

NFE
#193

Summary

The Arkansas Federal/State preplanning meeting was held in Fort Smith, Arkansas, June 28, 1984. The "workbook" including background information and a questionnaire was furnished each attendee prior to the meeting. No completed workbooks were turned in during the meeting. The following points were made during the meeting:

1. State Highway 72 through Benton County is the only highway marked as Trail of Tears.
2. There are three or four trails used to cross Arkansas. There may be some problems with locals who will claim trail went through their property (with no documentary evidence).
3. When doing TV program on Cherokee Nation the Cherokee's were very cooperative. No conflict from other Indian groups. No in depth historical research was conducted. Tried to stimulate local communities to do research (Mike Hedges).
4. Hieroglyphics at Blue Springs (at Eureka Springs) claimed to originate with Trail of Tears.
5. Highway 64 could be followed as potential trail.
6. River corridor should be used as the trail because all five tribes used the river route (Guy Nichols).
7. Batesville and Huntsville claim to be part of trail.
8. Nothing listed in National Register related to trail.

Issues/Questions Raised

None