7

DENT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

1986

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CHEROKEE TRAIL OF TEARS COMMITTEE

Project Director	Al Hayman
Historian	Bob Runner
	Ed Hay
	Ed Gill

MARKERS ERECTED ON THE TRAIL OF TEARS
4-29-86, 5-5-86, 9-9-86 by

Al Hayman

Ed Gill

Ed Hay

Dale West

Bob Runner

1844 Map entered in the office of the U. S. District Court of Missouri on March 4, 1844.

Other maps of the area donated to the Salem Public Library on May 13, 1986.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Cherokee People	Tom B. Underwood
Christopher Columbus's Discovery National Geographic Vol. 170, No. 5	Luis Marden
Removal of the Cherokee Indians	Otto A. Koenig
Indian Removal	Grant Foreman
The Cherokee Emigrants in Missouri	B. H. Lightfoot
Indians of the Ozark Plateau	Elmo Ingenthron
The Heritage of Missouri	Duane Meyer
History of the Ozarks	Eunice Pennington
History of Dent County	William P. Elmer
The Meramec Iron Works	James D. Norris
The Branch of My Planting	Mary A. Beemer
Walking the Trail of Tears	John Gilbert
The Cherokee Trail at Birch Pond	D. E. Boyd (Doc) - intervie
The Cherokee Trail at Mt. Hermon	Donald R. Prewitt - intervi
The Cherokee Trail at the Dix and McDonald's	Earl McDonald - interview
The Cherokee Trail at Boone Creek Elsworth and Hartville	Elmer Slaughter - interview
The Cherokee Trail near Old Success and the Cherokee Camp Site at the Gasconade River in Wright County and points between	Monroe Evans - interview
Bury my heart at Wounded Knee.	Dee Brown.
Chief John Ross Papers Vol.1 and 2	

Historical Society

HISTORY OF THE CHEROKEE MIGRATION – Dr. Frank Nickell, professor of history at Southeast Missouri State University-Cape Girardeau, gave a short history Sunday of the political climate that brought about the Cherokee Removal at the Salem City Hall during the program commemorating the Trail of Tears-White River Trace.

Historical Society observes 20th birthday

The Dent County Historical Society celebrated its 20th anniversary Sunday at the Salem City Hall Auditorium with a program on the Cherokee Trail of Tears - White River Trace.

The program on the history of the Trail of Tears featured two speakers. They were Jim Dykes, former columnist for the Atlantic Constitution and the Knoxville Journal and Dr. Frank Nickell, history professor from Southeast Missouri State University.

Dykes related some of his experiences during his overland hike. He began his journey at Rattlesnake Springs, Ga. and retraced the Trail of Tears through the states of Tennessee and Kentucky. He told of the people he met on the trail. Many of them were descendants of the Cherokee. He encountered many hardships on the trail. He feels the hardships must have been worse for the Cherokee in 1838 than they were for him in 1985 as there were 11,000 Cherokees and only one of him to live off the land.

Nickell spoke on the social and political climate of the late 1700s and the 1800s that brought about the tragic and unjust treatment of the American Indian, especially the Cherokees.

Many of the accomplishments of the local Historical Society in the past 20 years was stated by Kathy Love, president of the Dent County group. Among these were sponsorship of the Dent County History, opening the museum and marking the Trail of Tears across Dent County.

She gave a special "Thanks" to society members Bub Runner, Ed Gill, Ed Ray and Al Hayman for their research and labor in marking the trail across the county, the Dent County Commission for donating the used grader blades and labor that were used for the markers, the Salem Chamber of Commerce for paying for the sandblasting of the blades and Mooney Auto Parts for supplying the paint for the markers.

About 200 members of the society, friends and guests attended the anniversary celebration. A reception was held after the program. Al Hayman was

Continued on Page 6A

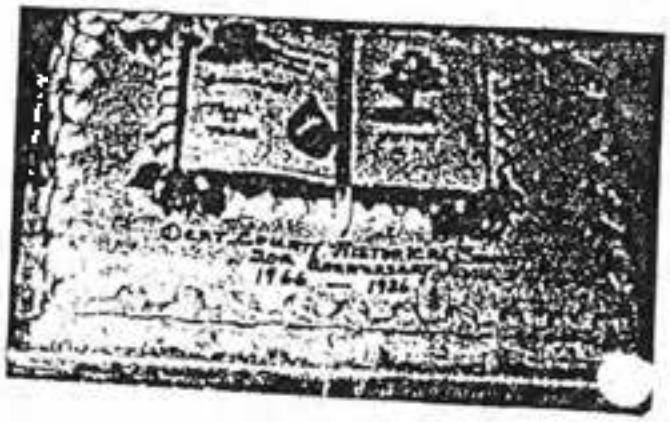
Continued from Page 1A

he chairman for the program and the director of the Trail of Tears project.

The White River Trace - Trail of Tears historical marker that will be located near the lookout tower at Indian Trail State Forest on Highway 19, 12 miles north of Salem, was on display. This marker has a map of the trail across Dent County and a short history of the Cherokee Removal.

The program, historic marker, and an explanatory brochure were funded by a grant from the Missouri Committee for the Humanities, the state-based arm of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

ON THE TRAIL OF TEARS – Jim Dykes, former columnist, recalled some of his experiences following the Trail of Tears through Tennessee and Kentucky Sunday at the City Hall at the commemorative program of the Dent County Historical Society.



DECORATED CAKE – This cake, noting the 20th anniversary of the Dent County Historical Society, was served at the reception following the program Sunday at the City Hall.

The Dent County Historical Society will present a program on the Cherokee Trail of Tears at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 6, in the City Hall Auditorium.

A sign relating the Trail of Tears with the route of the White River Trace through Dent County will be on display for the first time during the program. The sign will be permanently placed at Indian Trails State Forest.

The program will also feature two noted speakers on the history of the Trail of Tears.

Dr. Frank Nickell, history professor from Southeast Missouri State University, will address the social and political climate of the early 1800s that brought about the tragic and unjust treatment of the Cherokees.

Jim Dykes, writer and historian from Knoxville, Tenn., will relate his experiences during his overland trek retracing the Trail of Tears through Kentucky and Tennessee.

Dykes, former columnist for the Atlanta Constitution and the Knoxville Journal, is currently producing a film script on the Trail of Tears.

Dykes left Rattlesnake Springs, Ga., the point of the Indians' departure in 1838, on Jan. 20, 1984. He slept in barns, sheds and abandoned cabins. Along the way he exchanged his backpack for a golf cart.

As he traveled, he mapped the path, taped interviews with residents and made notes for regular dispatches to his newspapers.

"I was at my loneliest point trudging through six inches of frozen slush along the Interstate. There were used car lots, gas stations, mobile home sales places all around me, and I could feel the eyes of people peering out at me from their secure little fortresses, wondering what this idiot with the golf cart was doing walking down the highway," recalled Dykes.

Dykes gathered stories from the descendants of Cherokees and their escorts that he met along the way. Among them, for instance, was Carlos Lewis, a house mover from Guthrie, Ky., who is the great great-grandson of a Cherokee left behind with a white family because he and his two brothers had fallen sick.

The boys' parents had intended to return for them after reaching Oklahoma, but both parents died on the journey. In all, approximately 4,000 Indians died during their forced relocation.

But Dykes pointed out that not all of them perished on the journey west. "They spent the first summer – about 12,000 of them – crowded into a concentration camp. A lot died before they even set out."

Dykes' intended 1,200 mile hike to Oklahoma was cut short by health problems. Had he made the journey along with his Cherokee brethren, Dykes said flatly, "I'd be dead."

But Dykes has little sympathy for those who romanticize the Cherokees' migration.

"America makes wonderful myths. We have this image of Indians stumbling through the snow at rifle point, and a lot of that is accurate. But you have to remember that the Cherokees did their share of killing, too."

Dykes compared his sojourn to a Cherokee raiding party: "I didn't have to come back with enough scalps to make it worthwhile."

Dr. Frank Nickell has been a member of the Department of History at Southeast Missouri State University for 14 years. He was born and raised on a farm in north central Illinois and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill. Following his work there he taught history and coached football and basketball for eight years at Sandia High School, Albuquerque, N.M.

In 1972, he received his Ph.D. in American history from the University of New Mexico and has been at Southeast since that time, serving three years as the University Bursar and as Coordinator of Special Projects. From 1978 to 1983 he served as Chairman of the Department of History at Southeast. In this capacity he initiated and served as State Director of the Missouri History Day program for three years, has served as Chairman of the Missouri Committee for the Promotion of History; was instrumental in the founding of the Southeast Missouri Regional History Center and the establishment of the Bachelor of Science of Historic Preservation degree (one of the first such degrees in the United States), is a member of the Board of Directors of the Missouri Folklore Society, the Cape Girardeau Historical Society and the Southeast Missouri Eldercare Center.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS -- Dr. Frank Nickell, left, and James Dykes will be the featured speakers on the Trail of Tears program. Nickell is a history professor from SEMO, and Dykes is a writer who retraced the path of the Cherokees on foot through Tennessee and Kentucky. The program will be followed by a reception to honor the 20th anniversary of the Dent County Historical Society. The program is free and open to the public.

Dent County's oldest road

by Bob Runner 1987

On May 9 the Dent County Historical Society conducted a tour of the old White River Trace, for the benefit of Society members, Boy Scouts, Scout leaders and other citizens interested in the location and history of the ancient Trail. The Trail probably was first a series of game trails, then a foot path made by native Shawnee and Delaware Indians and was later used by Shawnee, Delaware, Peories, Osage and Little Osage. Many used the White River area as a hunting grounds. Still later the Trail was used by the Indians who were carrying on a form of commerce with the native Tribes and white settlers living along the trail as they rode their ponies, heavy laden with Indian trinkets, fur and the saddles of deer, as they traveled through the great wilderness along the big prairie to the city on the great river where they bartered goods with Indians and whites from as far as the Rocky Mountains, the East Coast and the Florida Gulf.

The ancient Trail was surveyed by Government Surveyors in advance of the U.S. Army in charge of moving Eastern Indians from east of the Mississippi River to the Indian Reservation near Fort Gibson, Okla. in 1838-39, the survey was made in 1835. The trail location is verified by a map made from that and other surveys and entered in the office of the Clerk of the U.S. District Court of Missouri on March 4, 1844

Thousands of Cherokee Indians were forced from their homelands in Georgia, Tennessee, and the Carolinas where the Cherokee Nation was located on thousands of square miles of land which had been occupied by the Cherokees since before DeSoto discovered them there in 1540. They had a treaty with the U.S. Government signed in 1785 which agreed that they would be governed by their own laws and customs and have protection of life and property by the U.S. Government. They were escorted across Dent County over the ancient Trail during the winter and spring of 1838-39. The episode was named the Trail of Tears by the Cherokees themselves by the time they had reached the Mississippi crossing at or near Cape Girardeau. The White River Trace was one of three Trails of tears routes ascending the Ozark Plateau, the others being one from Jackson, Mo. by Greenville and Van Buren near Big Spring and into Arkansas at Hicks Ferry. Another by Osage, where they crossed the White River Trace and continued by Massey and James Iron works, Little Piney, Little Prairie, Waynesville where they intercepted the old Kickapoo trail and followed it to a little north of Springfield where they joined the White River Trail and followed it across the Kickapoo Prairie, occupied by a large village of Kickapoo and Delawares from 1822 to about 1838 when Springfield was incorporated as a town. The third trail across the Ozark Plateau, known as one of the Trail of Tears, follows the White River Trace from Osage (later known as Huzzah P.O.) across Crawford and now Dent County, Texas County, Wright and Green to the Kickapoo Prairie country.

The Cherokee Indians responsible for the naming of the many Trails of Tears were first called Cherokee by their Choctaw neighbors, meaning Cave People.

From the forced exodus of the Cherokee people from their homelands on the Cherokee Nation with New Echota as their Capitol, the blackest chapter in American history could be written, but it has been passed over very lightly in school text books, because that is a part of the settlement of the American frontier that the American government wishes that had never happened, but the dark blot will never disappear.

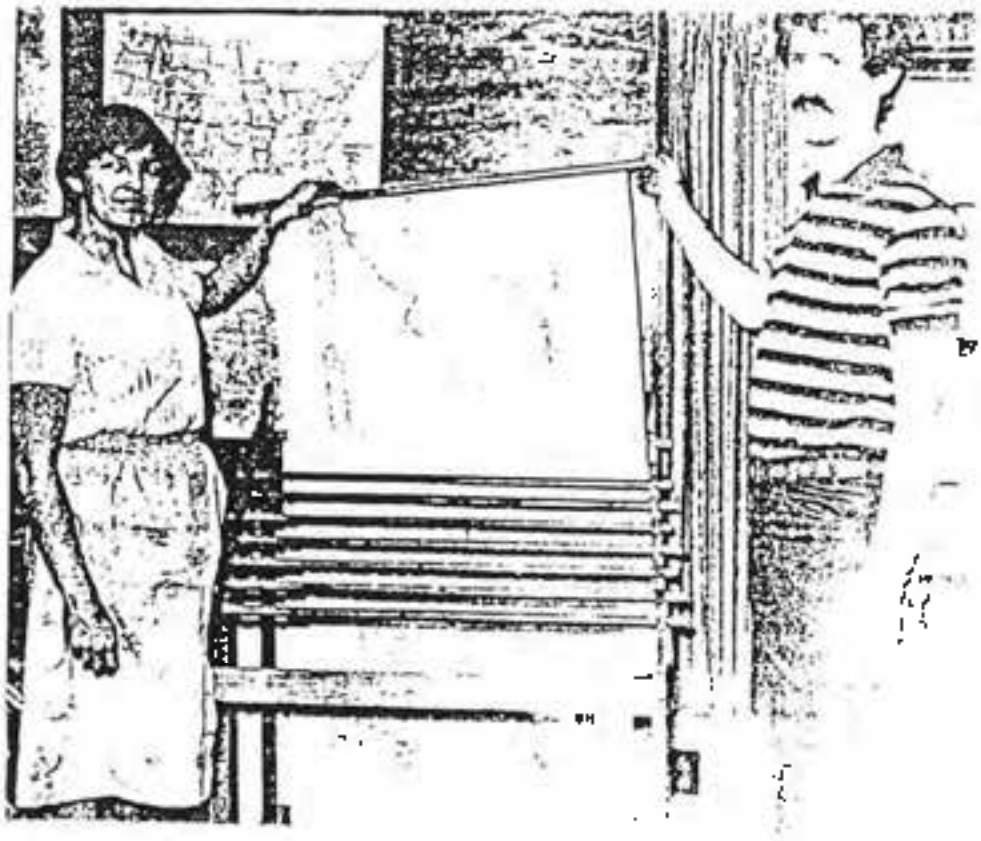
those Cherokees who remained after May 23, 1838 would be under the direction of General Winfield Scott. Scott with 7,000 troops built stockades and squads of troops brought in the Cherokee prisoners at the point of bayonets some 15,000 in number who refused to leave their home-land.

The first party of 466 Cherokees embarked from Ross Landing on March 3, 1837, went to the west by water, rail and reached their destination by wagon and on foot of their own free will.

The overland migration covering some 800 miles from the stockades in Georgia by way of the Ozark Plateau was made by some 13,000 suffering Cherokees who had spent the summer in dreadful conditions from heat, drought, sickness and brutality.

Nine divisions of about 1,000 left the stockade in October 1838. Going Snake, a respected old chief, whose head was whitened by many summers led the way on the 1st day. Over the party when the order was given to move out. It was a sad sight - many looking back to see what shelter they had had in flames and falling. Others shaking hands with parting friends or gathering to say a last farewell to a relative too sick to travel.

The last four divisions of some 4,000 left in November. Many were too sick to walk or ride horseback were hauled in wagons. They traveled north on the east side of the Mississippi to Cape Girardeau. The progress was slow and the start was late, many were caught in the grip of winter at the Mississippi River crossing near Cape Girardeau. Ice on the river delayed crossing. Much sickness, many deaths and untold suffering had caused the Cherokees to name their migration route, the Trail of Tears. A camp was made on the Missouri side of the Mississippi until all had crossed.



NEW MAP RACK – Librarian Brenda Urban and Carl Williams of the Village Gallery start assembling maps on the new map rack at the Salem Public Library. The Village Gallery constructed and donated the rack last week to the Library to display the Cherokee Trail of Tears maps prepared by the Dent Co. by Historical Society.

A full set of maps can be found in the map rack at the Salem Library.

In honor of Princess Otahki who was among the deaths at or near the crossing, The Trail of Tears state park has been established.

From the crossing the long trek across the Ozark Plateau started, two divisions went from Jackson through Greenville north of Crawleys Ridge and into Arkansas. Others went through Farmington, Fredericktown, Caledonia and Osage. From Osage some went by the Meramec Iron Works, Waynesville and Springfield. Others intercepted the White River Trail at Osage Water (Buzzard) and entered Dent County at Indian Trail State Park, crossed the county by way of Dents Ford, Montauk Springs (2½ miles north of present day Salem), North Pond on Dry Fork and entered Texas County two miles east of Maples. The trail is marked across Dent County by a white post painted red depicting a tear drop.

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The Salem News

SALEM, DENT COUNTY, MISSOURI 65560 · PROMOTING THIS AREA AND ITS FINE PEOPLE

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FEATURED SPEAKER – Kathy Love was the main guest Sunday at the Dent County historical society's dedication of a monument marking the White River Trace of the Trail of Tears which runs through Dent County. The monument is on Highway 19, about three miles north [redacted]. Love said it was important to remember the significance of such a marker as history does not change, only does people's understanding of it. The monument dedication was the second in Dent County. One other monument was [illegible]

Trail of Tears has treaty abuse backgrou

By Bob Rumner
Dent Co
Historical Society

To appreciate the signifance of the Cherokee Trail of Tears, some background of the Cherokee Indians in earlier years is most helpful.

The Cherokee are a branch of the Iroquois and were driven out of the country now known as Ontario, New York and Pennsylvania by some of their own ancrestors and the Delawares. After the were driven out of that section of the country they took up their habitation an the southern section of the Alleghany range where DeSoto found them in 1540.

The Cherokees made their first treaty with the United States Government in November of 1785. Under that treaty a boundary was set and they were to be a self-governing nation.

On August 11, 1790, President George Washington, in a message to the Senate said, (in part) "Last year I laid before the Senate a statement of the case of the Cherokees. By that paper it will appear that the Cherokees had a boundary assigned to them and placed themselves under the protection of the United States. White people who have settled on the frontiers have openly violated the said boundary by intruding on the Indians' land. The United States in Congress assembled did, on the last day of September 1788, issue their proclamation forbidding all such unwarranted intrusions and enjoined all those who had settled upon the hunting grounds of the Cherokees to depart, with their families and effects without loss of time or they would answer to their disobedience to the injunction and prohibitions expressed at their peril."

However in spite of treaties and promises from Washington assuring protection of life and property, frequent clashes with white settlers continued and as early as 1808 some Cherokees wishing to preserve their way of life, had obtained Presidential Permission to migrate to lands on the Ozark Plateau, west of the Mississippi River to escape the white man's pressure.

The greedy whites wanted the rich land on the Cherokee Nation holdings and with the discovery of gold on Cherokee lands the whites must contrive some way to get it so the Georgia Legislative passed an act appropriating a large area of the Cherokee nation, incorporating it in the territory of the state and extending the laws of state over that section of the Cherokee nation. The act also provided that after the first of June 1825 all persons living therein were subject to the state laws. All laws and regulations of the Cherokee nation, in the state of Georgia would be null and void. The state of Georgia made no provision for the Cherokee Treaty of 1785 with the United States Government.

The Government of Georgia wanted the Cherokees removed from the state and appealed to the United States Government to do so, accusing the Cherokees of being ignorant savages standing in the way of Georgia's progress. The fact really being that the Cherokee were making real progress in their change to an agricultural nation. They were first adapting to the white man's ways, tools and religion. Many were Methodists and Baptists and were giving up a Nomadic life for one of agriculture because the white man's pressure had added to a growing scarcity of game. In 1829 the Cherokees reportedly owned 22,000 cattle, 20,000 hogs, 2,000 sheep, 500 plows, 31 grist mills, 10 saw mills, eight cotton gins, 2,000 spinning wheels, 700 looms, 18 schools and one newspaper "The Cherokee Phenix."

Barbarous treatment continued by the so-called civilized citizens of Georgia against the Cherokees. The Indian women and children were in many cases stripped of their clothing and lashed with hickories, whipped with cow-hides or beaten with clubs without mercy. Some were even murdered, still the Cherokees had faith in the U. S. government and called on it for protection from the treaty violations, but with the election of President Andrew Jackson in 1828 who sided with the state of Georgia, the Cherokees received the final blow.

President Jackson in a message delivered on Dec. 8, 1829 said (in part): "My conclusion is that there can not exist an independent government inside any state. I have so advised the Cherokees that they submit to the laws of the state or be removed beyond the Mississippi."

Already nothing short of fraud, exchanging the Cherokee home-lands in Georgia for lands in Oklahoma was negotiated. Dec 29, 1835. The treaty was signed by less than 300 Cherokees, but not one had any authority from the Cherokee government, despite petitions bearing nearly 15,000 Cherokee signatures stating that the land belonged to the Cherokee nation and the treaty signers had no authority from the Cherokee government. The Congress of the United States had voted and the vote had carried by one vote. The agreement would stand, an appeal was made, but no action was taken, the Congress had voted

The Forgotten Story of The Trail of Tears

by Beverly Nelson

The Trail of Tears was one of the most compelling incidents of injustice and suffering perpetrated against the Cherokee people in 1837 through 1839.[1] The issue leading to this incident was nothing more or less than the white man's greed for the natural wealth of the advanced Cherokee nation.[2]

The Cherokee nation contained very rich land and the discovery of deposits of gold added to the white man's greed. Naturally, the white man started looking for ways to get the Cherokee lands.[3]

Treaties, as early as 1785, were made between the Cherokee Indians and the federal government to preserve the Cherokee homelands from encroachment of white settlers.[4]

Although these treaties were made, they unfortunately were not kept. They were repeatedly broken and in 1808 a group of dissatisfied Cherokee Indians decided to take action by asking to be allowed to move west of the Mississippi. Here they hoped to continue their traditional way of life.[5]

The Indians who remained in northern Georgia drafted laws, published a newspaper and became prosperous merchants and farmers.[6] In a sense, the red man was thriving on the white man's land.[7] The Indians adopted many of the white man's customs, languages, and in some cases religions. Because of this, the Georgians had become afraid of the red man. This in turn caused the protest of Georgia to grow stronger in the white man's Washington for the Indians removal, stating that the Cherokees were primitive savages who were blocking the progress of Georgia and should be removed. The truth, however, was that the Indians were rapidly advancing, and Georgia just wanted

In 1824, Georgia openly began measures to have the Cherokees removed from their homelands. Unexpectedly, the Cherokees responded passively in their refusal by citing the white man's own words, "We appeal to the magnanimity of the American Congress for justice and the protection of the rights and liberties of the Cherokee people... We expect it from them under that memorable declaration, 'That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'"[8]

But a powerful new motivation--the discovery of gold on Cherokee lands - increased the pressure for Indian removal. In 1830 the Removal Bill was passed. It authorized President Andrew Jackson to order the removal of the Cherokees to land West of the Mississippi.[9]

A small fraction of Cherokees signed the treaty and emigrated west voluntarily led by Major Ridge, Buck Watie and Stand Watie.[10]

In 1838, the remaining Cherokees were driven at gunpoint from their homes and placed in stockades under the supervision of General Winfield Scott. Although drought and disease took their toll on the Indian's health even before the journey westward began, 13,000 Cherokees started the immigration in the fall of 1838.[11]

Overland and water routes were followed. Groups traveled the Mississippi River at Green's Ferry near Cape Girardeau, Missouri.[12] Here, mid-winter and ice delayed the crossing of the river. Hundreds of sick and dying Indians were penned up, lying on wagons or stretched upon the ground, with only a blanket to protect them from the January blast. By the time the crossing was made the Indians had named the sad ordeal The Trail of Tears.

The best known account of the overland journey is from the journal of conducting agent, B.H. Carroll. Carroll's party halted for eight days near Huzzah Creek, northeast of Dent County. Here, as sickness and fever ravaged the party, three Indian children, a man and two slaves died.[13]

Other following groups of Cherokee Indians traveled west over the White River Trace, an established route for cross-country travelers. The Trace enters northeast Dent County in Indian Trails State Park, which was established in 1929 and named for the ancient path.[14]

The trail, which is often forgotten by history books and even citizens of Dent County, crossed the Meramec River at Dent's Ford. A little ways downstream along the Trace the first store and grist mill were established. Further west, the original Montauk Spring, located approximately two miles northeast of what is now Salem, became a favorite campsite for weary travelers. Here Ephraim Bressie established his inn and campground, the second post office in Dent County was established, and the first Dent County Court was called to session in May, 1851.[15]

The Trail continued westward, crossing Holt Creek, where Christopher and Elizabeth Howell entered title to land in 1838. Howell Cemetery became a final resting place for many emigrants along the way. Birch Pond was the next natural landmark and the Birch Pond Post Office was built in 1853 to overlook this creek and Trace.[16]

The White River Trace continued due west to the location of the old Smoky Hollow store, near what is now Highway "C".[17] A short distance along the Trace to

Skales Spring and the N
Hermon Cemetery where
child of passing emigrar
was buried in the first gra
at the site.[18]

The Trace passed a spri
near County Road 216 a
continued west to exit De
County southwest of t
Kissock Cemetery.[19]

The route of the Wh
River Trace continu
southwest to a salt l
where a log cabin was bu

in 1826 and where Lickar
later came into existence,
crossed Boone Creek
Elsworth on the Big Pin
River near Boiling Spring
and Hartville, a prominent
resting point on th
Gasconade River in the la
century, and on to O
Kickapoo Prairie, Spr
ingfield, and finally, India
Territory in Oklahoma.[20]

The lineage of many Den
County families is proudl
traced to Cherokee
ancestors who settled her
after traveling through th
region on their journe
west.[21]

In addition to the facts o
the tale there is a personal
experience in the tragedy o
a Cherokee tribe.

The Ani Kertonwah, th
true Cherokees, failed t
believe what they hear
about leaving their
homelands. Tsali, one of th
tribal leaders, and his fam
ily farmed the hillsides an
valleys of their homeland
They were not worldly ric
but Tsali's people neve
lacked for food or goo
clothing or safe shelter.[22]

Missionaries seldom can
into the uplands, but whe
they did, they fussed ov
the children. They gav
them white men's name
and delivered news from th
white man's world. So, s
the white man did help in a
vancing the red man
world.[23]

One day a white preache
came to visit. He told Tsa
that he would have to leav
soon because Georgi
troopers were moving
Tsali responded by asku

65

The second emigration party and the first overland party to leave the Cherokee homelands by force was the B.B. Cannon party who set out from the Cherokee agency Oct. 14, 1837, with one wagon for each five persons to haul the aged and sick as well as the personal effects of the 625 people on the overland trek of approximately 800 miles. The Cannon party was one group who followed the northern route and crossed the White River Trace at Osage to go by the Massey Iron Works. The Cannon Party arrived at Oklahoma Indian territory Dec. 30, 1837.

The White River Trace portion of the Trail of Tears was established as a state road by an Act of Congress Aug. 3, 1854, on that portion of the trail from Osage in Crawford County, across Dent County to Elsworth in Texas County. The purpose being to establish a U.S. Postal route over State road from White River Post Office in Arkansas to St. Louis via Springfield, Hartville, Astoria, Elsworth, Licking, Birch Pond, Dent Court House (which was Salem's P.O. at the time), Osage, Potosi and on to St. Louis. The mail was carried on horseback with one delivery each week.

The White River Trace entered Dent County at Section 25, Township 35, Range 4 west, on the east side of Indian Trail State Park. The Park was named in honor of the ancient Trail by the Missouri game and fish commissioner McCants when the park was purchased.

The Trail has been marked at road crossings the entire length across Dent County by the Dent County Historical Society, with the aid of many citizens and Salem business people. The crossings can be identified by a white post, the stenciled logo of a red tear crossed by a white feather identifying the marker as that of the trail of tears and the white river trace.

Stops were made at the historical marker near the fire tower in Indian Trail Park, at the Crawford County line, the spring above Blackwell lake, the ridge along Rattle Snake Hollow, the old Cooksey farm at Blue Spring on the Meramec River, Dents Ford, Smith Spring. The White River Trace wild life game area at Ziske and Turner lakes, the 1873 crossing when the St. Louis, Salem and Little Rock Railroad was built (where Hwy. 19 N now crosses the old trail), the Isaac and Mabel McDonald home along the trail (where Earl and Lucy McDonald live in the hundred year old home in 1987) and where Hwy. 68 crosses the trail, the old Salem and Rolla road crossing near the Bressie Inn, Montauk Springs and camp grounds and where the White River Trail crossed Spring Creek, the Pomeroy Iron mine, the Christopher and Elizabeth Howell homestead at the Holt Creek crossing in 1838, the old Sandy Dry Fork crossing at McNeill Cemetery, Birch Pond, a watering place, post office, school (where Josie McNeill, John Shelton's mother went to school more than a hundred years ago) and where nitrate from salt peter cave was being carted by ox cart to William Ashleys Powder Plant at Shibboleth Mine near Potosi joined the White River trail for the balance of the journey to Potosi. The Mt. Hermon church and cemetery, the county road crossing at the George Trzos farm, Kissock Cemetery and the Hwy. CC crossing of the trail at the Texas County line.

A short history of each place was presented on the spot.

A story of the trail of tears, a copy of the 1844 map, a set of seven minute series maps of the trail and other articles concerning the Ancient Trail can be found at the Salem Public Library.

FINISHING THE MONUMENT – Bill Elmer, right and Marty Farrar, worked Tuesday and Wednesday to complete a monument marking the White River Trace of the Trail of Tears that passes through Dent County. The monument, on Highway 19 North, past North Wood R-4 school, is one of two in Dent County. The other is at Indian Trails State Park near the ranger station. Each monument contains a sign about the Trail of Tears. A dedication is planned in the near future for the monument.

1987

, Sept. 14 - 1:30-6:30 Please Give

The Trail of Tears:

Journey Through Dent County

by Kent Dean Nichols

Author's Note: Presented in the following pages is a portion of the historic journey known as the Trail of Tears. The author has emphasized the journey of these Amerinds through Dent County, Missouri. Most of the material in the following pages has originated through the author's archaeological study of the trail. As a result of the author's archaeological findings, many events have been recreated, allowing us to understand this mass removal more clearly.

This writing is dedicated to all Amerinds who suffered and died for the preservation of their homeland.

The Sun is rising over the Meramec River. The cold dry air of winter sweeps through the valley, taking with it the last remnant of heat. The thousands of meager campfires battle against the driving winds. These scattered oasises of warmth are enveloped in circles of weary travelers. The Sun is rising higher; a new day has begun on the trail.

The events that led up to the Trail of Tears were not straightforward and predictable. Several events occurred prior to the 1838 journey. Looking back today we can see the imminent suffering that was just upon these Amerinds that Columbus had called Indians.

With the ever-increasing expansion of the Anglo-Saxon race into all corners of America came repulsion from the natives. The Amerind inhabitants didn't want to loose their homelands to this development. As a result many conflicts arose.

Early in the 1800 time era white men had discovered the gold and other resources that the Cherokee Nation possessed. The Cherokee Nation and other tribes were located in the southeast, in present-day Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. These early white men pleaded with the United States government to force these Indians out so that white settlers could develop the region. The United States government would not answer to their pleas because the Cherokees were an established nation. The Cherokees had developed a highly civilized society that the United States government couldn't ignore. Several government officials had tried to make deals with the Cherokees to move, but to no avail!

Much conflict had emerged in the following years resulting in assassinations and infringements of the southeast tribes. On November 27, 1814 John Ridge, one of the leading Indians, was willing to make a deal. He held a meeting at Running Waters, inviting the Indian sympathizers in support him. He paid runners to go out and get signatures from the Indians. He had the question asked, "Do you love your land?" In this way he got the signatures, or marks, to present to the government for the removal of the Cherokee Nation and other tribes to Oklahoma Territory. The Indians had no idea that they were signing away their treasured homelands. This treaty came to be known as the Treaty of New Echota.

With this and a $4,500,000 sum the inhabitants were to

The Trail of Tears:

why they wanted the land, that they even had difficulties farming it. The preacher told Tsali it was because gold had been found in the rivers downstream. Tsali responded by pulling a pouch of gold from his pocket. The preacher tried to convince Tsali to show him where he found it, but Tsali refused."

"A month later the Georgia militia came riding up to the house. When Amanda, Tsali's wife, asked what they were doing there they responded by telling her that they had come to remove them from their house and put them in the removal camps. Amanda sent her youngest son to the fields to get Tsali. Tsali took his sons and hid in a cave by the river. The militia did not leave, instead made camp in the front yard. Later that night Tsali returned to the house to get his wife and daughters-in-law. They slipped away in the dark to the cave where the sons and the husbands of the daughters-in-law were waiting."

Day by day, for four weeks, the starving family listened to white men beating through the woods. The Cherokees were tired and cold and hungry, but they were silent. They even began to hope that in time the white man would go away and the Indians would be safe."

It was not to be. Tsali and his family were found. Tsali and his sons, except for the youngest, refused to leave. They knew they would be shot and killed, but still wouldn't leave. Amanda, the daughters-in-law and the youngest son were driven to the removal camps before they could even say goodbye. They were not allowed to look back and as they started on the long main road, they heard the shots. The women continued on to be part of the Trail of Tears, but even before the Trail of Tears began the men's tears were shed on their homelands."

"'Manifest Destiny,'" became the excuse for westward expansion that displaced and deprived Native Americans – typified ungloriously by the Cherokee Trail of Tears. The old trail has faded into the dim past. Leaving only history and folklore as a memory of those who have gone this way before us. The Trail of Tears will continue to be forgotten by many, but for those like Bob Runner and Representative Ken Fiebelman, who continue to search for the truth, it is a very important part of Dent County's history. For those who suffered fighting for their rights, it would be comforting to know that there are people searching for the truth and preventing this horrible injustice from ever happening again."

Monument dedicated over weekend 10-25-81 2 PM

Despite vandalism and a threat of rain in the cloudy sky, the dedication of a monument marking the White River Trace of the Trail of Tears through Dent County was held Sunday afternoon on Highway 19, north of Salem.

The 2 p.m. dedication was attended by several members of the Dent County historical society, state officials and local citizens. Kathy Love, former Dent County Historical society president and current assistant editor of the Missouri Conservation magazine, was the featured speaker.

Vandalism to the monument was done with white paint used to deface the black stone and the plexiglass window on the monument, erected by Bill Elmer. Officials, to no avail, tried to remove the paint before the dedication. Plans are to replace the plexiglass window.

"Vandals have damaged the front but not what it means nor its significance," said Nonna Woods, special promotions representative of the Missouri Division of Tourism.

In her speech, Love said it was important to protect local history and the story behind it. She also questioned the people of today and whether or not a similar event could occur.

"Would we, as a voting populace, have prevented the Trail of Tears from occurring 150 years ago?" she asked. "Would we prevent it from happening today?"

According to Love, Dent County is the first county in Missouri to mark the Trail of Tears and hopefully won't be the last one. She said the citizens are merely the proprietors of the land and the conservation department helps to conserve the resources, the lands, trees, water and wildlife that grow in value as their quantities diminish.

"Just as we entrust its protection for the economic and recreational benefit of our children and grandchildren, we must also protect the story of the land," Love said. "For although its history does not change, our understanding of it does."

Love said the monument has many meanings. It can help people remember the trials and tribulations of the Cherokee Indians and provide some answers later in life.

"This marker does not signify glory or bravery in battle or virtue," she said. "Instead it reminds us to look back and answer the questions and then look ahead with the knowledge that we must use from the past to form the future," she said.

Love said it was three years ago when she first heard of the White River Trace. It was at a meeting of the historical society that Ken Fiebelman and Ed Gill mentioned an old trail used by the Cherokees during the Trail of Tears.

"What followed after that involved the time, skill and energy of many people," Love said. "Many days were spent tracing the Trace – walking that historic often invisible line used 150 years ago by thousands of people, 50 years ago by almost no one," Love said.

Love said work of Bob Runner, Al Hayman, Ed Gill, Ed Ray and Virgi West and the support of John Mo and the Dent County Commission important.

Love recounted many known facts the Cherokee Indians exodus. She t of how treaties were made and b broken by various presidents. T Supreme Court also upheld the de sions until President Andrew Jacks came along.

Love said Jackson repudiated t Supreme Court's legal protection a issued the infamous statement, "Chi Justice Marshall made the ruling ! him carry it out."

In her speech, Love also read mar newspaper clippings from the pa characterizing the Indians as cook hunters and people just like the Whi Man, except their skin was differer and many patterns of life were di ferent.

"Their tables were set with just a nice dishes, the food looked as good an smelt as good as any white folks," on clipping read.

Before Love spoke, Runner gave brief known history of the Indian ex ocus. He said many disputes are made but it's a strong belief that some of the 13,000 Indians made the trip through Dent County.

Kenny Fiebelman said community support is what made the effort successful and a reality.

Jess Zink, president of the Missouri Travel council said cooperation between Dent County in this project could help in others.

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Signs mark Trail of Tears

White signs with a red tear drop enclosing a white feather are now marking the Cherokee Trail of Tears through Dent County.

The trail is marked with 60 of these signs generally located at roads which touch the trail as it meanders across the county. The Dent County Historical Society finished identifying the trail May 5.

The markers are made from used road grader blades donated by the Dent County Commission. The markers were sand-blasted then painted white. The logo of a white feather inside a red tear-drop for the Trail of Tears is stenciled on the signs.

In Dent County, the trail begins at the northeast corner, near Sligo, and ends near Highway CC going into Texas County near the old Kissock Cemetery in the Mount Pleasant community.

The trail follows closely the old White River Trace trail.

The members of the society that participated in marking the trail were Bob Runner, Ed Gill, Dale West, Ed Ray and Al Hayman.

The society is planning to also set up four signs with the story of the Trail of Tears and a map of the trail that the Cherokees used while moving through Dent County. The first one will be located near the lookout tower in the Indian Trail State Forest.

The tragic Cherokee Removal from the southern part of the U.S. to the Cherokee Nation (Oklahoma) took place during 1837-1838.

The trail received its name from the thousands of deaths that the Cherokees suffered on the trail. Nearly one-fourth of the Indians that began the journey died and were buried as the tribe traveled.

Many of the old cemeteries in Dent County contain unmarked graves that are known to be Indians. It is believed that many of these graves are Cherokees, since they are graves of women and children.

From the deaths and hardships suffered by the Cherokees during the Removal the trail came to be called the Trail of Tears.

The Dent County Historical Society invites everyone to help them celebrate its 20th anniversary at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at the Salem City Hall.

Mr. Jim Dykes, renowned authority on the Cherokee Trail of Tears and Dr. Frank Nickell, professor of History at Southeast Missouri State University, will be speaking on the subject of the Cherokee Removal.

A reception will follow the meeting in the basement of the City Hall.

DENT COUNTY TRAIL OF TEARS -- Sixty of these signs are located across Dent County marking the Cherokee Trail of Tears. The trail begins in the northeast corner of the county coming from Crawford County and goes to the southwest corner into Texas County. The logo on the sign is a white feather enclosed in a red teardrop.

CHEROKEE PEOPLE AND THEIR CLOSE RELATIVES CAPITOLS CAPITAL

"NEW ECHOTA"

On March 22-1953 Ed and Elsie Green and Bob and Marnie Hunter Arrived at Rousville,Tennessee where the Chief, John Ross once lived in a log house built in 1797. On the 23rd we Visited Ross Landing on the Tennessee river,where 800 Cherokeesembarked to the west on March 3-1837,in 11 Flatboats travelling in 3 sections, the first group of Cherokee to be removed from their homelands by force. From Ross Landing we traveled to the top of Lookout Mountain,where we viewed Moccasin bend in the Tennessee river from 2100feet above. From here to Spring Place ,Georgia,State Historic Site,"The Vann house" built by Chief James Vann in 1804, the showplace of the Cherokee nation. From here to New Echota,Georgia,The Capital of the Cherokee Nation from 1825 to 1835 when they were removed by force from their homeland by the United States Government. New Echota is near Calhoun,Ga. on Hwy. 225. Now mostly an open field nearly surrounded by timber was once an Indian Town which closely resembled any other town of that period in history. The center of town Consisted of a Supreme Court building built in 1829. The first floor was the Court Room, The building was used for both Church and School and the Court Clerk maintained an office there. A log Printing office established in 1828,where the news paper "The Cherokee Phoenix" was printed from 1828 until 1834 when it was silenced by the State Of Georgia. The paper was a 4 page weekly printed in both Cherokee and English and distributed throughout the Cherokee Nation,parts of the United States and Europe. The Council house

a two story building 21x24 built of hewn logs. It served the two house Cherokee legislature and also some as a church and school. The Worchester house, the home of the Rev.Samuel Worchester a New England missionary, built in 1826. It served as a Church,a school and a post Office.Worchester was forced to leave his home in 1834 and spent the remainder of his life working among the Cherokees. The Tavern, Inn and Store The building an original Cherokee structure,was first owned by James Vann. James Vann was a wealthy Cherokee Chief and National Cherokee Treasurer. His two story Brick Mansion the show place of the Cherokee Nation was seized by the State and awarded to a white land lottery winner in 1834. The/tavern building once located near Gainesville was moved to its present location in the 1950's many log dwellings,most built of hewn logs with half dove-tail notching, typical of the homes of both whites and Cherokees throughout the area surrounded the center of town in its day and many peaches were grown in town as well as surrounding orchards.

The original buildings of New Echota are gone,save the worcester House, the others are reconstructions of the buildings that once stood on the sites.

A Cherokee Nation has been built there along Georgia Highway225. The Parkway blocks the view north to the Coosawatee River,which was the north city limits of the town.

The return to Missouri was by the Trail of Tears Historic route with signs near Woodberry and Dayton Tenn. The graves of Chief Whitepath and Fly Smith were visited at Hopkinsville Kentucky where land has been donated for a proposed Museum Site.

Ed McKinney
April 6, 1981

REPORT: TRAIL OF TEARS CONFERENCE
DNR OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
JEFFERSON CITY, MO

Present:

Orval Henderson, Director of Missouri State Parks
Gerald Lee Gillard, Survey Coordinator Historic Preservation Program
Dean Brooks, Director of Missouri Division of Tourism
Richard Forey, Division of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation
Art Sullivan, Ozark Natural Scenic Riverways
Ernest Perry, Missouri Highway Transportation Department
Bill Farrand, Division of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation
Curt Edlund, Civil Engineer/Planner, National Park Service
Jere L. Krakow, Historian, National Park Service
Tom Gilbert, Planner, National Park Service
Ed McKinney, Missouri Cultural Heritage Center (personal note--Jere Krakow was a Professor of History at SMSU when I earned my M. A. in history there in 1969. Twas good to renew contact).

Purpose of Conference: The National Park Service wants to receive input from various agencies concerned regarding preparation of a comprehensive management plan for operation of a Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

Overview of Discussion:

The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail has been approved by Congress on the basis of the Final National Trail Study which was completed in June, 1986. The basic routes traveled by the Cherokees have already been identified and defined as:

1) Overland from Rattlesnake Springs, GA via Nashville, TN, Hopkinsville, KY, Ste. Genevieve, MO, St. James/Rolla, MO area; Springfield, MO; Fayetteville, AR; thence into Oklahoma. Fourteen groups followed the land route.
2) Water transportation from Ross Landing (now Chatanooga, TN) down the Tennessee River to the Ohio; to the Mississippi; to the Arkansas as far as Fort Smith, AR; thence into Oklahoma. Three groups followed the water route.

The National Park Service is very much aware that the routes were "braided," that is, there were several different branches of the overland trail. Some of these variations in the exact location of the trail have documentary proof; most do not. One such variation is the "Nacogdish (sp?) Trace" which left the main trail near Jackson, MO and ran southwest to Van Buren, MO; crossed the Current River at Hick's Ferry in Arkansas, then traveled generally westward to Fort Smith. Dr. James Price, archaeologist, primitive tool expert, and mayor of Naylor, MO is researching that portion of the Trail. Another branch is the "White River Trail," which the main route crossed at old Osage, MO (Huzzah post office, later). That trail led through Dent County near Salem, through Licking and Ellsworth (Texas County), Hartville (Wright County), and rejoined the northern route at Northview, northeast of Springfield. Bob Runner of Salem, MO and Monroe

Evans of Mountain Grove, MO know a great deal about that particular route and its probability as a part of the Trail. I may even have to get involved in that aspect of the research. I gave Runner's and Evans' names to Krakow.

Questions and Comments were requested. The general direction of discussion from those present argued for recognition of the various "brands" of the Trail in some distinct way. In general, the National Park Service likes to have trails marked along major highways, so the motoring public can follow the general routes via automobile. However, they say that the off-the-road branches will be indentified in descriptive folders describing the Trail, and in the Interpretive Centers in each state (Missouri's will be at the Trail of Tears State Park near Ste. Genevieve). They contemplate possible hiking trails along the branches, and pointedly said that as proof from historical research becomes available they will make additions to the Trail system. Art Sullivan observed that if small towns along the branches of the Trail were ignored, the residents would be justly piqued at both the State and the National Park Service. I added that in addition to his very good comment that such additions of the branches would be more historically accurate. Jere Krakow is cognizant of the importance and general accuracy of folk traditions, and seems inclined to include branches of the Trail where such traditions indicate a branch existed even though documentary proof is non-existent.

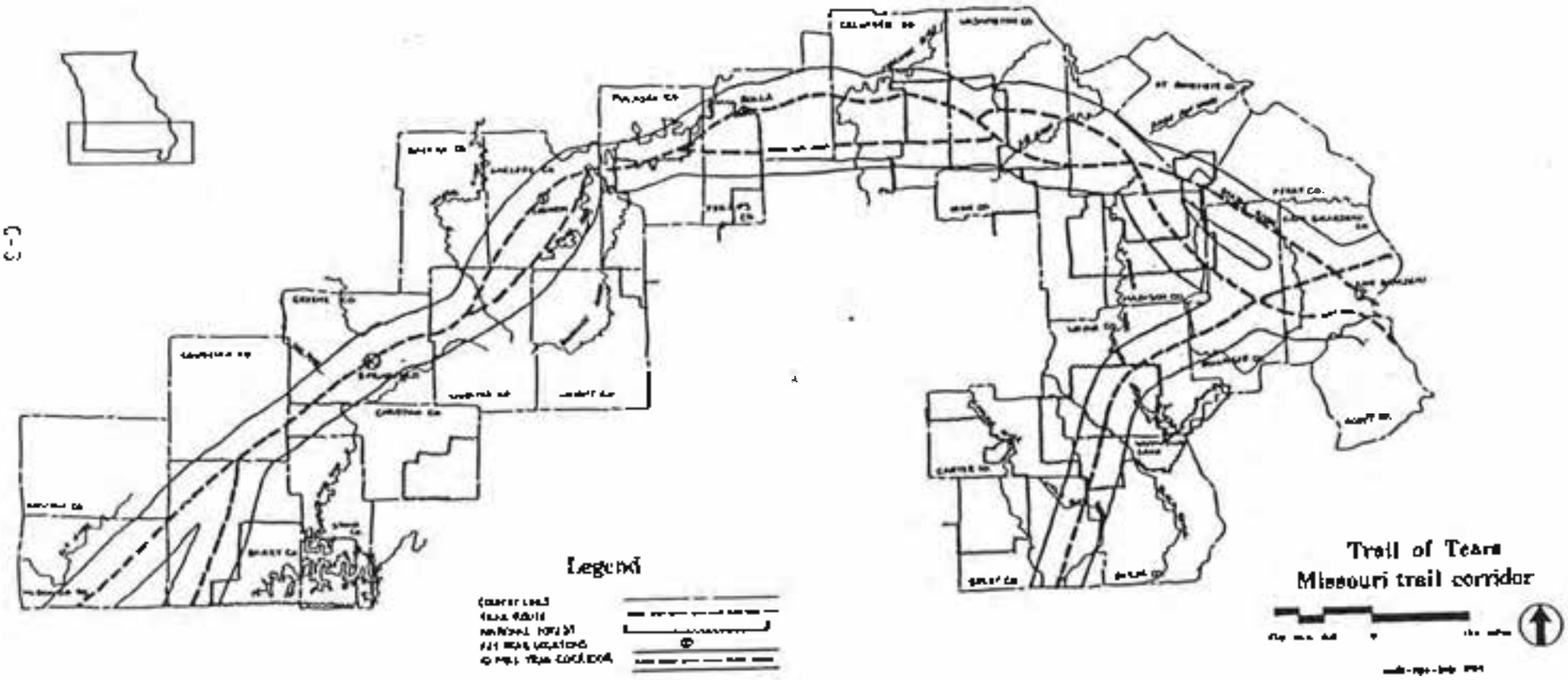
Dr. Krakow asked help in locating any maps of the state which show existing trails and roads during the 1830's and 1840's. I gave him my last copy of the 1844 map I obtained from Bob Runner. I think I have some others that may be helpful to him also.

Other questions concerned such things as size of signs marking the Trail; frequency of their distribution; responsibility for installation and maintenance, and other such logistical matters.

In general I was pleased with the meeting. Although it is clear that the "Trail" will generally follow I-44 from St. James to Springfield, the National Park Service people seem genuinely concerned that they portray the location of the Trail accurately. I requested, and was promised, a copy of the final planning phase book concerning the Trail. It will become part of the Missouri Cultural Heritage Center archives.

Ed McKinney
Graduate Research Assistant
Missouri Cultural Heritage Center

CC to:
Bob Runner
Monroe Evans


Legend
Trail of Tears
Missouri trail corridor

Wagons follow the route of the Indian nation

Story by Tom Uhlenbrock
Photos by Robert LaRouche
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

ARCHIE MOUSE, who says he is "100 percent Cherokee and then some," carried his tribe's flag on horseback through the streets of downtown Farmington, Mo., leading the commemorative Trail of Tears wagon train.

"It's the first time it's been off the reservation," Mouse said of the flag from Cherokee, N.C. "My ancestors, both on my mother's and father's side, were on the Trail of Tears. I grew up with stories about it."

The wagon train, which left Red Clay, Tenn., on Sept. 17, is following the historic trail designated last year to mark the route taken by nearly 15,000 Indians who were ordered off their homelands 150 years ago by President Andrew Jackson.

The project was organized by representatives of the six states through which the forced march passed — Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Sponsors were to provide funds for the individual wagons, although some participants were paying for the trip out of their own pockets.

The Cherokees were driven by the Army from Southeastern states to a reservation near Tahlequah, Okla. Some 4,000 — one-fourth of the Cherokee Nation — died from the weather, lack of food and disease during the 800-mile march in the fall and winter of 1838.

"The Cherokees didn't have any wagons; they were on foot," said Mouse, 36, from Smyrna, Tenn. "Some of them were barefooted and stayed barefooted. They say the trail itself, when it snowed, was lined with blood."

Fred Lesh, 77, of Doe Run, Mo., helped organize the route the wagon train took on its leg from Fredericktown to Farmington last week. Lesh has researched the infamous episode in American history.

"The Cherokees had invented a system of writing," Lesh said. "There were five different tribes driven out at the time, but the Cherokees were the most dominant and educated. They were a great people."

Lesh distributed copies of a "journal of occurrences" obtained from the National Archives in Washington. The journal, written by B.B. Cannon, identified as the "conductor of the first Cherokee detachment," chronicles the

See TRAIL, Page 9

Trail

From page one

hardships that befell the Indians.

From the journal: "Nov. 1, buried Duck's child. Nov. 25, Dr. Townsend set up sick camp at Huzzah Creek. Nov. 29, remained in camp, sickness still increasing, buried Corn Tassel's child. Dec. 18, buried Dreadful Waters, Dr. Townsend returned to Springfield for medicine. Dec. 23, buried Rainfrog's daughter."

Both Mouse and Lesh emphasized that the Cherokees were not savages living off the land, but had emulated the whites' culture and even printed their own newspaper. Historians say Cherokee children were better educated than the typical white child of the time.

"Some even had plantations with slaves — the whole shebang," Mouse said. "I guess you could say that's one of the darker facts about our history.

"When they discovered gold in Georgia, the government wanted the Indians to secede their land."

Of the 30 wagons that camped overnight near Fredericktown High School last week, only about a half-dozen had made the entire trip, which had just passed its halfway point. Some wagons dropped out for lack of funding.

"People join up as we move through a county and ride with us for a few days," said wagonmaster Tom Gulley, 41, who has a wagon-building business in Marion, Ill.

Gulley and his wife of five weeks, Cheryl, were married in a barn in Woodbury, Tenn., shortly after leaving on the journey. "We held up the train about 45 minutes," he said.

The newlyweds, who have two wagons, say the trip has gone so well that they plan to continue on their own after the re-enactment ends in Oklahoma.

"We'd like to drop down through Texas, over to San Diego, up through northern California, Montana and back to Illinois," said the soft-spoken Gulley.

A.J. "Curly" Weil of Grayville, Ill., near the Indiana border, drove the second wagon on the train, marking his status as one of the hardy who had made the entire trip.

"I've enjoyed it a lot; I've met a lot of good people," said Weil, a retired oil-field worker. "I'm the oldest on the train. There's another guy who's 72, but I beat him by six weeks."

Weil said he spent about $4,000 on his homemade wagon and his three-hitch team of two Belgians and one quarterhorse. The wagon is equipped with a small electric generator and a propane heater.

"I had a 13-inch TV, but I sent it home with a lot of other stuff I didn't need," he said. "When I left home, I said I was going to make it to Oklahoma. Some folks bet I wouldn't get out of town."

"My wife is one-eighth Indian, so you might say I've been an Indian fighter for 42 years," Weil said with a grin.

When the train crossed into Missouri at Cape Girardeau, a short distance from the Trail of Tears State Park, it was led by a wagon carrying the state flag. Paul Vance and his son, Robin, both of St. Louis, had been switching off at the reins of the official Missouri state wagon since it left Red Clay.

Robin Vance, 34, was on board for the start of the Fredericktown-to-Farmington leg, but had to leave the train because of an accident to his wife, Marie. She was accompanying the wagon on horseback and was thrown from her horse, suffering a broken vertebra.

Marie Vance said Monday that doctors have ordered bed rest, meaning her stint with the train is over. She said she wants her husband, who is an alderman in Overland, and two sons, Jacob, 10, and Ben, 7, to continue. The children take their schoolwork with them as they ride.

"My family has really got wrapped up in this thing," she said. "If I can't finish, I want my husband and the boys to. This has become really important to us, when you learn what the Indians went through.

"Unfortunately for me, I've shed some tears already."

The train had a friendly welcome in Farmington, where the Chamber of Commerce provided lunch on a farm outside of town near Libertyville. Two local wagons joined up, as did more than a dozen horseback riders, adding to the contingent of about 35 outriders who have been following the wagons.

The downtown streets of Farmington were lined with people as the wagons, most of them old farm wagons modified with tires for the trip, moved through. A few businessmen had donned dime-store headdresses and gaudy war paint for the occasion, and the Best Western motel on the outskirts of town displayed the greeting: "Welcome Trail of Tears. Firewater in lounge."

The sign, while tactless, unknowingly referred to another incident detailed in Cannon's official journal of the original march: "Nov. 21: a considerable number drunk last night, obtained the liquor at Farmington yesterday. Had to get out of bed about midnight to quell the disorder. A refusal by several to march this morning."

Said Lesh, the local organizer: "I don't blame them. I'd have gotten drunk, too. Wouldn't you?"

Liquor is prohibited on the commemorative train. Gulley, the wagonmaster, said he had to eject three riders for violating that rule.

As the entourage moved from the back roads past the Farmington city limits, cameras clicked. The fortunate had a frame or two of film left for the train's caboose, an elegant rig owned by St. Louis restaurateur Steve Apted, who had joined up in Fredericktown.

Apted, who also owns Cheshire Carriage Service, brought down an antique English stagecoach that seated 14. The black-and-red wagon was pulled by four Percherons, dappled gray draft horses that rival Clydesdales in size.

The wagon train, which averages less than 20 miles a day, is expected to be in Missouri until about Thanksgiving and to end in Oklahoma by early December.

"There ought to be a hell of a celebration when we get into Oklahoma," said Weil, the senior member of the ragtag outfit. "It ought to be bigger than an Italian wedding."

Called the "Showplace of the Cherokee Nation," this two-story classic brick mansion was built by Chief James Vann in 1804. Decorated with beautiful Cherokee hand carvings done in natural colors of blue, red, green and yellow, the home features a cantilevered stairway and many fine antiques.

Vann was "Feared by many and loved by few." Vann contributed more to the education of the men who were leaders of the Cherokee Nation than anyone else. He was responsible for bringing the Moravian missionaries to his people to teach the children and he supported the Christian civilization as a means of progress for the Cherokee. Still an Indian, Vann was a polygamist who had three wives and five children. He was killed in 1809 for having shot his brother-in-law during a duel the previous year. Vann's young son, Joseph, inherited the house and his father's various businesses.

The Vann House passed out of the hands of the family when "Rich Joe" Vann unknowingly violated a state law by hiring a white man to work for him. The government seized his property and the house was awarded to a white land lottery winner in 1834.

In 1825, the Cherokee national legislature established a capital called New Echota. A thriving town, this new governmental seat became headquarters for the small independent Indian nation that once covered present-day northern Georgia, western North Carolina, eastern Tennessee and northeastern Alabama.

Today, New Echota is an active State Historic Site where visitors can tour original and reconstructed historic structures and learn about the dreams and lives of the Indians who tried to pattern their government and lifestyle after the white man only to be uprooted from their land and removed westward on the Trail of Tears in 1838-39.

A remarkable development in the Cherokees' progress came in 1821 when a written form of their native language was adopted. New Echota's resourceful natives soon put this new invention to use when in 1828, their national press began printing a newspaper, the *Cherokee Phoenix*, in both Cherokee and English. Touring visitors can see a sheet of this bilingual paper printed on a Washington hand press. In addition to the slide show and museum exhibits, visitors can tour the reconstructed Print Shop and Supreme Courthouse and the original home of missionary Samuel A. Worcester.

The Eastern Band Of Cherokee Indians

The Cherokee were once a mighty and powerful nation. At the time they were first contacted by white man in 1540 they claimed 135,000 square miles of territory. Their land covered a big part of what is now eight States; North Carolina,South Carolina,Georgia,Alabama, Tennessee,Kentucky,Virginia and West Virginia.

The first white men in Cherokee Country were explorers. The next were prospectors and Trappers. Then came the farmers in great numbers,they cut the forests,plowed the ground,killed his Game and built large Villages on the river banks. The Cherokee knew that when the forest was no more.the animals trapped or shot and many homes and Villages of the white men sprang up that the Indian could no longer survive with the white man. The Cherokee were wondering where it would all end and finally decided it was time to resist the frontiersmen who were pushing the Indian aside to squat where they pleased. Conflict after conflict developed and by 1776 at the outbreak of theRevolution- the Cherokee natSon was firmly against the American Frontiersmen and ready to fight for the Tories.

In November 1785 the new government of The United States and the Cherokee Nation made a treaty whereby new boundaries were set for the Cherokee Nation,shrinking their territory to 43,000square miles and by this treaty they were to be a self governing Nation and the United States was to guarantee protection of life and property.

In the years that followed the United States Government signed 40 treaties with the Cherokees and chose to break each and every one. Each new treaty shrank the Cherokee Nations Territory and in 1835when the Treaty of New Echotawas signed the last rights to the Cherokee homelands was taken away,(nothing short of fraud)

and the Cherokees forced to move from the homeland to Indian Territory Oklahoma. Some 15,000 Plus Cherokees were among the forced Exodis and one of every four lost their lives between their homes east of the Mississipoi and Oklahoma Treaitory.

Some 1200 Cherokee who escaped the net of Geneva, Winfield Scott and made their escape to the Great Smoky Mountains were the first to become known as the Eastern Band of Cherokees/on Dec.9-1868 Article 12 of the Treaty of New Echota as amended provided that Cherokees who were averse to removal could become citizens and remain in the State of North Carolina. They became subject to the laws of the State. Any interest in the lands formerly heldby the Nation in North Carolina had been divested by the Treaty and their right to self government had ended. North Carolina later granted a charter to the Cherokees authorizing them to exercise limited powers of self government./A Statute was passed in 1800 granting them permission Saloniteh (Flying Squirrel was the first Chief in 1870. to remain within the State permanently. Cherokee lands was conveyed by the United States Government to be held in trust for the Eastern Band, having the effect of establishing an Indian reservation. The same Federal laws and regulations which apply on other Indian Reservations apply to the 56,572 acres of the Eastern Band.

The Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians determines the management and control of all real and personal property belonging to the Band, subject to the responsibility of the trust of the United States. In 1952 there were about 6500 Cherokee living on Eastern Band Cherokee land and 2800 residing off the Reservation.

The Eastern Band is now a sovereign unite of government in its own right, it is neither an instrumentality of the Federal government nor a political subdivision of the state government. The Tribal government consists of the Tribal Council, the

the Executive Department and the Court of Indian Offenses. The Tribal Council has 12 members. The Executive Department consists of a Principal Chief and a Vice Chief elected by the members of the Tribe to serve for four ye ar terms. They are Charged with carrying out the resolutions,ordinances and other actions of the Tribal Council and keeping the Tribal Government functioning on a day to day basis. The judicial branch is a Court of Indian Offenses administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Matters that are not within the jurisdiction of this Court are tried in Federal District Court.

The Principal Chief of the Eastern Band is Jonathan L.Taylor in 1985. The Vice Chief is Bill Ledford.

On Thursday March 24-1988 Edgar W. and Elese Green and Robert M.and Bunnie Runner visited the Eastern Band Capital "Cherokee North Carolina". Runner an early riser went to the Tee-Pee Resturant early for a cup of coffee,while others slept and there had his first visit with a full blood Cherokee Indian"Mr.George Goings" who works at the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Mr Goings and his family were having breakfast,spoke friendly and willing to have conversation. He ask if it was my first visit to the Great Smoky Mountains and in the conversation told me that the Cherokees had named them,probably before Columbus discovered America. He ask if I was going to be on hand for the opening day of Trout season in the Oconaluftee river which runs through the town,the best Trout stream in eastern America. He told me that the economy of Cherokee was good or bad acording to the number of Tourists who visited each year and the condition of the timber market. He recommended that I come back to see the

Drama"Into These Hills" and do some trout fishing. He ask if we had been to the Museum,told me I would be welcome to visit The Council House,excused himself and said he must go to work and his wife must get the children to school,said he was always glad to chat with vistors,and departed. I then met a Cherokee lady at a nearby table"Mrs.Amy Walker and her Daughter Mrs. Patty Grant" Amy was 80 years old and worked at the School. Her daughter Patty was a teacher,she had obtained her degree at Springfield,Mo, and her Masters Degree in New York State. They were interesting people and well informed about the Trail Of Tears. They also talked about the seven Clans of the Cherokee Tribe and told me that the Tribe still observed many of the early traditions. Most full bloods still know what Clan they are from. They gave me the name of Mrs Laura Hughs at the School who they said would be glad to talk to me about modern society in the Eastern Band of Cherokee,but unfortunate for me,time would not permit.

I then went to the Council House where I met some of the Council members and was introduced to Vice Chief Bill Ledford. He was due at a meeting at 9 a.m. but hastily put together a package for me including a copy of the Cherokee One Feather and a copy of the Tribal Committees.

I then returned to the Drama Motel where I found my gang ready to start the day. We went to the Tee Pee for a big breakfast,-looked through the Museum of the Cherokee Indians and the Craft Shop. Then we departed down river via Highway 19. It was a very narrow and crooked road,but the scenery was beautiful all the way. Many lakes on the river as well as power plants.

Indian park needs support of community

By ROB DOLLAR
NEW ERA Staff Writer

The community is being encouraged to lend a helping hand to a recently created non-profit organization that intends to construct a new park here showcasing the Trail of Tears saga in American history.

Some 50 people attended a public meeting Tuesday night at Hopkinsville Community College to learn more about the project being undertaken by the 18-member Trail of Tears Commission Inc.

A bill to make the trail a historic route under the auspices of the National Park Service currently is pending in the Senate.

The legislation, which was introduced by U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford (D-Ky.), calls for the establishment of information centers in Kentucky and eight other states linked to the historical event.

Ford announced today the unanimous approval of the legislation by the Senate Energy Committee and predicted the measure would garner "quick and positive action" from the full Senate in the coming weeks.

The veteran senator said the National Park Service has agreed with him that Hopkinsville is the ideal site for Kentucky's information center.

At Tuesday's meeting, local officials were optimistic about the prospects for the major project.

NEW ERA/Rob Dollar

SHIRLEY CARTER (foreground) looks at a Trail of Tears display at Hopkinsville Community College. Mrs. Carter was among those who attended a meeting to learn more about plans to build a park here spotlighting the community's link with the historical event.

reservation in the late 1830s was routed through Hopkinsville. Two of the tribe's leaders are buried here.

Local officials have been lobbying for Hopkinsville to become the site for the Kentucky information center because of the community's strong ties with the Trail of Tears.

Only recently, two other Kentucky communities have jumped on the bandwagon.

"We are hearing rumblings that Bowling Green all of a sudden is interested and the

"Naturally, we want Hopkinsville to have one of the centers," declared commission President

the Trail o. Tears saga.

"This whole thing, we're hoping, is going to educate people," Ms. Baker explained.

The commission currently is surveying several possible sites for the park, she noted.

During Tuesday's meeting, county historian William Turner lectured the crowd on the historical significance of the Trail of Tears, while Dr. Tom Riley reported that Hopkinsville Community College will host a symposium in April spotlighting the 150th anniversary of the event. Turner and Riley, the director of HCC, are members of the com-

Beverly Baker. "It doesn't need to be anywhere else in Kentucky

Please turn to Page 6A

venture are asked to contact Ms. Baker at 886-8033.

Meanwhile, a delegation of American Indians are to be in Hopkinsville Saturday to visit the graves of the Cherokee leaders buried here behind the KENTUCKY NEW ERA publishing plant and to attend Heritage Day events downtown.

Their visit is related to the Trail of Tears project.

The Trail of Tears Commission will have a booth downtown, and

Jail gets grant

DON YAHOLA (left), president of the Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, and Ahnawake Clinch, Association princess, examine Indian gravesites behind the KENTUCKY NEW ERA. The two were in town Saturday to endorse a plan to erect a park commemorating the "Trail of Tears."

NEW ERA/David Jennings

Visiting Indians endorse Trail of Tears

By DAVID S. JENNINGS
NEW ERA Staff Writer

Two Native American dignitaries have endorsed a plan to showcase the Trail of Tears saga of American history with a new park here.

Don Yahola, a Creek Indian who is president of the Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, and Ahnawake Clinch, a Cherokee who is Native American Indian Association princess, spoke on behalf of the project during a brief news conference Saturday morning at the site where two Indian leaders died on a forced march in the late 1830s.

The Indian visitors, who were here as part of Saturday's Heritage Days celebration downtown, toured the graves of Cherokee leaders White Path and Fly Smith behind the KENTUCKY NEW ERA on East Ninth Street.

The Trail of Tears is the name given to an early 1800s march that took about 16,000 Cherokee Indians from southern states to Oklahoma reservations. Nearly half of those involved in the march either dropped out or perished along the way, Yahola said.

In order to commemorate that ordeal, local officials envision a park that would include an information center, a museum, hiking trails and a Cherokee village constructed to depict Indian life before the forced move to Oklahoma.

"Imagine walking from the Smoky Mountains to Oklahoma," Yahola told local dignitaries who attended the news conference. "In some places, there may have been mass graves. At the present, we don't know where many of them are."

Yahola compared the Trail of Tears to the Bataan Death March of World War II.

"If I go back and read about it, it depresses me," said Ms. Clinch. "I've tried several times to finish reading the book but I just can't.

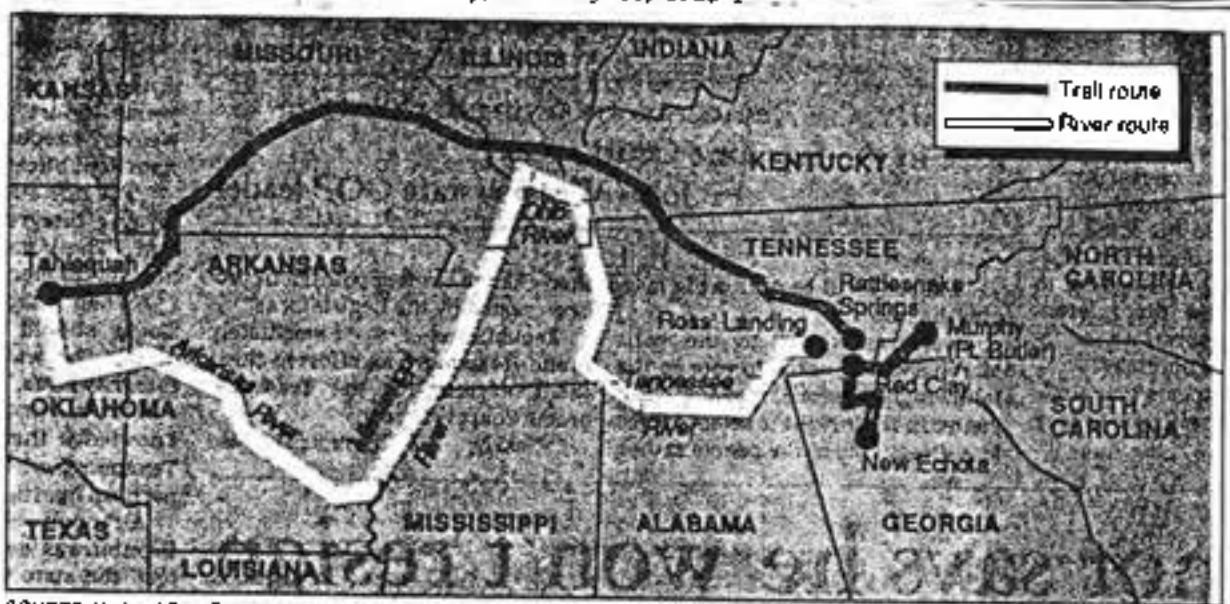
"I think it's long overdue. The recognition is good, but it's slow in coming. Someone is trying to make up for what happened."

Both Indian leaders also urged more education on Indian history in the public schools, similar to a measure under consideration in Tennessee.

"There are so many things that come up that the North American public is not aware of," Yahola said. "We need to present ourselves as descendants of people who welcomed the first (white) people to this country."

Texas & Southwes

Sunday, January 10, 1988



SOURCE: National Park Service

The Dallas Morning News

Trail of Tears: atrocity revisited

Signs to mark route along which 4,000 Cherokees died

By Ed Housewright
Oklahoma Bureau

OKLAHOMA CITY — Hunger, sickness and death were the hallmarks of the Trail of Tears.

An estimated 4,000 Cherokee Indians died during their forced journey from their native homelands in the southeastern states to Oklahoma as part of a government-run removal program 150 years ago.

The bitter incident has never been forgotten by the Cherokees, who commemorate it in plays and museums.

Soon, the Trail of Tears also will be commemorated by the nine states the Indians passed through during their trek.

Congress approved legislation last month designating the route a national historic trail. Signs marking the path will be erected along highways, and information centers will be built in each of the states.

Today's Cherokees, some of whom helped prepare a feasibility study on the historic designation of the trail, applaud the legislation. They say they hope it will focus attention on the dark chapter in U.S.-Indian relations and lead to more understanding of the Indians' plight.

"I think it's probably long overdue," said John Ketcher, deputy chief of the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Okla., the end point of the trail.

"We lost so many lives. We're often told we learn from history. We hope this never happens again to anybody."

Bob Blankenship, chairman of

Please see SIGNS on Page 43A.

Signs to mark route along w

Continued from Page 37A.

the tribal council of the Eastern Branch of the Cherokee Indians, based in Cherokee, N.C., also thinks the historic designation of the Trail of Tears is appropriate now.

"It will keep the history of the Cherokees current in the public's mind," Blankenship said. "Although it's sad, it's still part of our history."

The National Park Service has two years to prepare a final report on the historic trail. It will pinpoint the route that will be marked and where the "interpretative centers" in each of the nine states will be, said Wallace Brittain, a National Park Service spokesman.

He said officials do not know how long it will take to erect the signs and complete the centers, or how much the work will cost.

Funding will come from appropriations to the National Park Service, according to the office of Sen. Wendell Ford, D-Kentucky, who sponsored the Senate version of the bill.

An advisory committee composed of Cherokees, Indian historians and officials from state parks departments worked on the feasibility study — requested by Congress in 1987 — and concluded that the historic trail designation was warranted. No organized opposition to the project has been voiced, Brittain said.

"A general feeling of guilt and shame by many Americans concerning our past Indian policies will demand that the story be told," the feasibility study says. "Failure to designate the Trail of Tears will not change history, but one excellent opportunity to factually interpret a very important portion of American history would be lost."

During debate of the House bill that authorized the project, several legislators, including Mike Synar of Oklahoma, whose district includes Tahlequah, spoke forcefully for its passage.

"What we did to the Cherokees was not honorable," said Synar, a Democrat. "Designating the Trail of Tears as a national trail is a chance for all of us to honor native Americans and their courage and strength."

lahoma.

The Cherokees twice appealed the order to the U.S. Supreme Court but received no relief. In 1837 and 1838, the Army rounded up Cherokees from Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and North Carolina and confined them to frontier forts. And in June 1838, the military escorted the first detachment of Cherokees — about 3,000 — on a 900-mile journey along the Tennessee, Ohio, Mississippi and Arkansas rivers to Tahlequah, Okla.

The remaining 13,000 Cherokees departed on an overland route by wagon, horse or on foot in October 1838 and arrived in the spring of 1839.

The trip was marked by stifling heat, frigid cold, a lack of food and minimal medical care — all factors contributing to the shocking loss of life.

"There's no question there was a great deal of human suffering," said Duane King, former executive director of the Cherokee National Historical Society and an expert on the Trail of Tears. "It was most difficult for the very old and the very young."

King, like many Cherokees, sees the Trail of Tears as representative of the treatment Indians received from the U.S. government during the early part of the country's history.

"The attitude toward Indians during that day and time was put them off where they couldn't bother anyone," King said.

The Cherokees, particularly, were an advanced tribe before they were moved west, King said. They spoke English, had their own written language and constitution and maintained large plantations.

"They were making rapid progress in terms of competition with their white neighbors," King said. "They had a higher literacy rate. The removal was extremely disruptive."

Cherokees today wonder the same thing. Because of the Trail of Tears and a series of unfulfilled treaties, the Cherokee Nation's Ketcher said he believes the U.S. government has an obligation to maintain economic assistance to the Cherokees.

"I maintain we cannot be self-sufficient until the government assists us to the point where we have the resources," Ketcher said.

Marking the Trail of Tears as a historic route will help Cherokees economically by promoting tourism, Ketcher believes. Tourism is already a major source of revenue for the tribe, and the signs that will be placed along highways leading into Tahlequah should help draw people to the tribal complex there, Ketcher said.

Non-Indians in cities along the trail also stand to benefit from an increase in tourism. In Hopkinsville, Ky., for example, a commis-

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The Trail of Tears episode followed passage of the Indian Removal Act in 1830, which authorized the transfer of all Indians east of the Mississippi River to lands west of the river. The law came about because of demands from white settlers for the Indian land.

Four tribes other than the Cherokees — the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles — signed treaties between 1830 and 1832 and moved west to land called Indian Territory, in what is now Ok-

---

Designating the Trail of Tears a historic route may also increase interest among Cherokee children in their heritage, Ketcher said.

"We're trying to educate our young to be in the mainstream, but we don't want them to forget the culture — the language, the traditions. Whatever it is that makes them Cherokee. We think it's possible to do both."

Plans are unveiled for Trail of Tears park development

By SONNY ALLEN
NEW ERA Staff Writer

Plans for the proposed Trail of Tears Commemorative Park were unveiled today.

Beverly Baker, president of the Trail fo Tears Commission, announced that at a news conference that the park will be located on 10½ acres off the Pembroke Road on land donated by the Henry Morris family and the KENTUCKY NEW ERA.

Mrs. Baker noted that the 3½ acres donated by the newspaper contains the grave sites of Cherokee chiefs Whitepath and Fly Smith. That part of the park will contain parking, hiking trails and a statuary representing the Indian chiefs.

A foot bridge will be constructed across the river to the land donated by the Morris family. On that seven acres, plans call for a re-created Cherokee village of pre-1838 vintage, a museum, gift shop, restroom facilities, hiking trails and canoeing facilities.

Mrs. Baker said the commission is negotiating to acquire additional land adjacent to the NEW ERA that would provide frontage on the Pembroke Road.

The commission also is seeking a long-term lease agreement from the city-county Airport Board for a half-acre adjacent to the Morris property that would be used for a "powwow ground" and would feature a shelter building.

Among those attending the news conference were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morris and their son, state Rep. Ramsey Morris.

"Anything that we do in our community that is of a positive nature to attract attention to Hopkinsville and Christian County has got to be beneficial for economic development," said Rep. Morris.

"I'm really happy that my mother and dad are playing a part in this particular venture and are offering this property free of charge and contributing

Please turn to Page 2A

Trail of Tears

Continued from Page 1A

back to the community what I feel the community has given us," he added.

Mrs. Baker noted that how quickly the project proceeds from this point depends on financial support from the community.

The commission has applied for grants, but part of the $250,000 estimated cost will need to be raised locally, she said.

"We will need a great deal of monetary support," she said. "Citizens of the community should feel free to make contributions."

She added that goods and services donated by businesses can be used as matching funds for grants.

Darryl Armstrong, a member of the Trail of Tears Commission, noted that a "wishing well" has been placed at the Pennyrile Mall where residents can make contributions.

Major foundations and individuals also will be solicited for contributions, he added.

In addition, two major community events designed to help raise money for the event are scheduled.

plans unveiled

On May 14, a "medicine will" ceremony will be conducted at University Heights Academy. It is a traditional Indian ceremony put on by medicine men. An Indian medicine society in Tennessee will conduct the program, which will feature Indian dancers, drummers, storytellers and a bonfire.

On Sept. 10 and 11, there will be an Indian powwow at the fairgrounds that will feature Indian dancers, traders and authenic Indian food. The event will be conducted in conjunction with Heritage Days.

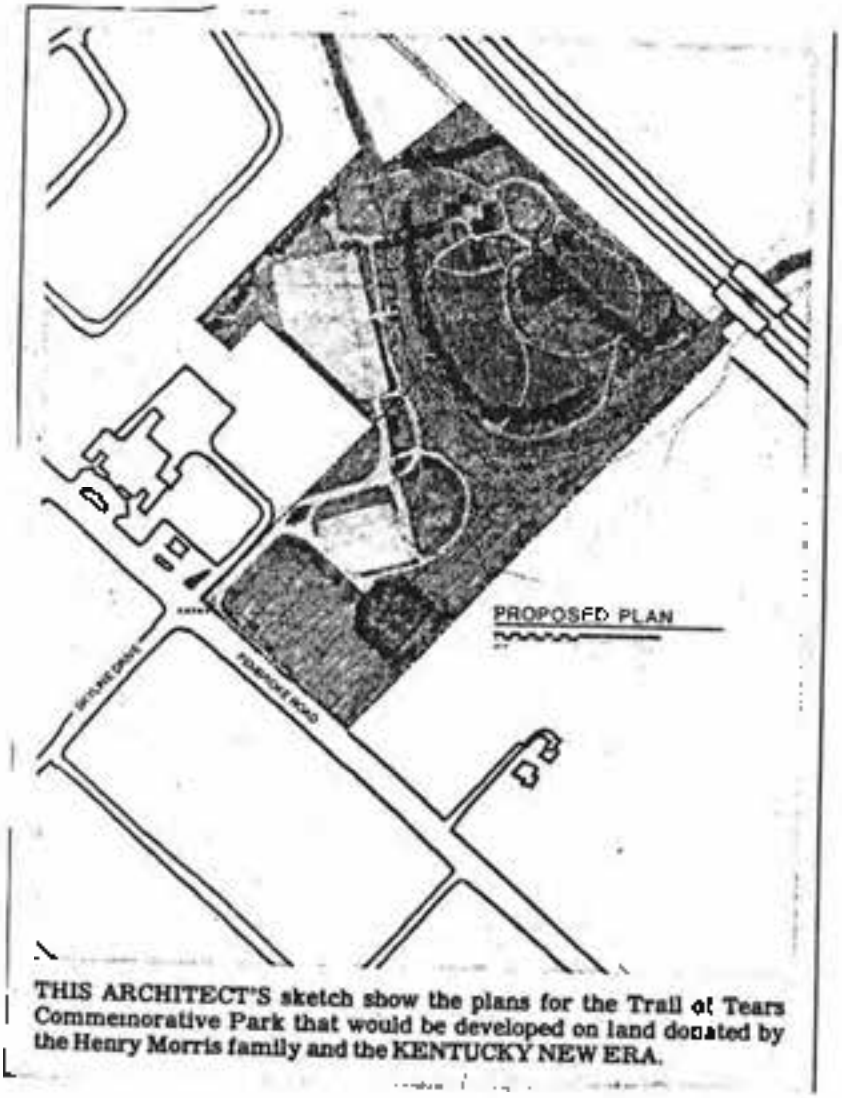
John Mabre is the architect for the project.

The Cherokees were sent along the trail in the 1800s after white settlers in Georgia and neighboring states convinced the federal government to force them off land that had been given to the Indians through treaties.

The federal government voided the treaties and sent the Cherokees on an 800-mile trek to the West. One of the routes led through Hopkinsville.

PROPOSED SITE OF

TRAIL OF TEARS MUSEUM



THIS ARCHITECT'S sketch show the plans for the Trail of Tears Commemorative Park that would be developed on land donated by the Henry Morris family and the KENTUCKY NEW ERA.

AT HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY

Tears Trail logo contest deadline set

Interested amateur artists have until Thursday, October 15, to enter their efforts in the Trail of Tears logo design contest.

The contest, open to any non-professional, has a first prize of $25 and a second prize of $15. Winners will be announced no later than Monday, Nov. 2.

All entries become the property of the Trail of Tears commission, and the decision of the judges will be final.

The contest has several rules and regulations, as well as suggested guidelines

No more than two design ideas may be submitted per person.

Each entry must bear the name, address and phone number of the designer and should be submitted on an 8½ by 11 size sheet of white paper.

The Trail of Tears Commission Inc. reserves the right to combine the ideas of two winning designs into a professionally finished logo.

All entries may be mailed to the Trail of Tears Commission Inc., P.O. Box 4027, Hopkinsville, Ky. 42240, or can be delivered to the commission office in Suite 206, 911 S. Main Street, Hopkinsville

The guidelines propose that the depiction of Cherokees be culturally correct for the period of the Eastern Cherokee of the 1838s, including appropriate dress.

The commission suggests that the struggle for survival and idea of hope and spiritual restoration might be indicated by the sun or moon; eagle, owl or wolf; and by showing the impact of removal on tribe, family and individuals

Submitted designs should be stylized and suitable for multi-use printing purposes. For more information, call the Trail of Tears Commission at 886-8055

Public meeting set for 'Trail of Tears'

A public meeting to explain local plans concerning the Trail of Tears information site is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Hopkinsville Community College auditorium.

The program will include information on the background on the Trail of Tears, an update on pending Congressional action regarding the trail site, plans for the park, details for a Trail of Tears logo contest and the formation of a public support group.

The public is invited to attend the meeting.

The Kentucky Legislative Interim Joint Committee has approved a resolution urging Congress to locate an information center here commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Cherokee Indians' Trail of Tears march through Western Kentucky.

State Rep. Jim Bruce and Sen Pat McCuiston introduced the resolution.

The forced march of Cherokee Indians from southern states to an Oklahoma reservation was routed through Hopkinsville. Two of the tribe's leaders are buried here.

The resolution recognizes the "important chapter in American history as well as Kentucky history," that the trek represents.

A measure establishing the information center already has passed in the U.S. House of Representatives and is now pending in the Senate.

Enthusiasm builds for Indi.

By ROB DOLLAR
NEW ERA Staff Writer

The enthusiasm for a project that calls for the construction of a multipurpose park here spotlighting the community's link to the Trail of Tears continues to snowball with no end in sight.

Although the planning for the park remains in the preliminary stages, officials report that the idea already has captured the imagination of local residents and others throughout the state.

"The response has been really good," declared Beverly Baker, president of the Trail of Tears Commission Inc. "What's interesting is that people around the state who have read stories about the project are contacting us and wanting to be involved."

The 18-member commission, a non-profit organization formed this summer, is spearheading the efforts to make the park a reality.

> "What's interesting is that people around the state who have read stories about the project are contacting us and wanting to be involved."
>
> — Beverly Baker

It was only last week that the Senate passed a bill sponsored by U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford (D-Ky.) to designate an eight-state trail walked by thousands of Cherokee Indians as a National Historic Trail.

The bill, endorsed by the National Park Service, calls for interpretive centers to be located in each of the eight states.

Local officials are lobbying for Kentucky's center — if the bill indeed becomes law — to be located in the park to be built here.

The forced march of about 16,000 Cherokee Indians from southern states to an Oklahoma reservation in the late 1830s was routed through Hopkinsville. Two of the tribe's leaders are buried here.

Ms. Baker said last week's development in Washington gave the local project a lift and moved it closer to reality.

"We were all thrilled, naturally. We're very pleased that it has passed," she remarked.

It is anticipated that the bill will

an park

be considered in the House before the end of the year.

U.S. 1st District Congressman Carroll Hubbard has pledged his support for the bill, and it is expected to win easy approval in the House.

Once that occurs, the measure would be forwarded to the Department of the Interior, which oversees the operations of the National Park Service, for eventual implementation within the next two years, said Ms. Baker.

Since Congressional approval seems almost certain, local officials already are preparing an aggressive lobbying campaign to convince the National Park Service to select Hopkinsville as the site for Kentucky's interpretive center.

"That is our next target for our

Please turn to Page 2A

Enthusiasm builds

Continued from Page 1A

letter-writing efforts," remarked Ms. Baker.

The commission currently is in the middle of negotiations to acquire land for the park, which is expected to consist of several attractions on a 10-acre site.

It would include not only the interpretive center, but also a museum, hiking trails and a Cherokee village constructed to depict the Indian way of life before the forced march to Oklahoma.

Officials expect to make an announcement on the location of the park sometime in early November, according to Ms. Baker.

The financial commitment necessary for the venture remains clouded, but Ms. Baker said private donations and government grants should provide the funding.

"We have already gotten $1,635 in contributions for this project from various sources," she noted.

In addition, pledges have been made by some local businesses and government officials for in-kind services, Ms. Baker said.

A fund-raising goal is scheduled to be set tonight when the commission meets with a group of supporters who call themselves the "Friends of the Trail."

The support group will elect officers at the meeting, which is slated for 6:30 p.m. at Hopkinsville Community College.

Those interested in making a contribution to the project are urged to attend the meeting or contact the commission office at 886-8033.

The plan to designate the Trail of Tears began four years ago when Congress directed the National Park Service to study the proposal.

Hearings were conducted on the matter and suggestions solicited from numerous government agencies.

The study undertaken by the National Park Service was published last year and recommends historic designation for both water and land routes used during the evacuation of the Cherokee Indians nearly 150 years ago.

Artist donates 'Trail of Tears

By DAVID S. JENNINGS
NEW ERA Staff Writer

Paul Overstreet says he doesn't know why the American public finally is beginning to notice the native American, but he says the recognition is long overdue.

"I think that in this country the Indian has been the least helped," the 56-year-old Boyle County native said. "He has been made a slave and he was treated like he wasn't even human. There were people who thought he wasn't human.

"And the land we're sitting on belonged to him," Overstreet says.

Overstreet made his comments last week after donating his latest watercolor, "Tears Across Kentucky, The Trail of Tears 1838-1839," to the Trail of Tears Commission Inc. here.

The artwork formally was unveiled Thursday afternoon during a news conference at the Golden Farley clothing store in the Pennyrile Mall.

Present for the event were Mayor Tommy Gates and Chip Miles of the Trail of Tears Commission.

"It (the painting) doesn't show any particular people," Overstreet said. "It tells a story of an Indian family whose child has died. They are going to have to bury the child on the trail. The grandfather is trying to console the father, and the soldier is trying to get them to move along."

Overstreet's artwork depicts a portion of the Trail of Tears — the route taken by the U.S. Army in 1838-39 to move more than 13,000 Cherokee Indians from Murphy, N.C., to Tahlequah, Okla. Several thousand died during the forced relocation.

Locally, the trail extended through Port Royal, Tenn., Tiny Town, Guthrie, Trenton, Pembroke, Hopkinsville and Princeton.

Two Indian leaders are buried behind the office of the KENTUCKY NEW ERA on East Ninth Street.

The local Trail of Tears Commission hopes to establish a museum here. A limited edition of 2,000 lithographs will be made from the Overstreet's watercolor and offered for sale, said Beverly Baker, president of the Commission. The prints all will be numbered. Signed prints will cost $35 and unsigned prints will cost $30, she said.

A number of local individuals and businesses have contributed money to sponsor the cost of printing the lithographs. Sponsors include First Federal Savings and Loan, Hopkinsville Federal Savings and Loan, First City Bank and Sovran Bank of Kentucky.

Other contributors include V
Clark of Area Supply Co., the F
Wood Corp., Hillyard Lyons I
ment Brokers, Careerroom Junio
lege of Business, Walter and E
Baker, the Elliott Miles family,

NEW ERA/David Jenn

PAUL OVERSTREET displays the watercolor he is donating to the Trail of T
Commission. A limited run of 1,000 lithographs will be printed and sold
fund-raiser for the commission.

painting

"Petey" Rogers III, the Fort Campbell Credit Union, radio station WHOP and Flynn Enterprises.

A second fund-raising item — a spiral wishing well — also was unveiled during the news conference. In the spiral wishing well, centrifugal force causes coins to travel on their edges down a funnel device until they ultimately are deposited in a container.

In other activity, Darryl Armstrong, the commission's fund-raising chairman — is seeking grant money for a park here.

The original watercolor will be displayed in the museum when it is constructed, Ms. Baker said.

The prints should become available for sale sometime within the next 30 days, Ms. Baker said.

Advance orders currently are being taken for the prints. The prints can be ordered by calling the Trail of Tears Commission office at 886-8033 or by writing the office at Post Office Box 4027, Hopkinsville.

Mail orders will be accepted with an additional $2.50 fee for shipping and handling. Kentucky sales are subject to the 5 percent state sales tax.

Overstreet, who claims Shawnee ancestry five generations back, said he completed the watercolor during a six-to-eight-week period late last year.

"I'm more Irish than Indian myself," he said, "but I've got a deep interest in the Indians. I paint a lot of wildlife, and nature, and Indians seem to go along with that."

The 150th anniversary of the Trail of Tears seemed like a good time to capture the event in a painting.

The Trail of Tears is not the first sad moment in Indian history that Overstreet has illustrated.

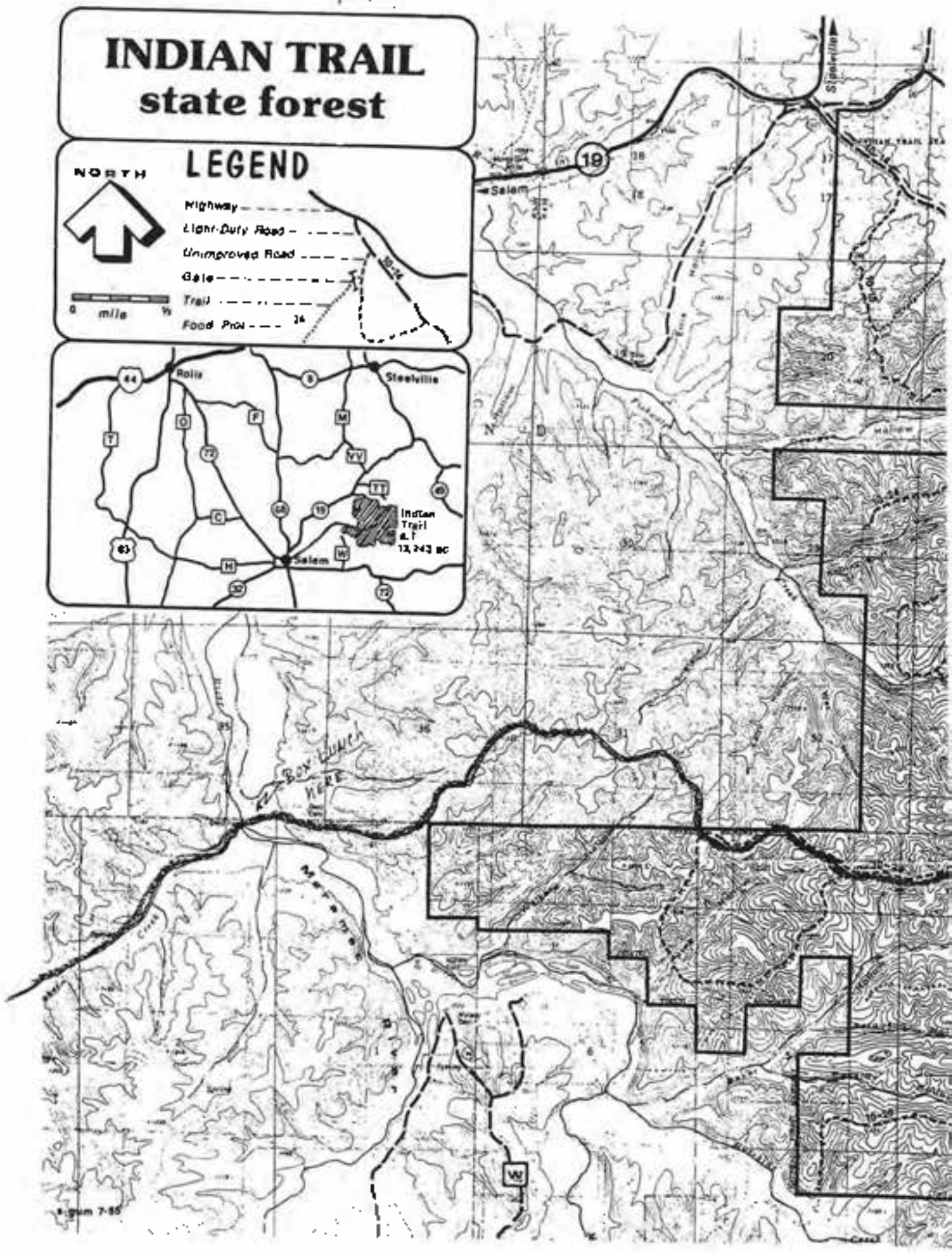
A painting called "The Surrender of Chief Joseph" shows the Nez Perce chief surrendering to the U.S. Army in sight of the Canadian border.

Chief Joseph had been leading his tribe to Canada instead of a reservation that had been selected by the U.S. government.

"Chief Joseph died on a reservation," Overstreet says. "He never saw his wife and his daughter again. They made it into Canada."

Overstreet says his own Shawnee ancestry didn't stop him from depicting Cherokees on the Trail of Tears.

"All Indians interest me," he said.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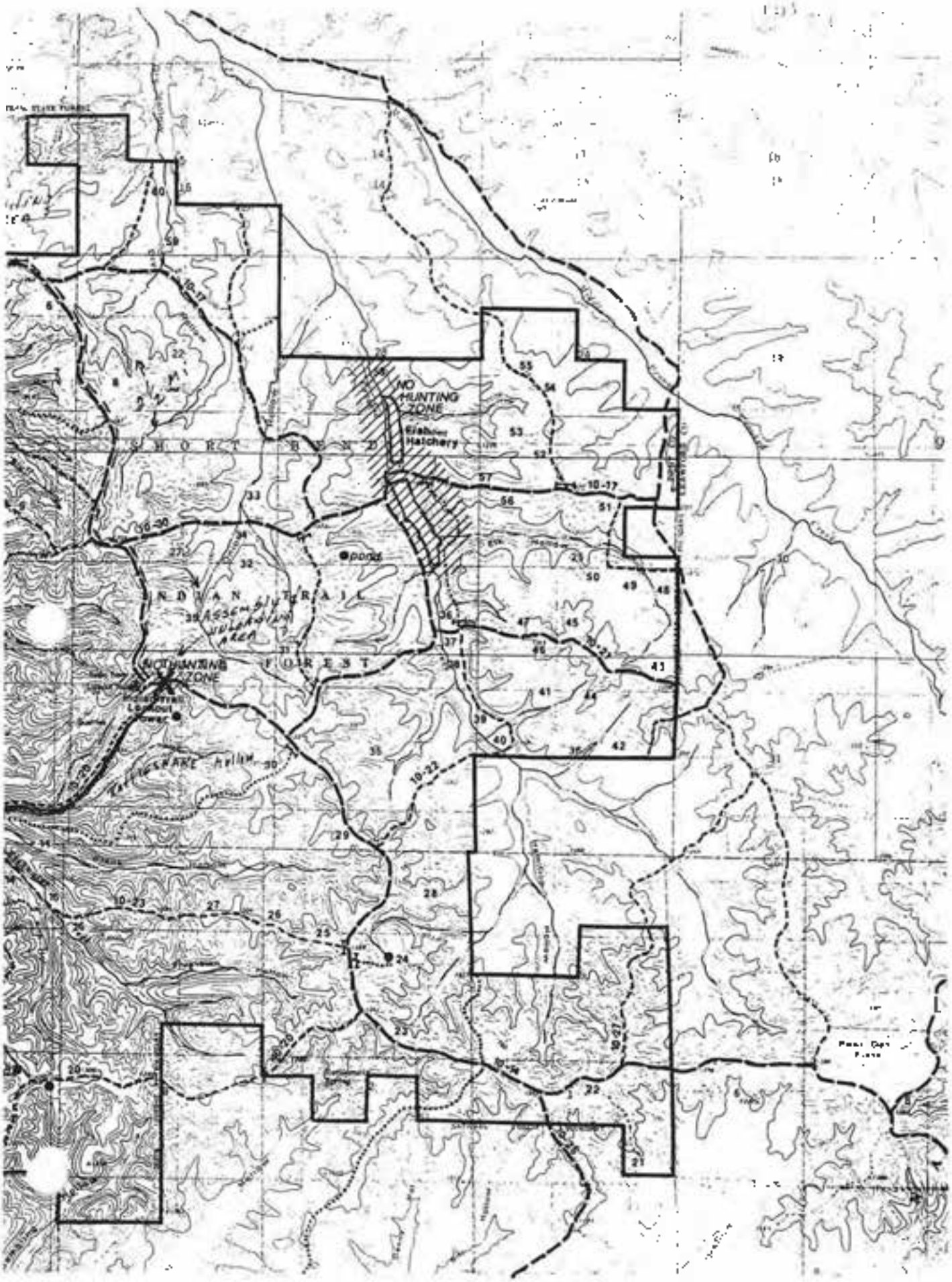
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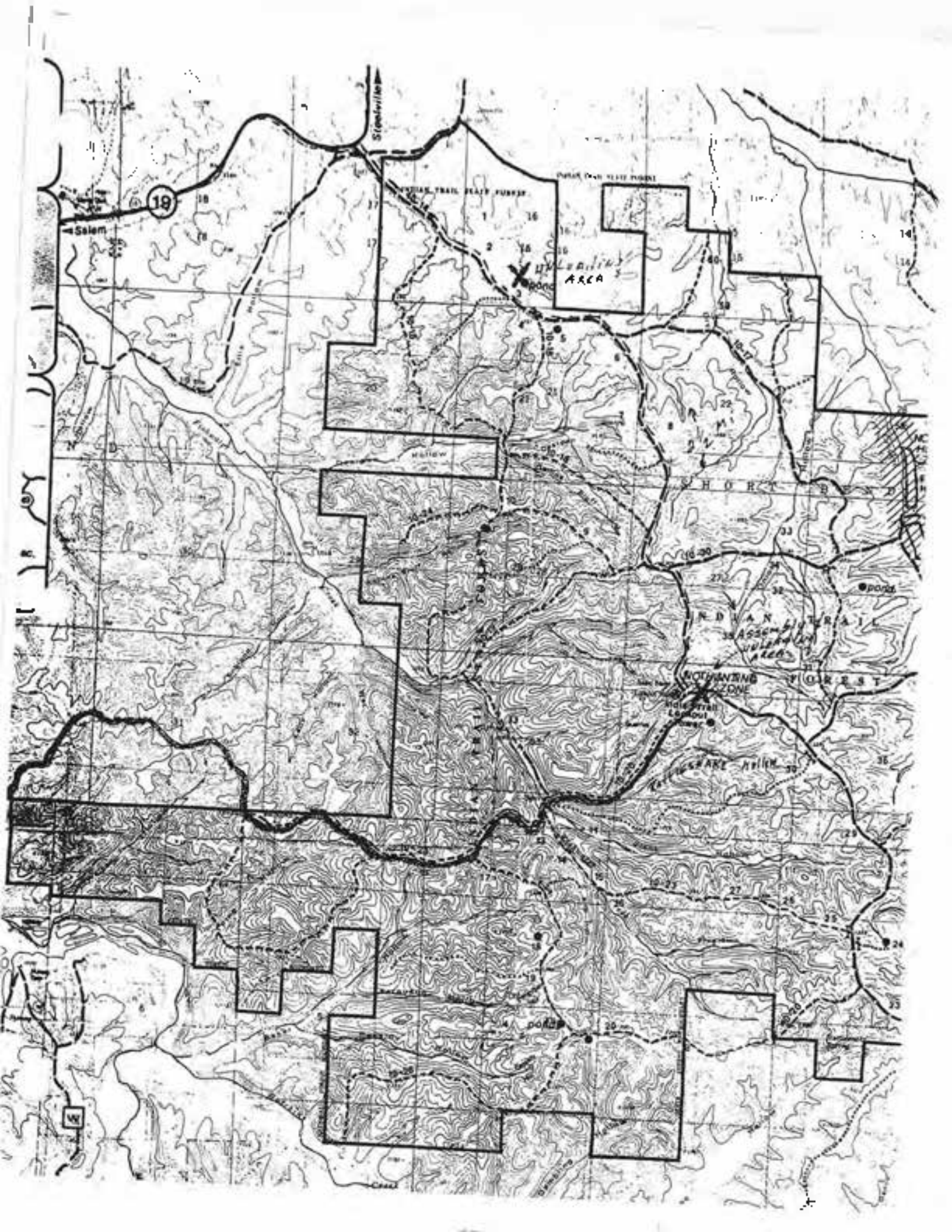
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The Salem News

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Volume LXXIII Number 23 June 21, 1988

Trail of Tears dedicated Thursday

INDIAN DOCUMENT READ – Lyle Foley read a letter from Principal Cherokee Chief Wilma P. Mankiller during the Trail of Tears dedication Thursday afternoon around the Dent County courthouse.

Seventy people attended the horse and wagon tour of the Trail of Tears Thursday that ended with the trail dedication at the Dent County courthouse.

Bob Runner, Dent County historical society member and one of the several that devoted many hours to the trail development, said 45 horses, four mules, five horse teams and two mule teams were used on the trail ride.

The ride started at 8 a.m. Thursday on the White River Trace at Indian Trail State Park and ended at approximately 2:30 p.m. on the courthouse square.

Al Hayman conducted the trail dedication that included the reading of a letter from Wilma P. Mankiller, principal chief of the Cherokee nation. The letter was read by Lyle P. Foley, retired park ranger.

Before the letter was read, John C. F. Morris, Dent County presiding commissioner, told those gathered that everyone was commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Trail of Tears because it happened.

"It happened because of a greed, avarice, racial prejudice and ignorance and probably ignorance was at the base of it all," Morris said. Morris went on to say that we learn slowly. A little more than 800 years later, we did it again for the same reasons.

"Let's teach our kids better. Once was too much," Morris concluded.

Before reading the letter Foley said that he was honored to be present and that some of his ancestors came over the trace. He said some are buried beside the old white river trace west of Salem.

"We had hoped that the chief or a representative of the Cherokee nation could be here today, however, this could not be," Foley said. "We did receive a letter from the chief which I have the privilege to read to you.

The letter as read by Foley is as follows:

Dear Mr. Morris:

You (the public-spirited citizens of Dent County) are to be commended for your celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Trail of Tears..

As all of you know, this was a long and tortuous journey for my people but instead of arriving in Indian Territory as a beaten and defeated people, we quickly restored ourselves and began setting up a new government.

(Continued on page 3A)

800 LBS. OF ROAST PORK.

DELICATE JOB – Dennis Jessen, left, and Travis Cross take the hog out of pit Saturday afternoon at the city park.

Trail of Tears dedicated Thursday

(Continued From Page 1)

"We have always been a forward-looking people and have endured adversity only to come back stronger than before. It is no wonder that we have taken the legend of the Phoenix who was restored from the ashes as the symbol of our tribe.

I hope each of you who participate in this celebration will experience the same sense of renewal as you walk or ride along the Trail of Those who Cried. Thank you for remembering the spirits of our ancestors in this most honorable way.

The original letter is intended to be to the Historical Society with the intent that it be placed in the Dent County Museum.

Rep. Ken Fiebelman participated in some of the tour. During a short speech he mentioned some of the trail's important historical points.

He said the tour stopped at the old Louis Dent farm for lunch, later toured the old Nelson mill and the Taylor Lenox pasture. The group came close to the McSpadden farm where the first store in Dent County was located. The tour also came close to the Nelson Grist mill, the first wheat mill in Dent County. Fiebelman also talked about the Rev. E. A. Hight, the first Baptist minister in Dent County.

"The White River Trace was like I-44 is today," Fiebelman said. He said the Meramec, Dry Fork and Spring Creek were major streams used by early settlers.

July 1-[illegible]

The Final Trail of Tears Study of June 1986 has been completed by the National Park Service and the report,complete with maps, Historic Sites,Trail History,historic background and public recreational opportunities are now available to be studied for the purpose of making the Cherokee Trail of Tears a National Historic Trail.

To qualify as a National Historic Trail. A trail must be a trail established by historic use and must be historically significant as a result of that use.

The location of the trail must be sufficiently known to generate historical interest and permit public recreation opportunities. A designated trail should generally follow the historic route,but may deviate if necessary to avoiddifficult development or to provide a route offering a more pleasurable recreation experience,if such deviations be noted on site.

A trail must be of national significance to American history with a far reaching effect of American Culture.

Historical background — The Trail Of Tears

As early as 1802 Thomas Jefferson first proposed moving some Indians to west of the Mississippi river. Throught the years white settlers encroached on Indian lands and demanded title. Despite efforts by the Indians to adopt white man's ways,they were harrassed by the whites and conflicts continued. in 1830 with the support of president Andrew Jackson,Congress passed the Indian Removal Act. Between 1830 and 1832,all of the tribes but the Cherokee signed treaties and moved west to what is now

Oklahoma. The Cherokees refused to leave their homelands and twice fought their battle to the Supreme Court of the United States. Although the second decision declared that the United States Government,must protect the Indians, president Andrew Jackson failed to enforce the decision, and State and local officials confiscated Indian lands. In 1835 a minority group, speaking for the whole tribe,signed a removal treaty at New Echota,Georgia and moved west. During 1837 and 1838,government soldiers under the direction of Gen. Win Field Scott rounded up and moved the balance of the Cherokees into stockades,scattered across the Cherokee Nations lands,With the exception of those who escaped and went into hiding in the Great Smoky mountains. From the stockades the Cherokees were forcibly moved west by water and overland. Thousands died in the stockades and along the overland Trail of tears. Portions of the routes used by all of the five Civilized Tribes — The Cherokee,Creek,Choctaw, Chickasaw,and Seminole Indians are equally significant and will be addressed in a broad sense.

The National Park Service has assumed responsibility for the study. In addition to the National Park Service,a study manager and a study Advisory Committee will be asked to review study report material and assist with public involvement. Special interest groups,such as trail associations, conservation groups and historical societies will be encouraged to provide information. The study advisory committee is composed of representatives from the Cherokees,each of the nine States within the study area, federal agencies and academic Historians.

The study will identify a general 'Trail corridor;" evaluate the historic,cultural and natural attributes throught the corridor; analyze present and future land use,explore potential trail administration;examine the possible environmental impacts of national designation and develop an array of trail alternatives. The study report will graphically and in writing summarize information gathered during the planning process. A draft study report will be circulated for a public review and comment period prior to being finalized and sent to the Secretary of the Interior. If the Secretary concurs with the findings and recommendations of the study report,he then will transmit it to the President and Congress for legislative action.

During initial phases of the Trail of Tears study,numerous trail routes were considered and mapped for use during discussions at public meetings throught the nine state study area. In an attempt to narrow the scope of the study proposal to what was considered realistic,manageable and feasible the park service planning team decided to select one primary overland route to propose for designation rather than proposing all known routes. Varying routes are an issue west of the Mississippi river. all parties of the Cherokees followed generally the same route until reaching Cape Girardeau,Missouri. A number of comments were received during public review of the draft study urging the Service to consider additional routes . At least three known routes are known to have crossed Missouri. The southern route from Cape Girardeau through Jackson,Greenville and to the Arkansas line. The center route,through Fredericktown Farmington,and Osage,where they intercepted the white river

Trail which they followed by Montauk,Dressie Ann and campground, Birch Pond,Licking,Elsworth,Astoria,Hartville and to the Kickapoo Prairie near Springfield. The third and most northern route and the route the B.B.Cannon party followed crossed the White River Trail route in 1837 near Osage and went by the Massey Iron Works at Meramec Spring(the Big Lick),through Waynesville and arrived at Springfield on December 10-1837 and for eight more days they traveled the route across Flat Creek to Cross Hollows and Cane Hill,which brought the party into Cherokee lands on December 25 1837,where they refused to go any farther. The groups that followed the White River Trail route probably followed the B.B. Cannon party route from where it intercepted it north of Springfield to the new Cherokee lands in what is now Oklahoma.

Sharp Knife,a name given to Andrew Jackson by the Indians,took office as President of the United States in 1829. During his frontier career,Sharp Knife and his soldiers had slain thousands of Cherokees,Chickasaws,Choctaws,Creeks,and Seminoles,but these southern indians were still numerous and clung stubbornly to their tribal lands,which had been assigned them forever by white men's treaties. In Sharp Knife's first message to his Congress, he recommended that all these Indians be removed westward beyond the Mississippi river. "I suggest the propriety of setting apart an ample district west of the Mississippi ...to be guaranteed to the Indian tribes, as long as they shall occupy it."

On May 28th,1830,Sharp Knife's recommendations became law. Then on June 30,1834,Congress passed an act to regulate trade with the Indian tribes and to preserve peace on the frontiers. All that part of the United States west of the Mississippi,"

and not within the States of Missouri and Louisiana or the Territory of Arkansas would be Indian country and no white person would be permitted to settle on it. The military forces of the United States would be employed in the apprehension of any white person found in violation of the provisions of the Act.

Before these laws could be put into effect, a new wave of white settlers swept westward and formed the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa. This made it necessary for the policy makers in Washington to shift the "permanent Indian frontier" from the Mississippi River to the 95th meridian. (This line ran from Lake of the Woods on what is now the Minnesota-Canada border, southward through what are now the states of Minnesota and Iowa, and then along the western borders of Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, to Galveston Bay, Texas.) [illegible] and the 95th meridian and to provide [illegible] a series of military posts that ran southwest from Fort Snelling on the Mississippi River to forts Atkinson and Leavenworth on the Missouri, forts Gibson and Smith on the Arkansas, Fort Towson on the Red, and Fort Jesup in Louisiana.

The decade following establishment of the permanent Indian frontier was a bad time for the eastern tribes. The great Cherokee nation had survived more than a hundred years of the white man's wars, disease and whisky, but now it was to be blotted out. Because the Cherokees numbered several thousands, their removal to the west was planned to be in orderly stages, but the discovery of gold within their territory brought on a clamor for

their immediate unbearable exodus.

During the autumn of 1838 several thousand Cherokees evaded the army units sent to round them into camps, a few hundred escaped to the nearby mountains and were not captured, many years later they were allowed a small reservation in North Carolina, where their descendants now live.) The capital of the Eastern Cherokee Tribe of today is Cherokee, NC.

From the prison camps of Gen. Scott the sorrowing Cherokees were started west to what was to be Indian Territory for ever. On the long winter trek, one of every four Cherokees died from cold, hunger, or disease. They called the march their "trail of tears". The Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles also gave up their homelands, and surviving remnants of Shawnees, Miamis, Ottawas, Hurons, Delawares, and other once mighty tribes walked or traveled by horseback and wagon carrying their shabby goods, and their rusty farming tools to a strange land beyond the Mississippi, arriving as refugees poor and brokenhearted.

Scarcely were the poor Indians settled behind the security of what was to be "permanent Indian Country" when U.S. Soldiers began marching through the Indian country to conquer Mexico. When the war with Mexico ended in 1847 the U.S. took possession of a vast territory reaching from Texas to California and all of it was west of the so called "permanent Indian Frontier. To justify the breaches of the "permanent Indian frontier", including the gold rush to Cal. in 1849, the policy makers in Washington invented the term, "manifest Destiny", lifting land stealing to a loftier plane. And so it went, until the last Indian lands were taken and his heart buried at Wounded Knee, at Christmas time in 1890.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 5, 1988 MISSOURI PUBLICATIONS ONLY
BY: Trail of Tears Commission, Inc. Carole Magnus (314)783-5235
Wagon Train Project - Missouri Section

At a conference in Hopkinsville, Kentucky last week, the representatives of the six states in which the Trail of Tears lies, voted unanimously to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the trail with a wagon train which will originate at Red Clay, Tennessee and retrace, as closely as possible, the original route of the illegal, forced Cherokee migration in the winter of 1838-39. This forced march, to remove the Indians from their ancestral homelands in Georgia and North Carolina to the Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma, resulted in the death of an estimated 4,000 Indians of the 15,000 which were removed. Thus it earned its name, "Trail of Tears". The trail was made a part of the National Trail System in legislation signed by President Reagan in December 1987.

The wagon train will pass through the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas to its destination at Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

The departure date has been set for 8:00 AM, Saturday, September 17, 1988. The governors of all six states are being invited to take part in commemorative ceremonies the night before the train leaves.

Each of the six states are being invited to have an official state wagon to represent the state on the wagon train. In addition, the five tribes of Chocktaw, Creek, Chickasaws, Seminoles and Cherokees are also invited to have a representative wagon, for all of these tribes were forced to remove to Indian Territory, west of the

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Mississippi River.

Because there were 13 separate groups of Cherokees approximately 1,000 Indians each, some groups were forced to take slightly different routes than the main trail in their search for game to feed their people.

In order to include the other communities through which the Indians passed during the winter of 1838-39, wagon train organizers are inviting communities such as Caledonia, Salem and others, not directly on the nationally recognized route to organize "spur" routes. These groups would organize smaller wagon trains which would follow the less recognized route and then move north or west to link up with the main wagon train as it crosses Missouri.

Volunteers are immediately needed in the following counties to coordinate and care for the wagon train while it is in their county: Cape Girardeau, Bollinger, Madison, St. Francois, Washington Crawford, Phelps, Pulaski, Laclede, Webster, Greene, Christian, Lawrence, Barry, McDonald, Wayne, Butler and Ripley. Volunteers can call the Department of Natural Resources toll free number at 1-800-334-6946 or write or call Carole Magnus, at Rolla Forestry Bldg. 9-7-8 Missouri Representative for the Trail of Tears Wagon Train, Route One, Box 468 Fredericktown, MO (314) 783-5235.

This commemorative effort is getting a late start, but if each county takes their share of the responsibility for the wagon train, Missouri's effort will be second to none! 9-17-82 Red Clay Council Gro

The wagon train leaves in about 70 days. There's no time to lose. Climb aboard today.

Plans are to be at Meramec Spring 10-26-88

Burial site of chief's wife remains mystery today

James Bailey/The Times

Quatie's grave? A simple upright gravestone commemorates Quatie Ross, wife of Cherokee Chief John Ross, at a cemetery in Little Rock, Ark. But her remains are not necessarily buried beneath the stone. Quatie Ross died during the Trail of Tears removal in 1839.

Richard L. Coate

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Where is Quatie Ross buried?

Is the first lady of the Cherokee nation, who died during the Trail of Tears, interred beneath the bustle Federal Building, which covers a square block of downtown Little Rock?

Or was her body put in the murky brown waters of the Arkansas River after she died on a boat traveling upriver to Oklahoma?

Nobody knows for sure just where Quatie's body is. But there is one place where it most likely isn't — under her simple, three-foot-high, moss-covered gravestone in Mount Holly Cemetery south of downtown Little Rock.

"We know she was not buried there," said Peg Smith, a member of the cemetery association and an expert on the cemetery's history. Mount Holly is the final resting place for nine Arkansas governors and five Confederate generals.

Smith said burials at the cemetery did not begin until 1841. Quatie died four years earlier — on Feb. 1, 1839. And the three-foot-high gravestone on a hill overlooking the Arkansas capitol and Little Rock's skyline was not erected until 1935, when it was put there by Quatie's multiple great-granddaughters, Smith said.

"Most historians think she was buried in the river," Smith said.

She said that in the 1830s, boatloads of Indian travelers had died were not allowed to dock in the city because officials feared malaria epidemics. To hide evidence of death, steamboat crewmen put the bodies into the river.

If Quatie's body was brought ashore, she probably was buried near the cemetery in a grave beneath the Federal Building, an eight-story structure constructed in 1960. Before the government purchased the site, a high school stood there.

But back in 1839, the dead were not preserved with embalming techniques, as they are today. So if Quatie's body was buried under the wet Delta soil at the old cemetery in 1839, by the time she was moved to Mount Holly after it opened in 1843, Smith said:

"I expect there wasn't too much to move," she said.

Bruce Ross of Tahlequah, Okla., the great-great grandson of Quatie and John Ross, said he has no idea where Quatie's remains are.

"The word in the family has always been that she's not buried there (at Mount Holly)," he said.

Quatie, Chief John Ross and other members of their family were in the last group of Cherokee who left Tennessee in the November 1838. Ross had remained behind to oversee the removal.

They traveled overland as far as the Kentucky bank of the Ohio River when Quatie fell ill. Ross arranged for a boat to take them the rest of the way.

Quatie died just before Little Rock. Her [illegible] and [illegible] her [illegible] said.

Therefore, legend says she taught people [illegible] after giving her burial to a sick [illegible].

Sometime in the equal, the national capital of the removed Cherokee, recently contacted a representative of the cemetery committee and asked to have Quatie's remains moved to Oklahoma, Smith said.

"We had to tell them there weren't any," she said.

Arkansas: expelled Indians' first limbo

By Richard Shumate
The Times

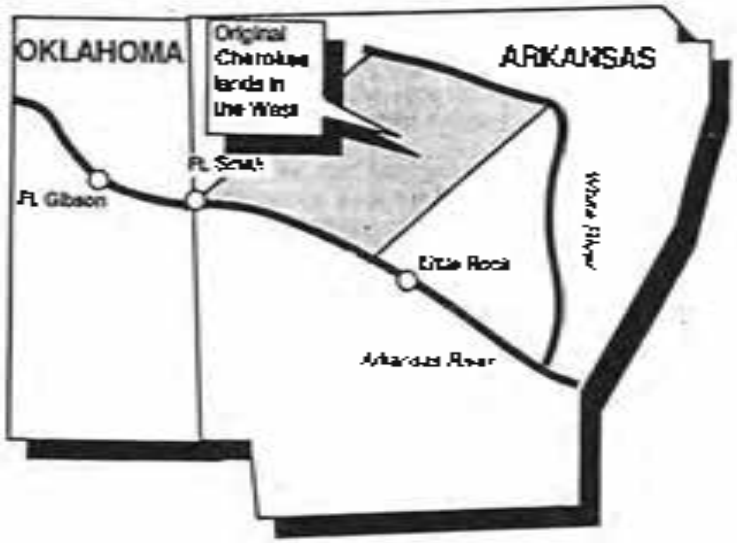
FT. SMITH, Ark. – The Cherokee migration over the Trail of Tears in 1838 was not the first Indian trek west, and Oklahoma was not the first new homeland.

That distinction belongs to Arkansas. And the story of the first Cherokee homeland is another tale of promises by the white man to the Indian that dissolved in the face of settlers' and speculators' hunger for land.

"We simply were not prepared to let good land go to waste. And it was thought that giving good land to Indians was a waste," said Brad Agnew, a professor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., and an authority on Cherokee history.

The idea of moving the Cherokee and other Indian tribes west originated with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, when the United States acquired vast tracts of land in what is now the central region of the United States.

In the years that followed, a few Cherokee were convinced to move to a new homeland in Arkansas, between the Arkansas and White rivers. The first big migration came in 1809 when a dissident Chief Tahlonteskee led 2,000 Cherokee to a settlement east of Fort Smith.



First Cherokee Nation in the West, 1817 to 1828.

Under the Treaty of 1817, which allowed the Cherokee to exchange their land in the East for real estate in Arkansas, another 4,000 Cherokee migrated, most of them from Tennessee. Among the emigres was Sequoyah, who developed the written Cherokee language.

But the Cherokee did not get along with the Osage Indians, who occupied adjacent land in what now are Kansas and Oklahoma. So the federal government built Fort Smith and assigned troops to keep peace on the frontier.

Today, the city of Fort Smith, second largest in Arkansas, sits on the border between Arkansas and Oklahoma.

But the fort that preceeded the city was abandoned in 1825, when the U.S. Army moved further west and established Fort Gibson further up the Arkansas River. White settlers began to move into the Cherokee region, rich in agricultural land. That prompted the tribe to petition Congress in 1826 to order the whites out.

Instead, a treaty was negotiated and in 1828, the Cherokee were moved further west, into what is now Oklahoma – land that was not as rich.

Fort Gibson then replaced Fort Smith as the center for Army units keeping peace on the frontier.

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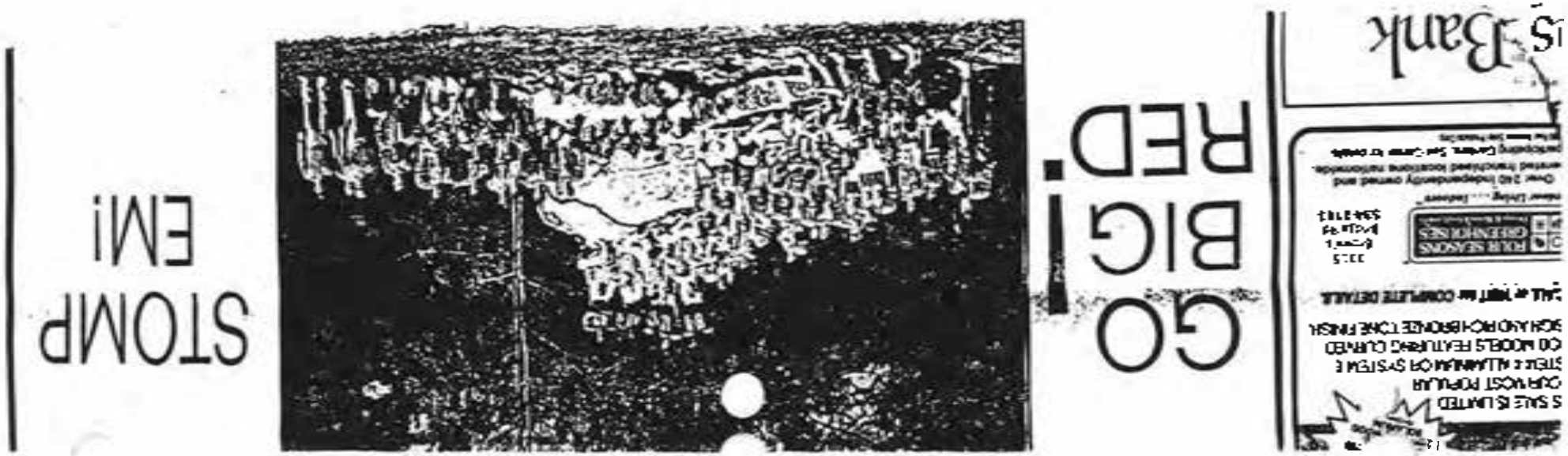


Jackson, once a frontiersman himself and a speculator, had sided with Georgia.

May 23, 1838 was set for the final day of Cherokee land occupation. No ifs, ands or buts.

On July 26, 1827, the Cherokee tribe in council at New Echota, wrote a constitution for the Cherokee Republic and within a month had elected its first president, Charles R. Hicks.

The Constitution of the United States forbids the erection of a new state within the borders of an existing state without the consent of that state. Georgia had not been asked for her consent, therefore, Jackson sided with the state of Georgia and the Cherokee Constitution had violated the United States Constitution. He gave no consideration to the Treaty of 1785 whereby the Cherokee were to be a self-governing nation.

Less than two thousand Cherokee volunteered to be removed before the final day. They were moved west by water, rail, and overland. They were herded on boats and rafts more like cattle than humans. Open railroad cars added to the exposure and fatigue. Sickness took its toll and more than three hundred drown when the steamboat Mammoth sank. *These may not have been cherokee.*

By January 1837, several hundred Cherokee had gathered at New Echota, mostly treaty signers and followers of John Ridge and Stand Watie who wished to remove themselves by land.

They were waiting for the proper officers to make final settlement and deliver the funds promised them. A few weeks later it was reported that a large company of the most intelligent had availed themselves of the provisions of the treaty which authorized them to emigrate themselves and families. They set out for Arkansas by land. We estimate the number in this company at six hundred. "Boasting" that large sums of money had been placed where it would be most effective. The policy of making prudent advances to the intelligent and wealthy had gone far to remove opposition to the treaty among the most influential.

The first party to be emigrated by the government under the terms of the treaty was four hundred sixty six Cherokees with Dr. John B. Jones in charge. They embarked from Ross Landing on March 6, 1837, in eleven flatboats traveling in three sections.

The second emigration party numbering three hundred sixty five with B. B. Cannon as conductor was routed overland through Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri. They set out from the Cherokee Agency October 14, 1837. They passed through the Cumberland Mountains, passed through McMinnville, Murfreesborough, crossed the Cumberland River on the toll bridge at Nashville and reached Graves, Kentucky on October 31. They passed through Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Princeton and Sales. On November 5, they reached Berry's Ferry on the Ohio River, but high winds prevented

them from crossing into Illinois until the next day. They were detained on the tenth of November while they built a bridge across the Cypress Creek and the next day they passed through Jonesboro, Illinois. On November 12 they were crossing the Mississippi River into Missouri when high winds stopped their progress and it was not until November 14 that they were all across. They stopped to rest and wash on the sixteenth and left the Reese, Starr and Taylor families there, some very sick. They passed through Jackson, Missouri and camped at widow Roberts on the road via Farmington where a considerable number obtained liquor and became drunk. G. B. Cannon got up at midnight to settle the drunken parties. From Farmington, the route lay through Caledonia and the Courtois Diggings toward the Meramec River. On November 25, in camp at Dozier Creek (old Osage), Dr. G. S. Townsend, the attending physician, found it necessary to halt the march. More than sixty of the party were too sick to travel, suffering from a bowel disorder of a dangerous character. The disorder and fever continued to spread until two thirds of the party were effected. Dr. Townsend continued to treat the party and five deaths were reported before the party continued their westward march on December 4, 1857. It was near that camp that the G. B. Cannon party crossed the White River Trail leading from St. Louis to the White River and continued on their journey hampered by extreme cold, shortage of food and fodder to reach

Massey's Iron Works on December 6. The party limped through Waynesville on December 9th where G. W. Gibson squatted in 1831 and built the first log cabin near the Spring, a watering place on the Kickapoo Creek. The town was platted in 1839. The spring empties a large flow into the Roubidoux Creek. They crossed the Gasconade River on the tenth and passed above the James Fork of the White River and entered Springfield on the sixteenth. About ten miles from Springfield, the party camped at Mr. Dyos' place, where they waited for medicine to arrive from back at Springfield and three more died. The party resumed their march on the 19th. For eight more days they travelled on the route across Flat Creek to Cross Hollows and Cane Hill, which brought the party into Cherokee lands on December 28, 1837 where they refused to go any farther. They had been on the journey for 77 days, 15 of the 365 had died and they felt the great need to camp and minister to the needs of the many sick. The B. B. Cannon party was composed of a part of the less than 2,000 Cherokee who had come in to be removed voluntarily. On December 30, 1837, B. B. Cannon turned his party over to Lieutenant Van Horne in Cherokee territory Oklahoma, sick, undernourished, heartbroken and penniless.

By June 16, 1838, General Scott and his men had taken some 15,000 Cherokee as prisoners and were holding them in stockades ready for the forced removal to lands near Fort Gibson in Oklahoma. Some escaped to the mountains and

caves and were never captured. There are approximately 5,000 descendants of those who escaped still living on the Qualla Indian Reservation in the east.

The migration began at Rattle Snake Spring about two miles south of the Hiwassee River near Charleston, Tennessee. There, the Cherokee held council and decided to continue their tribal laws and customs in the new lands of the west.

The approach of the cholera season and the beginning of a long drought, which had dried up the streams and made overland travel impractical, caused General Scott to agree to a request by the leading men of the tribe that removal be halted until fall. He also agreed to let the tribe under the supervision of John Ross move itself. Under Ross's supervision the tribesmen were divided into thirteen parties, each headed by a conductor who was assisted by wagon masters, farriers, commissaries and physicians. Wagons to carry property and the ill were provided at an estimated cost of $66 per person. The distance to be travelled was 900 miles, and it was estimated that 80 days would be needed to complete the journey, but none made it in less than four months and one party was on the road more than six months.

George Hicks, one of the conductors on the trail, wrote a letter to John Ross which reflects the feelings of the Cherokee and some of their problems soon after departure. "It is with sorrow that we are forced by the

white man to quit the scenes of our childhood. Since we have been on the march, many of us have been stopped and our horses taken from our teams for the payment of unjust and past demands. Yet the government says we must go, and its citizens say, 'you must pay me,' and if the debtor has not the means, the property of his next friend is levied on, and yet the government has not given us the spoil promised. Our property has been stolen and robbed from us by the white men and no means given us to pay our debts."

Private John G. Burnett who fluently spoke the Cherokee language has the following to offer in regard to the removal of the Cherokee.

> I was sent into the Hickory Mountain country as interpreter in May 1838 and witnessed the execution of the most brutal order in the history of American warfare. I saw the helpless Cherokee arrested and dragged from their homes, and driven at the bayonet point into the stockades. In the chill of a drizzling rain on an October morning, I saw the very old and very young loaded into six hundred and forty-five wagons and started to the west. One can never forget the sadness of that morning. Chief John Ross led in prayer and then the bugle sounded and the wagons started rolling and many of the children rose to their feet waving their little hands good-bye to their homeland knowing they were leaving forever. Many of these helpless people had left their homes without blankets and many barefooted. Nine of the thirteen parties which contained some 1,000 to each party, started the journey in October and four in November. The final chapter of the eastern Cherokee nation...the beginning of the end of a proud people was at hand. With bowed heads and all they owned on their backs...the Cherokee were finally giving up their home

> lands. In less than a hundred years, the Cherokee had lost all of a vast domain that included parts of the Virginias, Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama to the white man.

Private John Burnett continued with the Cherokee removal from May 1838 until they reached the end of the fateful journey on March 26, 1839. He states:

> On the morning of November 17th, the parties encountered a terrific sleet and snow storm with freezing temperatures and from that day on the suffering was awful. They had to sleep in the wagons and on the ground...many times without fire. I have known as many as twenty-two of them to die in one night of pneumonia due to ill treatment, cold and exposure. I did all that a private soldier could do to alleviate their sufferings. When on guard duty at night I have many times walked my beat in my blouse in order that some sick child might have the warmth of my overcoat. I was on guard duty the night Mrs. Ross died. When relieved at midnight, I did not retire, but remained around the wagon out of sympathy for Chief Ross. At daylight, I was detailed to assist in the burial. Like the other unfortunates, her uncoffined body was buried in a shallow grave by the roadside far from her native mountain home and the sorrowing caravan moved on.
>
> The only trouble that I personally had with anyone on the entire journey was with a brutal teamster by the name of Ben McDonal, who was using his whip on an old feeble Cherokee to hasten him into the wagon. The sight of that old and nearly blind creature quivering under the lashes of a bull whip was too much for me. I attempted to stop McDonal and it ended in a personal encounter. He lashed me across the face...the wire tip on his whip cutting a bad gash in my cheek. The little hatchet that I had carried since my hunting days was in my belt...and McDonal was carried unconscious from the scene. I was placed under guard, but when Captain McClellan received the facts of the case, I was never brought to trial. McDonal finally recovered and in 1851 was running on a boat out of Memphis, Tennessee.

> In the year of 1828, a little Indian boy living on Yahoo Creek sold a gold nugget to a white trader and that nugget sealed the doom of the Cherokee. The Indians were the legal possessors, but many were shot in cold blood, lands were confiscated, homes burned and the inhabitants driven out. I can truthfully say that I did my best for them when they certainly did need a friend. However, murder is murder whether committed by villians or by uniformed soldiers stepping to the strains of martial music. Someone must explain the streams of blood that flowed in the Cherokee country in the summer of 1838. Someone must explain the four thousand silent graves that mark the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

Private Burnett closed his report saying:

> I wish I could forget it all, but the picture of one-hundred and forty-five wagons lumbering over the frozen ground with their cargo of suffering humanity still lingers in my memory.

At intervals from 1837 through the winter of 1838-39 starving bands of Indians, especially the Cherokee wound their way from Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, the Carolinas and Kentucky across Illinois to the Mississippi River where they crossed into Missouri at or near Cape Girardeau.

As early as October 21, Jesse Bushyhead had reported that many were sick and the horses and oxen were weak. The roads were cut up by the wagons, horses, cattle and battle and it was difficult for people walking and the struggling horses and oxen. We have bid farewell to our country and all of our possessions that we hold dear. There were some 13,000 of these Cherokee who would not consent to leave until the last moment. Those Indians now on their way west were driven from their homes without

either their property or compensation for its loss. Jesse Bushyhead's party held a council and sent a message to Ross saying they had been compelled to leave without satisfaction of their claims and they feared fraudulent demands would be made to defeat them. They urged that no further consideration of them be had while they were denied the opportunity of being present.

The start had been late and slow travel had caused them to be caught by the early winter. At the Mississippi crossing some parties were delayed as long as a month, because ice had formed on the river too thick for the ferries to operate. Thousands gathered at the crossing and hundreds were sick...many dying from disease caused from exposure and poor nutrition. With no shelter, they piled up in wagons or stretched upon the ground with only one blanket each to protect them from the winter blast. It was at this camp that the ordeal was named the Trail of Tears.

When the ice broke up sufficient to allow crossing some were ferried across on a horse ferry operated by Thomas Nichols and Jacob Littleton at Williard's Landing, others crossed some miles below. They camped near the crossings until all were across. More died, including the supposed fair daughter of Jesse Bushyhead, Princess Otahki, who contacted disease from caring for the sick to whom she had been so faithful. She was buried on the

hills along the trail overlooking the great river.

Years later in 1956, the Trail of Tears State Park was developed at the grave site of Princess Otahki. The park is on a 3,546 acre tract of land ten miles north of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Legend handed down from generation to generation has said that the dreadful ordeal 150 years back in history of the United States Government forced exodus of the Cherokee from their homes east of the Mississippi is passed over with few words in most textbooks...as that was a part of the settling of the American frontier that most Americans would like to forget, but the blot will always remain.

A Georgia volunteer, later a colonel in the Confederate service, said, "I fought through the Civil war and have seen men shot to pieces and slaughtered by the thousands, but the Cherokee removal was the cruelest work I have ever witnessed."

Before and during the forced exodus of the Cherokee, many Indian trails criss-crossed the Ozark Plateau, made by the Shawnee, Delaware, Osage, Kickapoo and a few Peories. These trails are shown on a map that was entered in the clerk's office of the United States District Court of Missouri on the 4th of March 1844 by Edward Hidava. The Trail of Tears followed some of those old trails, including the two parties that went by Greenville

some followed the old Kickapoo trail by Waynesville and others followed the White River Trail by Montauk Springs and Birch Pond across present day Dent County.

When the weary travelers left camp on the west side of the Mississippi, they soon started to climb the Ozark Plateau, which lays between Crawley's Ridge on the south and the Gasconade and Missouri watershed on the north, a land of forest, small prairies, many springs and clear streams.

At Jackson, Missouri, two parties of approximately two thousand, took a southerly route to Greenville and by Big Spring on the Current River south of Van Buren before crossing the state line into Arkansas. At least a part of that group went by Green Forest, Berryville and Grandview, Arkansas and crossed the White River at Blue Spring and reached their destination by way of Bentonville. The other group followed the old Fallen Ash Military Road on the north side of the White River to Fort Smith, Batesville, Huntsville, and Fayetteville to their destination.

A historical marker near Pea Ridge describes the Cherokee Trail of Tears. "Here past a part of the 20,000 Cherokees driven from their Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia mountains to Indian Territory. 645 wagons, 5,000 ponies and thousands forced to walk. A party with John Benge as conductor passed through Batesville, Arkansas

on December 15th, and least a part of that party had left Alabama October 10th. Fifty of the group died on the way."

Twelve hundred passed through Smithville on December 12th. They had 100 wagons and fine horses, the party and their teams consumed about 150 bushels of corn per day. Measles and whooping cough was taking toll on children, averaging four deaths a day.

One could easily get the mistaken idea from the many trails in the area that the Ozarks had been thickly populated by Indians, but not so. The tribes were small and food produced by nature would not support a large population.

Eleven detachments of the group that camped on the Missouri side of the Mississippi near Cape Girardeau where the elevation is 356 ft. and where a trading post was established in 1795 by Louis Lorimier, started their ascention of the Ozark Plateau. The trail took to the low hills and valleys curving north to avoid swamp lands, traveling through Cape Girardeau, Madison, St. Francois, Washington, Crawford, Ashley, Wright, Green, and Lawrence counties before leaving Missouri. Some of the most northern groups passed through Polaski County. They passed through the towns of Jackson, Fredericktown, Farmington, Harmony, and intercepted the White River Trail at Osage Spring and Camp Grounds (near what is now known as the old Huzzah Post Office on Huzzah Creek).

How many crossed the White River Trail and went by the Iron Works at Meramec Spring (called the Big Lick by native Indians) and how many took the White River Trail route, no one knows.

The detachments that went by the Iron Works (established in 1826) went on to Little Piney (now known as Arlington), Little Prairie, and Waynesville and followed the Kickapoo trace to the Kickapoo prairie near Springfield (where the Kickapoo and Delaware occupied the town site in 1822.)

The thousands that traveled the White River Trail portion of the Trail of Tears followed the middle ridge from the Osage Spring southwest. The present Highway 49 crosses the old trail some four miles east of Cherryville. The trail continued south in Crawford county east of Sligo and entered Dent County in Section 25, Township 35N, Range 4 west, where a marker is placed. The trail continues southwest to a point above Blackwell Lake (built in 1936-37) by a nice spring and where markers are placed to identify the trail. Continuing southwest near park road 1021 to the junction of park road 1014 near the fire tower and machine sheds in Indian Trail State Park, where 2x3 foot weather proof sign which furnishes information concerning the Trail of Tears has been erected with the help of the forest service. The sign was dedicated September 29, 1996. The trail continues southwest along the ridge above Rattle Snake Hollow, near park road 1020 to where it crossed Fishwater

Creek in Section 33, Township 35, Range 4 west. The Indians camped along Fishwater Creek for a period of rest and a chief put his wigwam by a large white oak tree and in later years the tree was called "The Indian Chief Tree". W. P. Elmer, then a young Salem lawyer, appealed to S. L. Foote, superintendent of the Sligo Furnace Company to save the tree from the woodsmen's ax . The appeal was granted, but a woodsman who failed to get the order in time, cut the tree into cord wood to make charcoal for the Sligo Furnace, so the mighty chief tree went up in smoke. KEITH McCanse of the Missouri Game and Fish Commission named the largest state park in Missouri, Indian Trail State Park.

From Fishwater Creek the trail continues southwest along the forest boundary line in Section 5, Township 34 Range 4 west, where the elevation is 1265 feet to the Dent tract and on to the Dent Cemetery in Section 36 Township 35, Range 5 west, where the elevation is 990 feet. Then to Dents Ford on the Meramec River in Section 2 Township 34 N, Range 5 west, where Lewis Dent from St. Francois County settled in 1835 and entered land in 1836. His stately old home built by slave labor in 1860 stands as a monument to the past in 1986. He was the first Dent County Representative to the State Legislature. Dent County was named in his honor. The farm is owned in 1986 by Robert Maledy. From Dent Ford the

trail followed county road 408 along Whitaker branch, by the Smith Spring to county road 409 by the Day Cemetery in Section 3, Township 34, Range 5 west, to the Chester Phillips farm, where the trail crosses Nelson Branch and continues to the south side of Mooney Lake in Section 4. The lake was built by the late Ezra "Punk" Mooney and owned in 1986 by Dr. Roy Mitchell. Continuing to the south side of Arrow Lakes and along the Shome power line to Section 6 Township 34 Range 5 W where the old St. Louis, Salem and Little Rock Railroad crossed the trail in 1873 and where Highway 19 now crosses the trail at the Shome sub-station and radio tower. On across Section 6 to the Dix farm where Mabel Dix, who married Isaac McDonald, was reared along the trail. Isaac and Mabel McDonald built a new log house near the Dix home along the trail in 1885. Earl McDonald, a son of Mabel and Isaac, lives in the 100 year old home with his wife Lucy in 1986. Highway 68 crosses the trail just south of their house. From the McDonald home the trail crosses Section 1 Township 34 Range 6 West to the old Rolla and Salem road where it enters Section 2 and continues southwest to Montauk Spring and Camp Ground, where emigrants, early settlers, and Indians camped under the canopy of majestic oak and sycamore trees overlooking the Spring Creek crossing where the spring water was cold and good. It was there that Ephraim Bressie opened a store, built an inn, opened

a shop, and farmed some thirteen hundred acres with the help of slave labor. The spot was known from one end of the trail to the other for fine accomodations. Montauk was the second postoffice in what is now Dent County. (Lake Spring was the first.) Bressie entered the land in 1840 and died there on April 11, 1859 and was buried a few yards northeast of the inn by a large pecan tree. In the Bressie plot, a part of the stone fireplace and chimney still remains to remind generations that old things do pass away. The grave stone of Ephraim Bressie is flat on the ground and mostly covered with dirt. It is hoped that permission may soon be granted to reset the grave stone and establish a historical marker at the old store and camp site. This spot is some thirty miles northeast of the present day Montauk State Park. The first appointed officers of Dent County met at Bressie Inn on the first Monday in May 1851 to establish a seat of Justice and the Salem Spring location was chosen. Joseph Hillsap was appointed surveyor and ordered to enter eighty acres of land for the seat of justice, which he did on July 4, 1851 and the town was named Salem. From Montauk the trail crosses Section 10 where Highway 72 crosses it and continues southwest to the Pomeroy road, which crosses the trail a short distance west of the old Pomeroy Iron Mine, which operated in the 1880's and the ore shipped to Sligo. Continuing southwest across Section 9 near the Togleson Cemetery

and on to the county road connecting the Pomeroy and Round Pond roads, and across Section 8 where the trail is crossed by DD Highway at the junction of the Round Pond Road and on to Section 18 where the trail crossed Holt Creek at the north boundary of the old Christopher Howell homestead entered in 1839, the year of the forced exodus of the Cherokee. The cemetery on the hill west of the Holt Creek crossing "old timers" said contain the remains of many weary travelers who were too weak to reach their intended destination. Many of the graves are clearly marked by rough stones at head and foot, but no dates to indicate the time of birth or death. Creeping Myrtle and wild trumpet vines with their many blossoms seem to be natures way of decorating the ancient graves. Large cedar trees shade the spot and are a landmark for searching eyes that seek to view the past. The place is known today as Howell Cemetery. Persons known to Runner who were buried there are: Christopher and Elizabeth Howell, their son Joseph, a Bennett girl, a sister to Gene Bennett the Salem lawyer, a Sprouse girl a sister to Willis Sprouse, Mason Vogel and Berry Townley, an uncle of Rev. Clark Leonard's wife. The well at the old Howell homestead has been a landmark for generations. It is 70 feet deep and walled with rock from bottom to top. In the dry year of 1934, it was cleaned out and produced water for 40 head of cattle and a number of horses and the John Riley family carried

drinking water from it nearly a mile across the woods.

Continuing southwest, the trail crossed old Sandy Dry Fork near McNeill Cemetery and across the bottom to the Mary Huffman home just east of the Mitchell family cemetery where Highway K crosses it and down the point to Birch Pond in Section 26 Township 34 N Range 6 W, a watering place on the old trail. More than a hundred years ago, a school house stood on the hill a short distance southeast of the pond and a spring at the foot of the hill furnished water for the school. John Shelton's mother, Josie McNeill, went to school there when she was a girl. Birch Pond became a post office October 7, 1853. Ezekiel Inman was the post master.

From Birch Pond, the trail went by way of Smoky Hollow to near Mt. Herman. Highway CC crosses it near the Smoky Hollow store.

At Mt. Herman, a wagon train headed west, camped, and a sick child died. The mother was granted permission by Hezekiah Skiles to bury the child on a beautiful hillside in the shade of a tree. That was the first grave in the Skiles Cemetery. It is marked, "First Grave." In 1884, Hezekiah Skiles deeded two acres as a cemetery and Mary Boyd deeded two adjoining acres to Mt. Herman Church. From that time until now the place has been known as Mt. Herman Church and Cemetery, in Section 28 Township 34N, Range 7 W.

Continuing southwest to Dent County Road 254, the trail took to the ridge and followed it by the Smith home and on to the old [redacted] farm where DARREL Gerry Skiles now lives in Section 32, to Dent County Road 250 that crosses the trail at the George Trxos farm. Continuing on across Section 6, Township 33 N, Range 7 W to the Kissock Cemetery where the trail crossed the west prong of Dry Fork and across the bottom to the Texas County line, where it leaves Dent County two miles east of Maples. The trail still visible in some places is marked at road crossings and public accesses by a white marker and stenciled logo of a red tear drop crossed by a white feather, across the entire length in Dent County. The markers were placed April 2nd to May 5th, 1990 by Ed Hill, Ed Ray, Al Hayman, Dale Dent and Ben Penner.

The White River Trail portion of the Trail of Tears was surveyed by government surveyors in 1830 ahead of the U. S. Army in charge of moving the eastern Cherokee to the west. By an act of congress on August 3, 1954, the White River Trail was established as a state road from Osage in Crawford County to Mtnwerth in Texas County.

Probably the last man to ride the White River Trail across Dent County wrote, "I travelled the White River Trail through Dent County in 1870 and a lot of the trail is now timber and hard to find," signed H. A. Bennett. He owned the Howell homestead at the time.

From the Dent and Texas County line, the trail passed near the Concord Cemetery in Texas County and southwest to the old game lick in Section 6, Township 32N, Range 8W where the first log cabin was built by a spring in 1826 and where Licking became a U. S. Post Office in 1859. From Licking continuing southwest, the trail crossed Boone Creek and on to Elsworth on the Big Piney River where the first seat of justice for Texas County was located. Red Top Ormsby was a judge there and on to Cantville, a prominent rafting point in 1838. Continuing southwest to the Kickapoo prairie, the detachments from the northern route intercepted the White River Trail. All followed the same route through Springfield which was laid out in 1839, and the L. B. Cannon party followed to near Fort Gibson in Oklahoma territory.

The following groups and the arrival date in Oklahoma territory are listed below:

625	under B. B. Cannon	arrived 12-30-1837
729	under Eliga Hicks	arrived 1-4-1838
358	under Harris Conrad	arrived 1-7-1839
1200	under John Benge	arrived 1-10-1839
1250	under Situkee	arrived 2-9-1839
960	under Jesse Bushyhead	arrived 2-25-1839
985	under Stephin Foreman	arrived 2-27-1839
1150	under Choo-wa-loo-ka	arrived 3-1-1839
1035	under Mose Daniels	arrived 3-2-1839
850	under Jesse Brown	arrived 3-5-1839

1118	under George Hicks	arrived 3-14-1839
1079	under Richard Taylor	arrived 3-24-1839
1766	under Pete Hilderbrand	arrived 3-25-1839
219	under John Ross	arrived ?

13,762 arrived

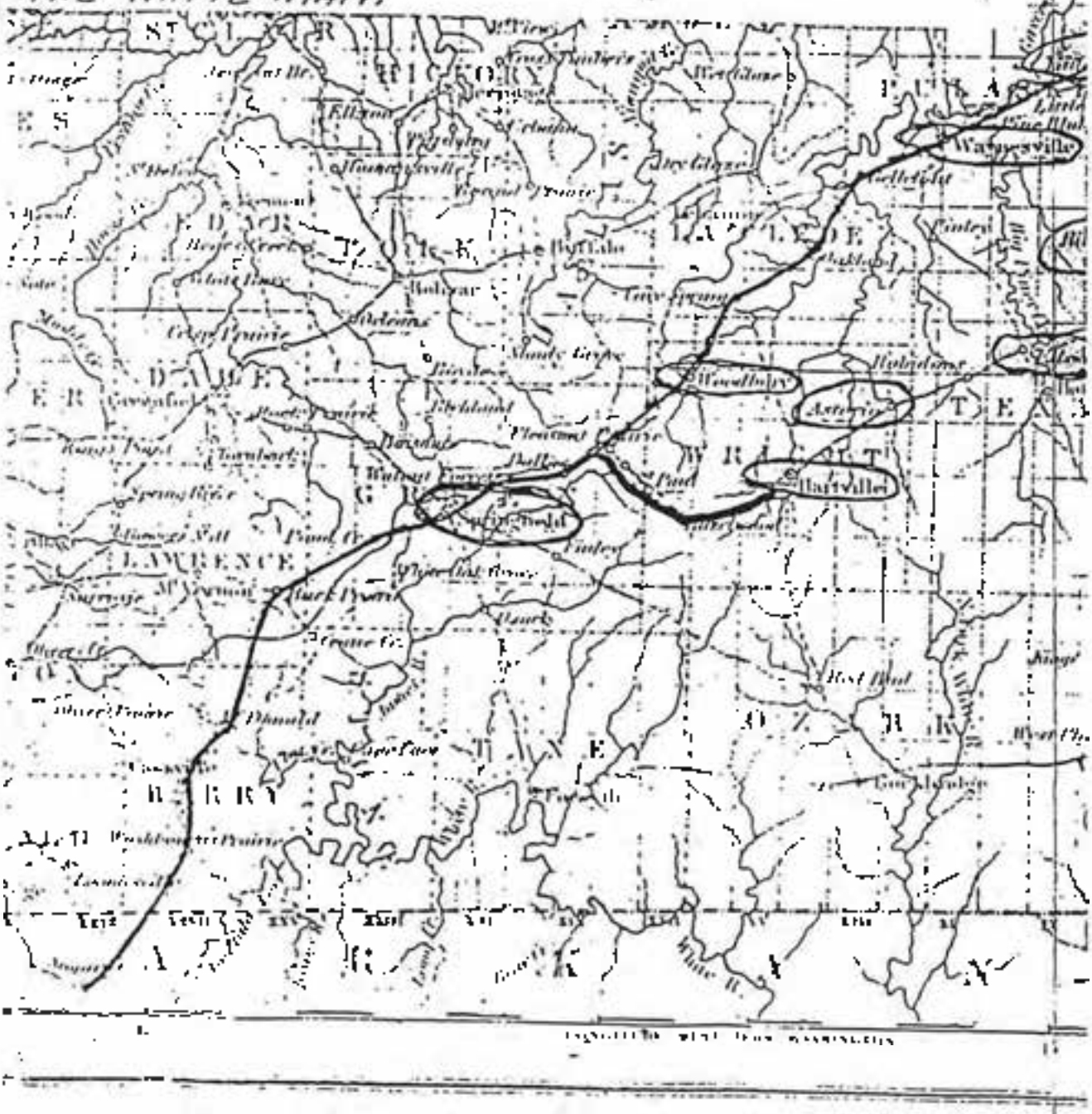
One in four died either in the stockades or on the trail between New Echota, the capital of the Cherokee nation in Georgia, and Indian territory in Oklahoma.

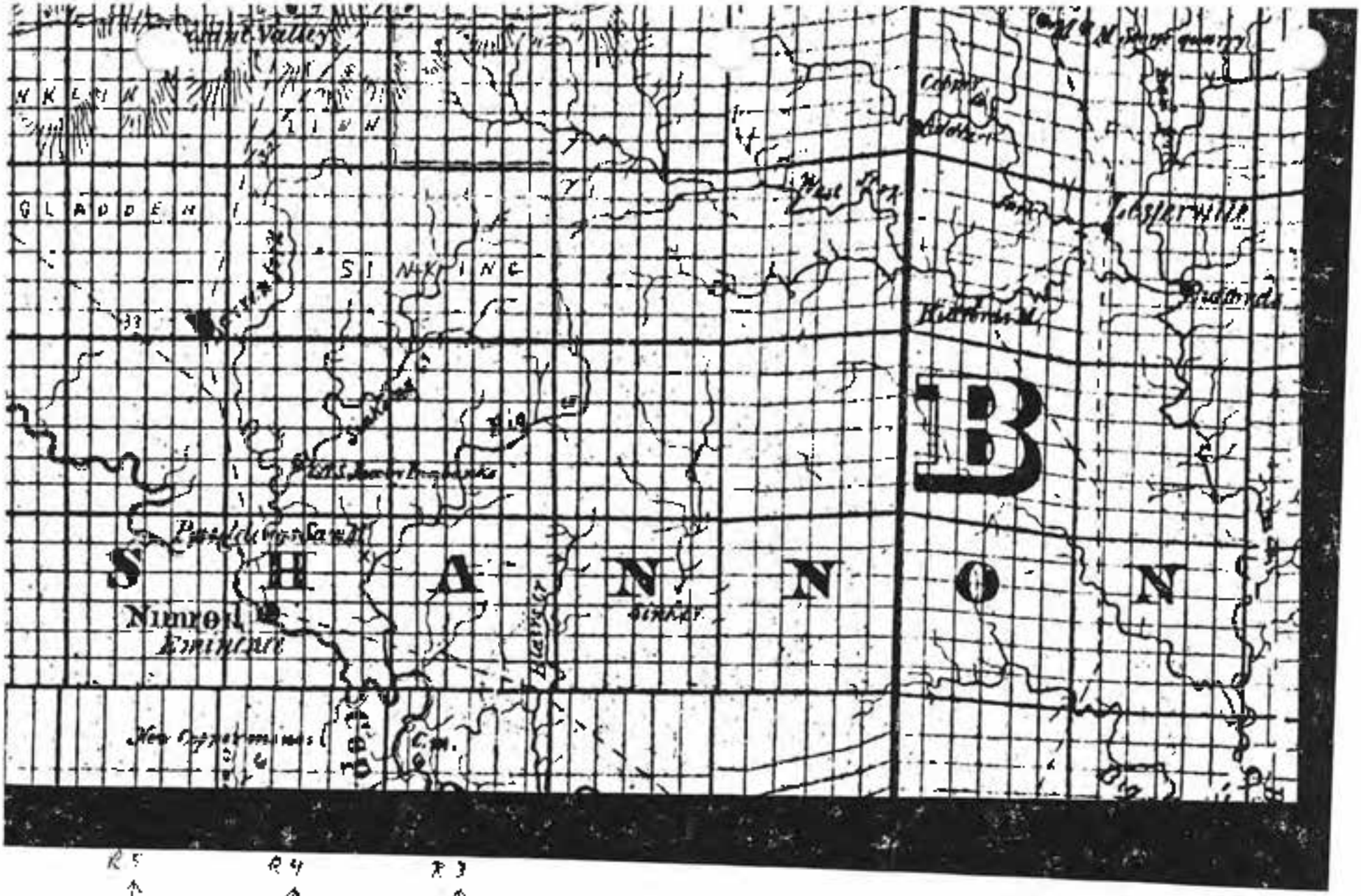
The last of the medicine men are dying and there are no more being trained to take their places.

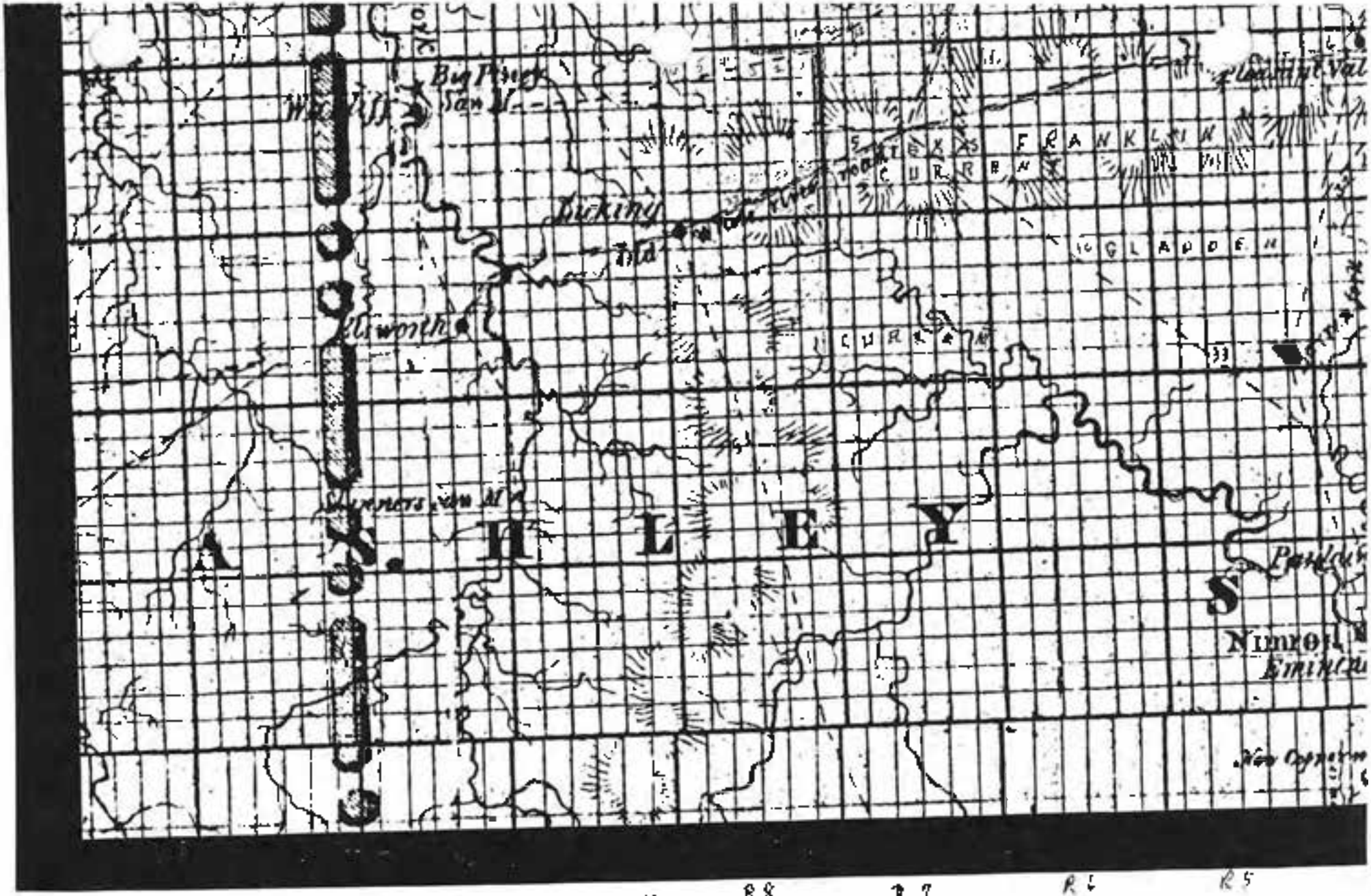
Many Cherokee do not know the name of their own clan nor the clan of those they marry. The old time Cherokee are fast vanishing and the new generation does not cling to the old ways. They are a part of the world of today and look forward to assuming their place in a modern society.


MISSOURI
WASHINGTON
JEFFERSON
MADISON
CAPE GIRARDEAU
NEW MADRID
WAYNE
BOLLINGER
PERRY
STE GENEVIEVE
FRANKLIN
ST LOUIS
CRAWFORD
IRON
REYNOLDS
CARTER
RIPLEY
BUTLER
DUNKLIN
PEMISCOT
STODDARD

THEIR LANDS IN GEORGIA DURING THE WINTER OF 1838-1839. THE INTENSE HARDSHIP AND SUFFERING THEY ENDURED CAUSED THE ROUTE THEY TRAVELED TO BE KNOWN AS "THE TRAIL OF TEARS". THEY WENT BY FOOT, BY HORSE AND WAGON, CARRYING THEIR FEW POSSESSIONS. OF 13,000 EMIGRANTS, 4000 PERISHED OF CHOLERA AND EXPOSURE. THEY WERE BURIED WHERE THEY FELL. THE IR ROUTE IN MISSOURI LED THEM PAST THE "MASSEY IRON WORKS" AT THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF MARAMEC. IT IS ONE OF THE FINAL CHAPTERS TO BE WRITTEN OF THE EXPLOITATION OF THE INDIAN BY THE WHITE MAN.




Hunt Valley
GLADDEN
SINKING
SHANNON
Nimrod
Eminence
Hatchet
Tobys Run
Richmond
R5
R4
R3
TW34
TW35
TW33
TW34
TW35

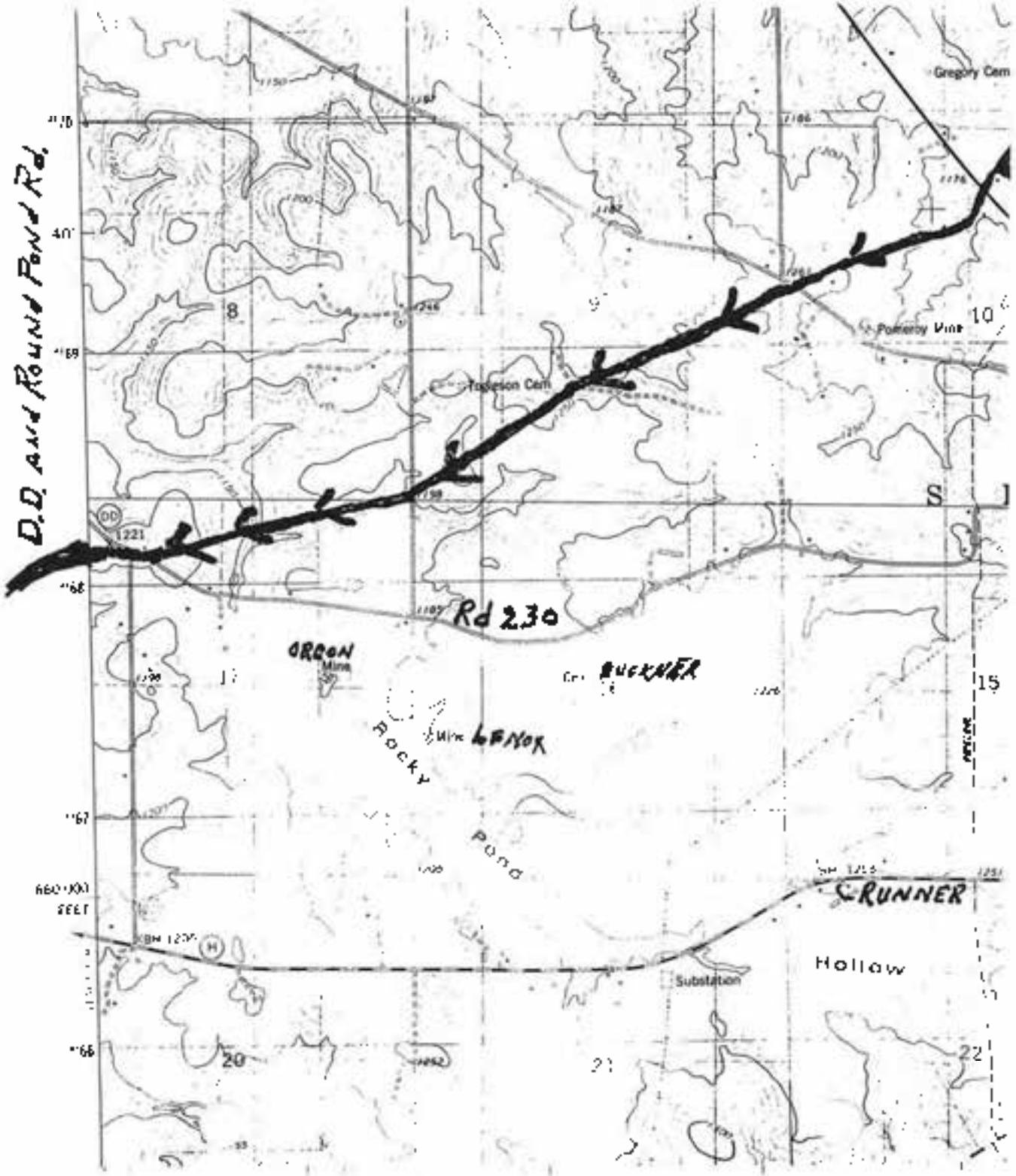

Big Piney
Dixon
Ellsworth
Nimrod
TWP 35
R 8
TWP 34
R 7
TWP 32
TWP 33
R 6
TWP 32
TWP 33
TWP 34
TWP 35
R 5
TWP 34
DENT COUNTY IN RED

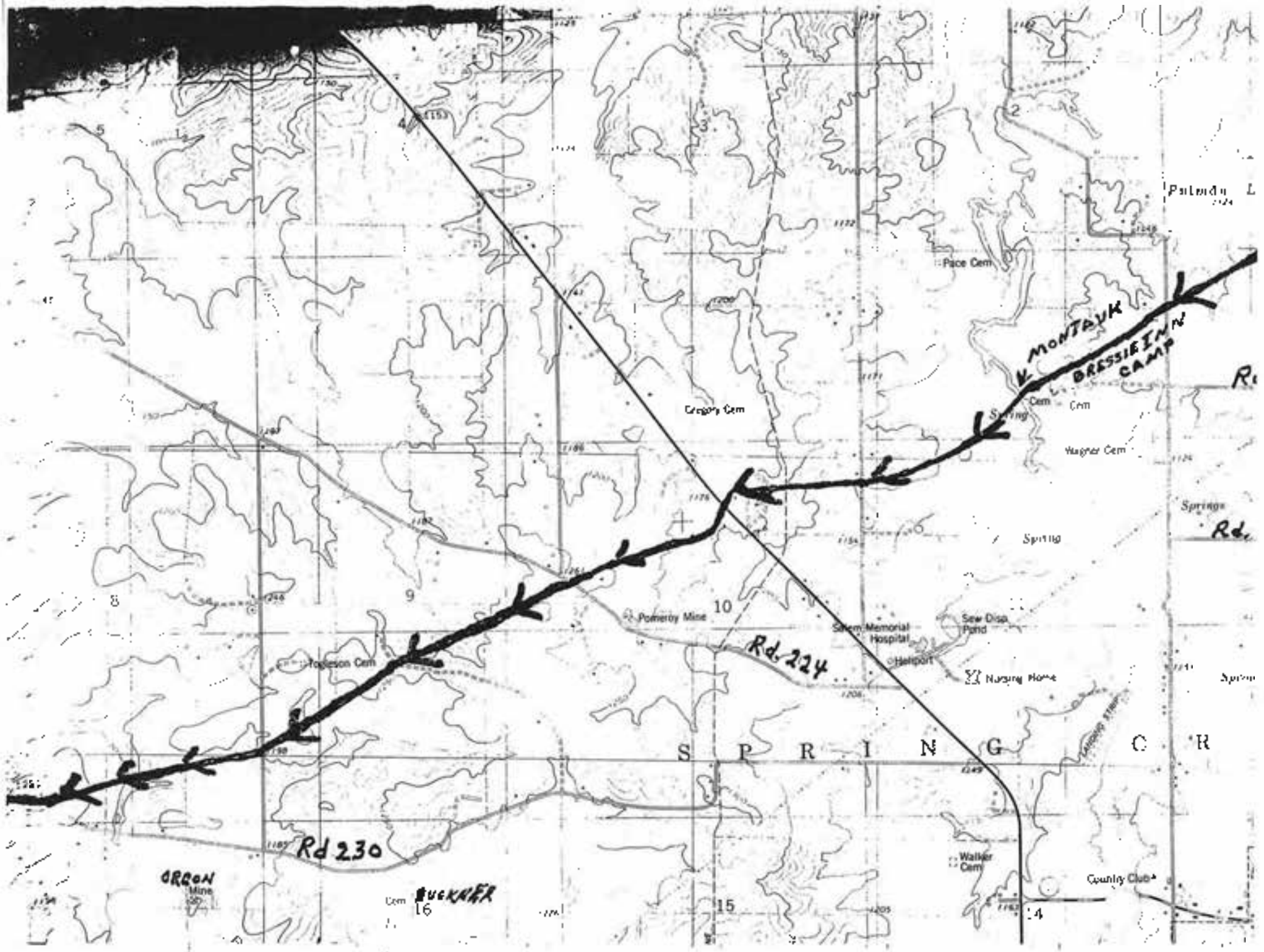
Troy
Buffalo
Buffalo Creek
Watkins
Watkins Glen
Burdett
Hector
Hector Falls
Montour Falls
Montour
Odessa
Catharine
Havana
Glen
Elmira
Elmira Heights
Horseheads
Big Flats
Chemung
Wellsburg
Van Etten
Millport
Erin
Lowman
Pine City
Breesport
Caton
Corning
Painted Post
Addison
Tuscarora
Woodhull
Canisteo
Hornellsville
Arkport
Hammondsport
Bath
Avoca
Cohocton
Wayland
Dansville
Mount Morris
Geneseo
Avon
Caledonia
Leicester
Lima
Rochester
Pittsford
Victor
Canandaigua
Naples
Honeoye Falls
Mendon
Rush
Henrietta
Scottsville
Wheatland
Chili
Gates
Greece
Ogden
Parma
Hilton
Brockport
Spencerport
Ontario
Webster
Penfield
Irondequoit
Pittsford
Perinton
Fairport
Macedonia
Palmyra
Newark
Lyons
Clyde
Savannah
Port Gibson
Phelps
Geneva
Seneca Falls
Waterloo
Auburn
Owasco
Skaneateles
Marcellus
Camillus
Onondaga
Syracuse
Solvay
Liverpool
Baldwinsville
Elbridge
Jordan
Weedsport
Port Byron
Cayuga
Union Springs
Aurora
Ithaca
Dryden
Freeville
Groton
Moravia
Locke
Scipio
Cato
Sterling
Fair Haven
Red Creek
Wolcott
Sodus
Williamson
Pultneyville
Orleans
Monroe
Wayne
Seneca
Cayuga
Tompkins
Cortland
Onondaga
Oswego
Cayuga
Chemung
Steuben
Yates
Ontario
Livingston
Allegany
Wyoming
Genesee
Erie
Niagara
Orleans
Monroe
Wayne
Cattaraugus
Chautauqua
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
Finger Lakes
Seneca Lake
Cayuga Lake
Keuka Lake
Canandaigua Lake
Conesus Lake
Hemlock Lake
Honeoye Lake
Canadice Lake
Otisco Lake
Skaneateles Lake
Owasco Lake
Susquehanna River
Chemung River
Tioga River
Genesee River
Canisteo River
Cohocton River
Tonawanda Creek
Oatka Creek
Allegheny River
Conhocton River
Keuka Outlet
Seneca River
Oneida River
Oswego River
Erie Canal
Barge Canal
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
Ohio
Lake Ontario
Lake Erie
Finger Lakes
Seneca Lake
Cayuga Lake
Keuka Lake
Canandaigua Lake
Conesus Lake
Hemlock Lake
Honeoye Lake
Canadice Lake
Otisco Lake
Skaneateles Lake
Owasco Lake
Susquehanna River
Chemung River
Tioga River
Genesee River
Canisteo River
Cohocton River
Tonawanda Creek
Oatka Creek
Allegheny River
Conhocton River
Keuka Outlet
Seneca River
Oneida River
Oswego River
Erie Canal
Barge Canal
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
Ohio

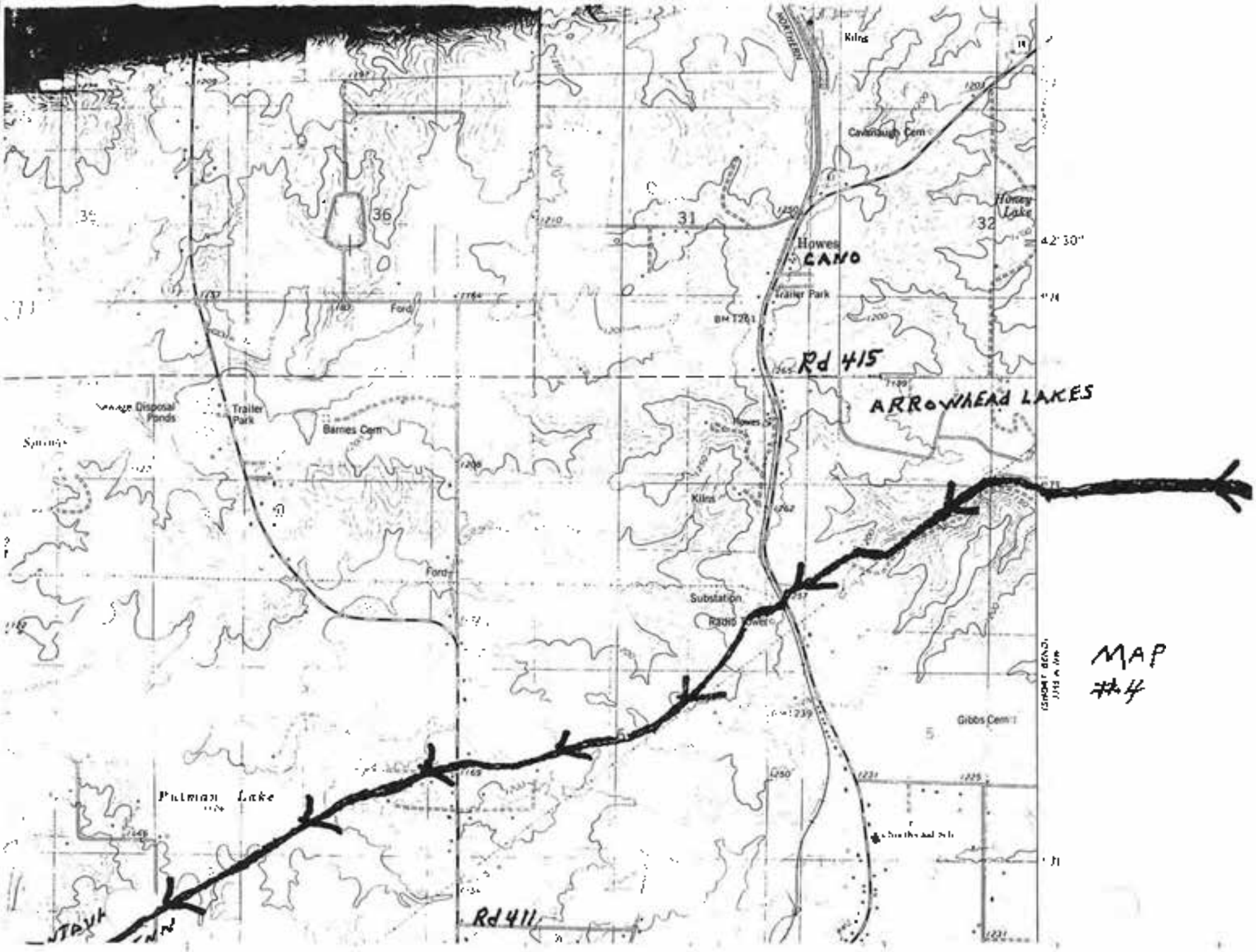
FRANKLIN
SPENCER
SHELBY
Shelbyville
Simpsonville
Eminence
Harrods Creek
Middletown
Prospect
Pewee Valley
Crestwood
Buckner
Anchorage
Goshen
Pleasureville
Turners Station
Carrollton
Ghent
Worthville
Sparta
Milton
Bedford
Campbellsburg
Port Royal
Smithfield
Pendleton
Sanders
Warsaw
Dry Ridge
Williamstown
Corinth
Dallasburg
Owenton
Monterey
Sanford
Glencoe
Verona
Walton
Union
Hebron
Florence
Petersburg
Burlington
Constance
Richwood
Big Bone
Rabbit Hash
Belleview
Bullittsville
Hamilton
Middletown
Crescent Springs
Fort Mitchell
Covington
Newport
Bellevue
Dayton
Cold Spring
Alexandria
Highland Heights
Fort Thomas
Southgate
Melbourne
Silver Grove
Wilder
Fort Wright
Ludlow
Fairview
Kenton Vale
Erlanger
Elsmere
Taylor Mill
Latonia
Lakeside Park
Crestview Hills
Villa Hills
Edgewood
Independence
Park Hills
Kenton
Covington
Newport
Bellevue
Dayton
Cold Spring
Alexandria
Highland Heights
Fort Thomas
Southgate
Melbourne
Silver Grove
Wilder
Fort Wright
Ludlow
Fairview
Kenton Vale
Erlanger
Elsmere
Taylor Mill
Latonia
Lakeside Park
Crestview Hills
Villa Hills
Edgewood
Independence
Park Hills
Kenton

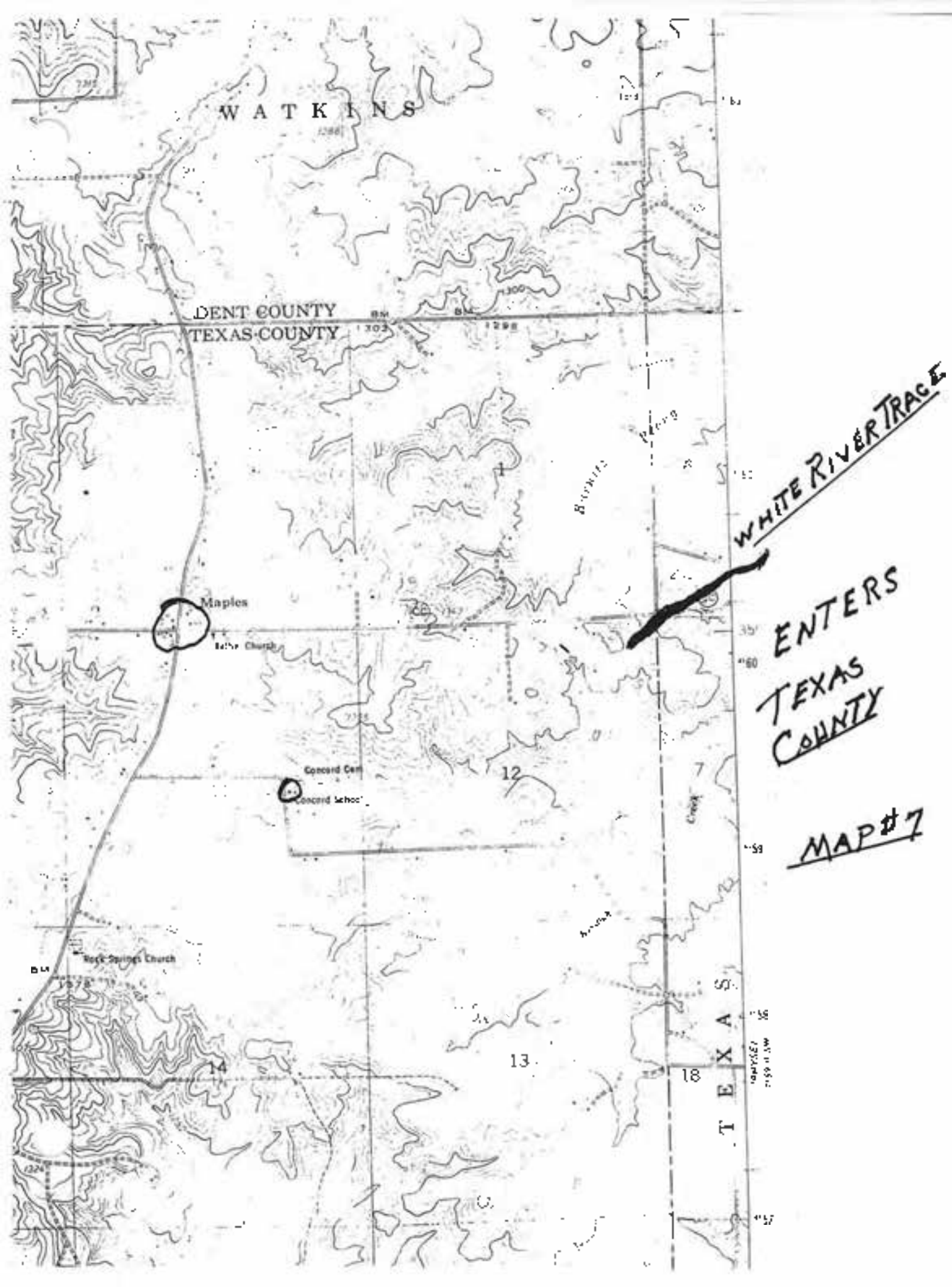
TRAIL OF TEARS

AS A RESULT OF THE INDIAN REMOVAL ACT OF 1830, THE CHEROKEES WERE REMOVED BY FORCE FROM THEIR LANDS IN GEORGIA DURING THE WINTER OF 1838-1839. THE INTENSE HARDSHIP AND SUFFERING THEY ENDURED CAUSED THE ROUTE THEY TRAVELED TO BE KNOWN AS "THE TRAIL OF TEARS." THEY WENT BY FOOT, BY HORSE AND WAGON, CARRYING THEIR FEW POSSESSIONS. OF 13,000 EMIGRANTS, 4000 PERISHED OF CHOLERA AND EXPOSURE. THEY WERE BURIED WHERE THEY FELL. THE IR ROUTE IN MISSOURI LED THEM PAST THE "MASSEY IRON WORKS" AT THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF MARAMEC. IT IS ONE OF THE FINAL CHAPTERS TO BE WRITTEN OF THE EXPLOITATION OF THE INDIAN BY THE WHITE MAN.


D.D. and Round Pond Rd.
Rd 230
Gregory Cem
Pomeroy Mine
Tadeson Cem
OREGON
Mine
BUCKNER
Mine
LENOR
Rocky
Pond
RUNNER
Hollow
Substation
8
10
15
20
21
22


Pace Cem
MONTAUK
BRESSIE INN CAMP
Gregory Cem
Wagner Cem
Springs
Rd.
Spring
Pomeroy Mine
Salem Memorial Hospital
Sew Disp Pond
Heliport
Nursing Home
Rd. 224
Fogleson Cem
S P R I N G
Rd 230
ORGON
Mine
Cem
BUCKNER
Walker Cem
Country Club
Paterson L


Howes
CANO
Rd 415
ARROWHEAD LAKES
Rd 411
Trailer Park
Barnes Cem
Kilns
Substation
Gibbs Cem
Putman Lake
Cavanaugh Cem
Honey Lake
MAP
#4


WATKINS
DENT COUNTY
TEXAS COUNTY
WHITE RIVER TRACE
ENTERS
TEXAS
COUNTY
MAP #7
Maples
Concord Cem
Concord Schoo
Rock Springs Church
TEXAS
12
13
14
18

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published by the Geological Survey

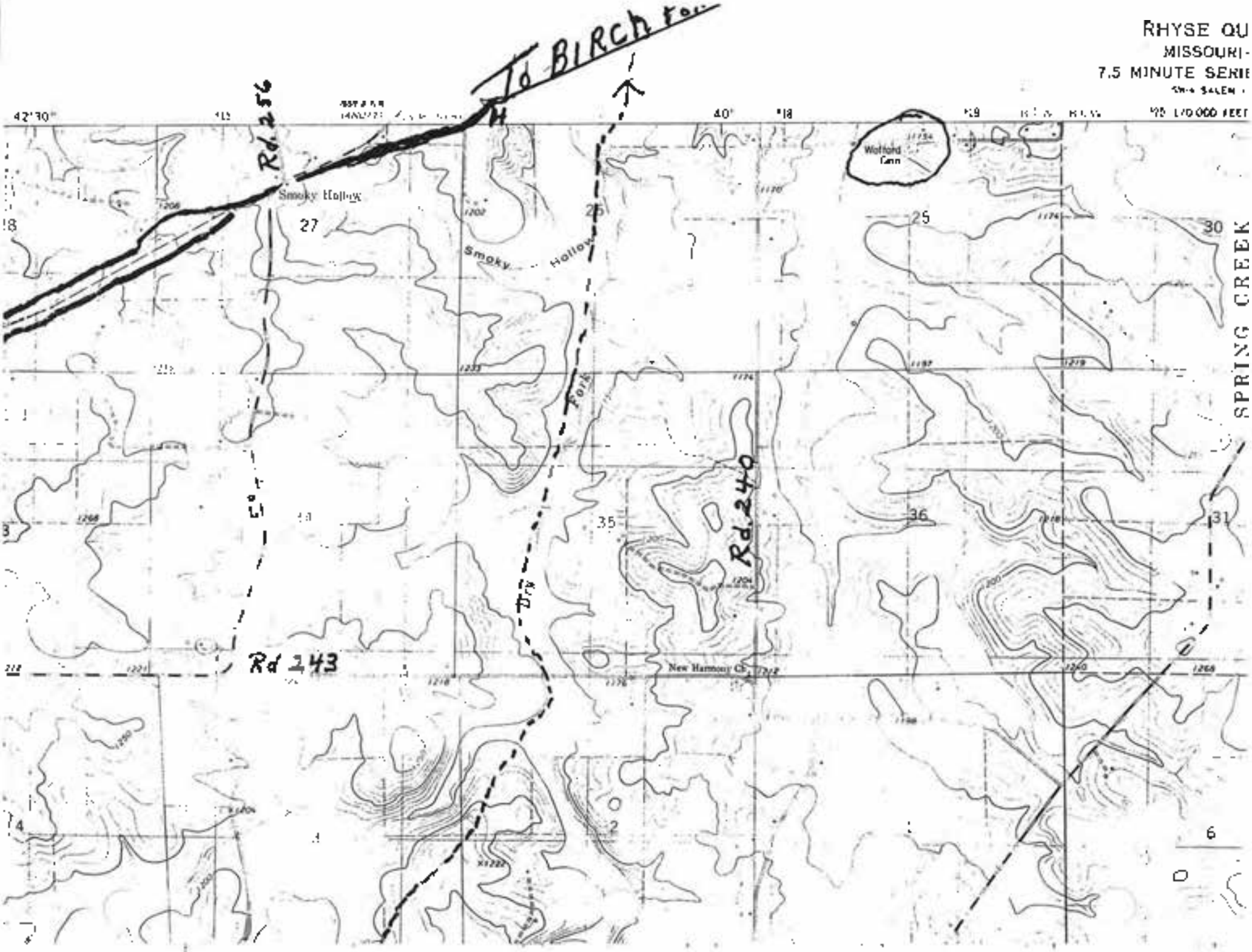
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Missouri coordinate system, central east zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 2 meters south and
13 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

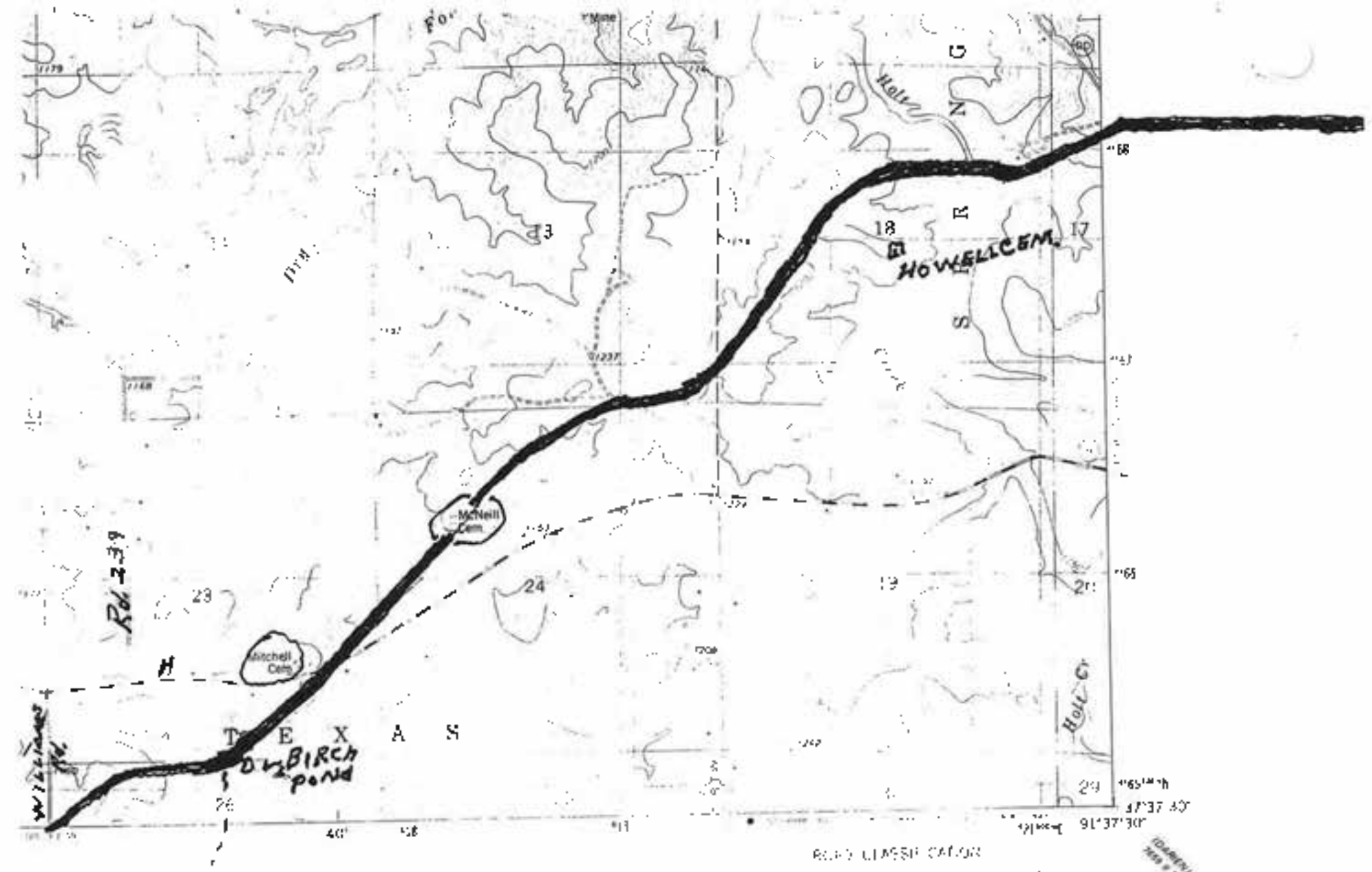
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 19

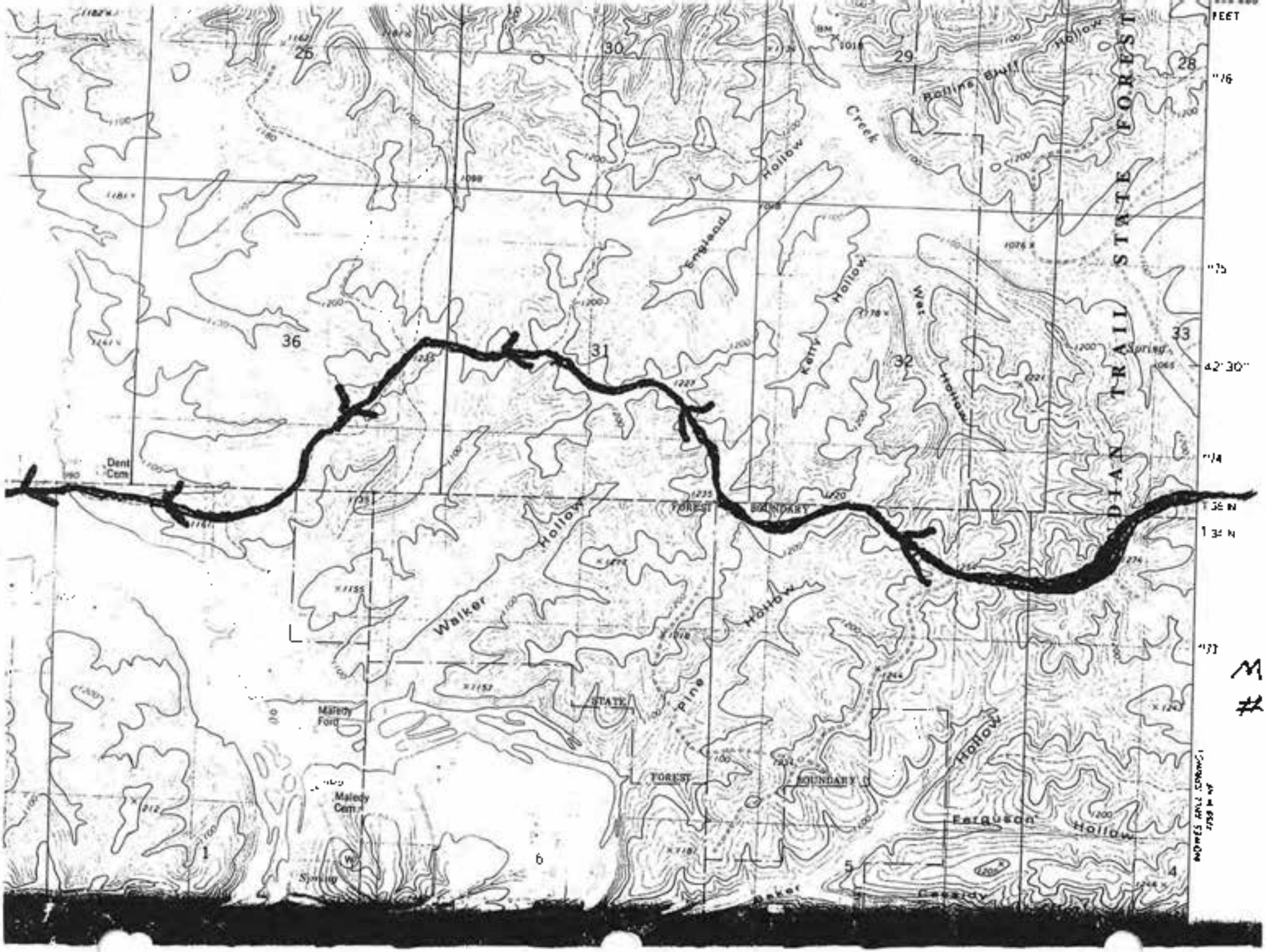
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 8022
AND THE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND LAND
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ROL
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS A

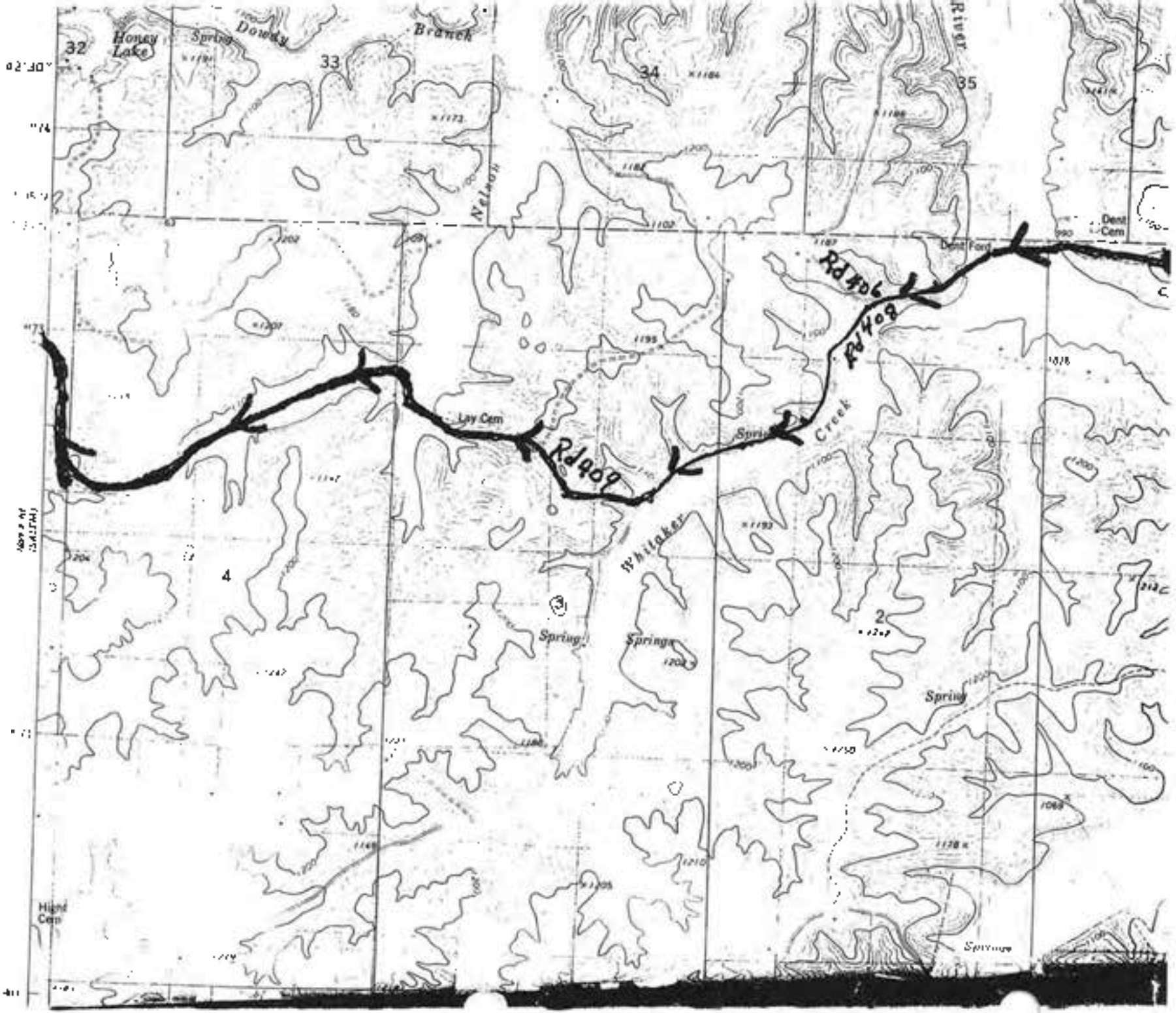
TEXAS COUNTY

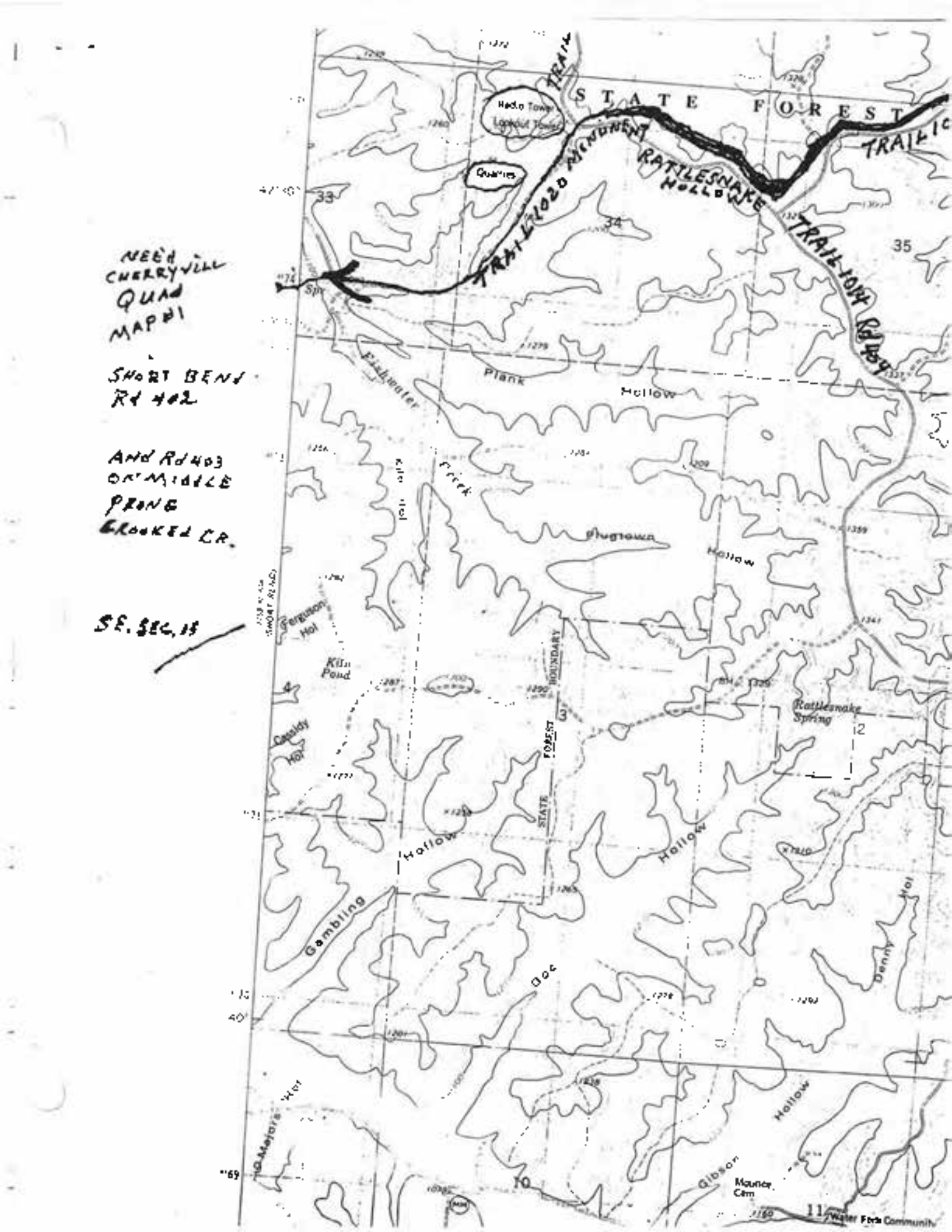
TO CONCORD SCHOOL AND CEMETERY

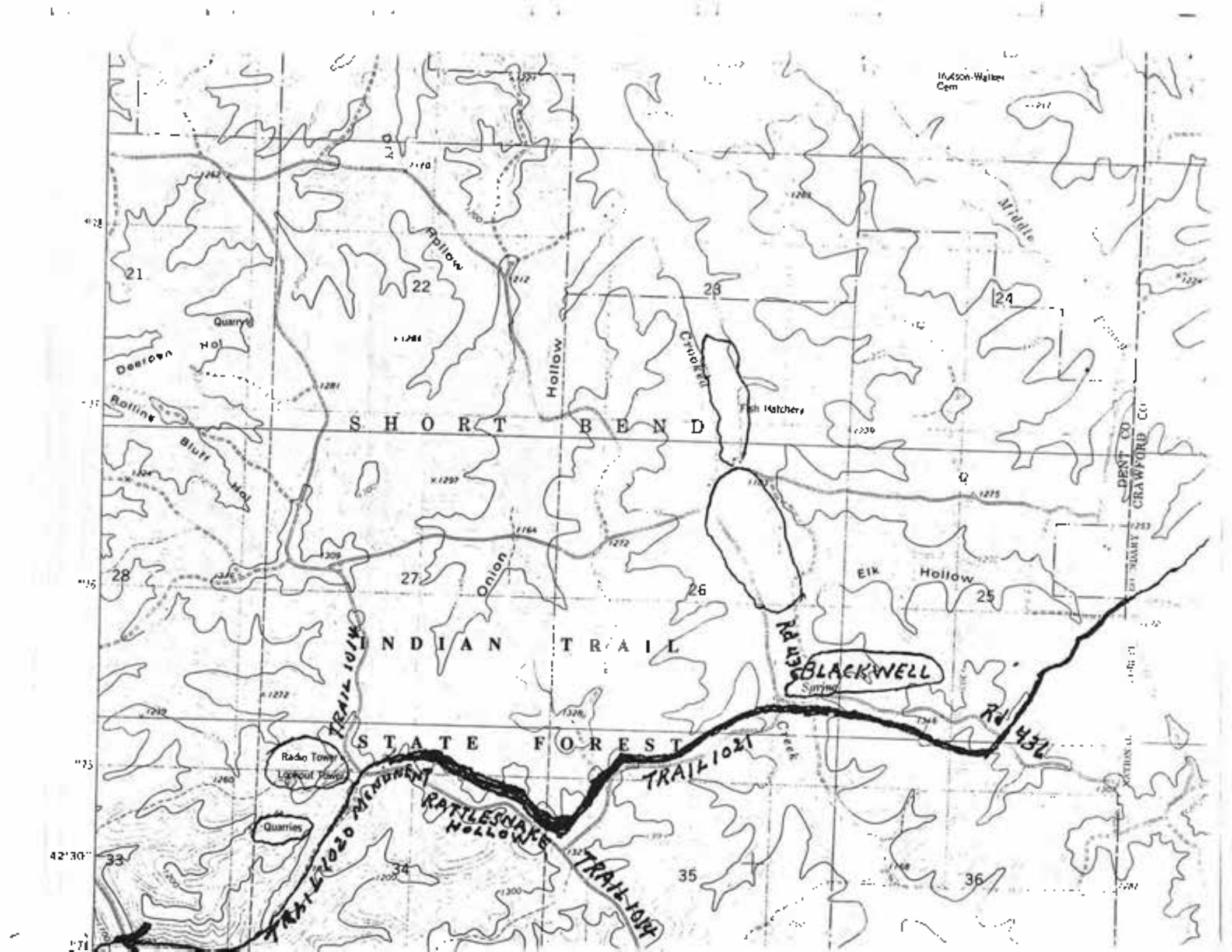

To BIRCH
Rd 256
Smoky Hollow
Smoky Hollow
Rd 240
Rd 243
Fork
Fork
New Harmony Ch
Wofford Cem
SPRING CREEK
RHYSE QU
MISSOURI
7.5 MINUTE SERIE
42°30'
40'
18
25
30
35
36
31
27
6

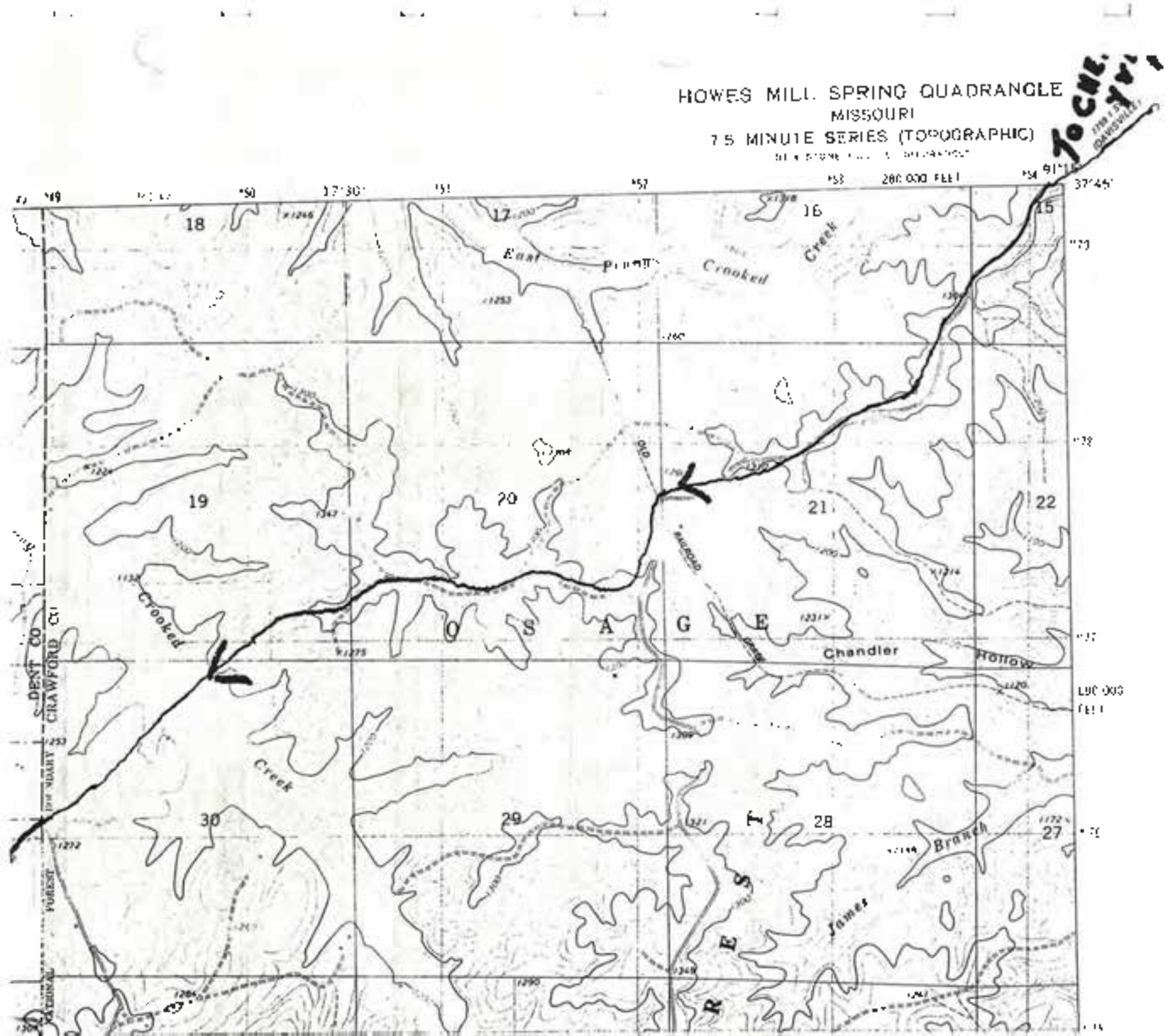

HOWELL CO.
T 26 N
R 8 W
HOWELL CEM.
McNeil Cem.
Mitchell Cem.
TEXAS
DOWBIRCH POND
Rd 339
Holt Cr
Primary highway hard surface
Secondary highway hard surface
Light duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route
FEET
DATUM OF 1929
ACCURACY STANDARDS
ANUTT, MO.
N3717.5 W9137.5/7.5


INDIAN TRAIL STATE FOREST
Rollins Bluff
Creek
Hollow
England
Katy
Hollow
West
Hollow
Spring
Walker
Hollow
Pine
Hollow
Ferguson
Hollow
Dent
Cem
Maledy
Ford
Maledy
Cem
Spring
Baker
Creek
FOREST
BOUNDARY
STATE
25
30
29
28
36
31
32
33
1
6
5
4
42°30'
T 35 N
T 34 N


Honey Lake
Spring
Doneky
Branch
Nelson
Dent Cem
Rd406
Rd408
Lay Cem
Rd409
Whitaker
Creek
Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring
Hight Cem
32
33
34
35
4
3
2


NEED CHERRYVILLE QUAD MAP #1
SHORT BEND RD 402
AND RD 403 ON MIDDLE PRONG CROOKED CR.
SE. SEC. 15
STATE FOREST
TRAIL
TRAILHEAD MONUMENT
RATTLESNAKE HOLLOW
TRAIL TO PARK RD 454
Radio Tower
Lookout Tower
Quarries
Spr
Fishwater
Plank
Hollow
Creek
Plugtown
Hollow
Ferguson Hol
Kill Pond
BOUNDARY
STATE FOREST
Rattlesnake Spring
Cassidy Hol
Hollow
Hollow
Gambling
Hollow
Gibson
Mount Cem
Water Park Community
33
34
35
3
4
10
11
12
40
69


Hudson-Walker Cem
Middle
Applow
Hollow
Crooked
Fish Hatchery
Quarry
Dorrow Hol
Rolling Bluff Hol
SHORT BEND
DENT CO
CRAWFORD CO
Onion
Elk Hollow
INDIAN TRAIL
TRAIL 1015
Rd 435
BLACKWELL
Spring
STATE FOREST
Radio Tower
Lookout Tower
Quarries
TRAIL 1020
MONUMENT
RATTLESNAKE HOLLOW
TRAIL 1021
Creek
TRAIL 1017
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
33
34
35
36
42°30'


HOWES MILL SPRING QUADRANGLE
MISSOURI
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
18
17
16
15
19
20
21
22
30
29
28
27
Crooked Creek
East Prong
Crooked Creek
OSAGE
Chandler Hollow
James
Branch
DENT CO
CRAWFORD CO
37°45'
91°15'
280 000 FEET