unmarked graves along the 900-mile trail.

Although officials left no doubt that they considered the ceremony a memorial service more than a celebration, some tribe members said the suffering of Cherokees 150 years ago is not emphasized enough.

Pat Moss of Stilwell, vice chairman of Native Americans for a Clean Environment, asked that April 1 be recognized as an international day of sorrow in memory of those who died on the Trail of Tears.

"The forced relocation of Cherokee and other indigenous people . . . was an act of genocide," Mr. Moss said.

The mood was respectful among about 300 people who gathered for two days of ceremonies at the old tribal capitol in downtown Tahlequah, a university city of 10,000 people in northeast Oklahoma.

"While it is a very, very sad time in our history, I still believe we can draw strength from our ancestors," said Ms. Mankiller, chief of the nation's second-largest Indian tribe.

Ms. Mankiller emphasized that the Cherokees were a civilized, self-governing people when the removal occurred in the winter of 1838-39.

The tribe survived the march to reform its government, establish schools and erect civic buildings in northeast Oklahoma 50 years before white settlement was allowed in the state.

The tribe's land was taken away and members were given individual allotments in 1906.

Cherokees had no constitutional tribal government until 1971.

Ms. Mankiller and Chief Jonathan Taylor of the eastern band of Cherokees from Cherokee, N.C., planted an oak tree on the capitol grounds to commemorate the anniversary.

The ceremony also brought together the descendants of two men who played significant roles in tribal history.

Bruce Ross, a descendant of Cherokee Chief John Ross, who led the tribe at the time of removal, was master of ceremonies. He introduced state District Judge John Marshall of Dallas, the great-great-great-great-grandson of U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall.

The Texas judge read from a landmark ruling by his famous ancestor that paved the way for decisions regarding tribal sovereignty.

The Cherokees and other tribes were removed from their homeland despite the high court justice's 1832 ruling in a Georgia case that held that the tribes could not be removed from their sovereign lands.

"What he did is emotionally so important to these people," Judge Marshall said. "They know where I fit into the scheme of things in some instances better than I do."

Route Sanitizes 'Trail Of Tears,' Critic Says

By Kathryn S. Love
Post-Dispatch Special Correspondent

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. — The National Park Service will ask Congress to designate a National Historic Trail to commemorate the 1,200 mile journey of Cherokee Indians in 1837-1839 that came to be known as the "Trail of Tears."

But the service's decision to designate only one main overland route has "caused some problems" in Missouri, an officials said.

Results of a two-year study conducted by the National Park Service showed no opposition to the concept of establishing the National Historic Trail, said Wallace Brittain, study coordinator for the service's regional office in Atlanta.

But Brittain acknowledged that the state Department of Natural Resources and a number of Missouri residents would prefer to see all the known routes of the Cherokee migration designated.

"Our decision to designate one main route was made for purely practical reasons," Brittain said. "Later on, we may want to investigate additional routes, but that all takes time and funds."

The trail will enter eastern Missouri at Cape Girardeau, move northwest through Rolla, then south to Springfield and out of the state in the southwest to Oklahoma and Arkansas.

The route proposed by the National Park Service in 1984 included a southern spur that extended from Cape Girardeau to Ripley County in southeastern Missouri. Its deletion from the proposal submitted for public review this year caused such an uproar that it will probably be restored when the final proposal goes to Congress sometime this summer, Brittain said.

Critics of the National Park Service plan charge that the designation of only one route is a distortion of history.

Duncan Wilkie, professor of archaeology at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, said natural conditions — and human greed — made it impossible for the Indians to have followed only one route west.

"One would assume from the Park Service's plan that these migrations were a sort of Hollywood thing — one big wagon train," said Wilkie.

"But as in any big federal government project, there are going to be people cutting corners or trying to make money," he said. "The people that were commissioned to escort the Indians had different contacts in different places to get the best deal on supplies and food. One of the reasons the Indians experienced so much starvation was obviously because there was a great deal of skimming and graft going on."

Misrepresenting the facts of the forcible eviction of the Cherokees could lead to a sanitized, more palatable version of history, Wilkie fears.

"One can imagine down the road the official version saying the Indians were moved for their own protection," Wilkie said. "The Trail of Tears represents the greed of mankind — the ugly American. The Park Service is a national agency, after all. They don't want to portray that. My main concern is to represent the Trail of Tears as accurately as possible so it can't be glossed over by nationalistic pride."

President Andrew Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act in 1830 to provide access to recently discovered minerals — including gold — in the Indians' homelands of northern Georgia.

The Cherokees won two Supreme Court decisions that allowed them to continue to occupy their lands. But Jackson responded by saying of Chief Justice John Marshall, "It's his decision — let him enforce it."

The government persisted in confiscating property and allowing white settlers to squat on Indian holdings.

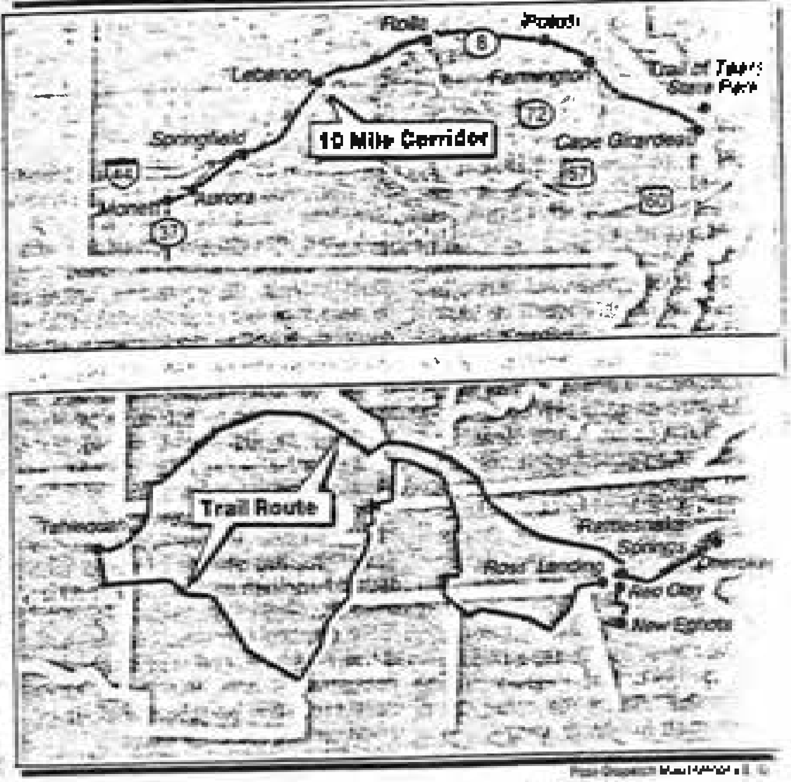
Some Cherokees signed the removal treaty and voluntarily moved west to Indian Territory in Oklahoma. A few escaped and hid in the Appalachian Mountains. The rest were herded into a fort in the summer of 1837 and moved west in 13 groups of about 1,000 each over a two-year period.

They were moved by wagon, o and on foot for the 900-to-1,200-m trip. Their routes took them thro Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, K tucky, Illinois, Missouri and Ark sas. The journey ended near Tal quah, Okla.

Approximately one-fourth of Indians died during the journ Dwayne King, curator of the Ch kee Museum in Tahlequah, beli the National Park Service's prop will make the public more awa Cherokee history.

"We've indicated a very pos response to the designation," s King. "The plans call for establi visitors centers where the public go to learn more about Ind heritage."

Trail of Tears



Post-Dispatch Map