NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
COMMON:
Old Natchez Trace (No. 230-3H)
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Path to Choctaw Nation, Path to Chickasaw Nation, Natchez Trace Road from Natchez to Nashville

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1, Box 233, Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost # 198.5
CITY OR TOWN:
Natchez
STATE:
Mississippi
COUNTY:
Choctaw
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
2

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
Site
OwnerShip
Public
Private
Both

STATUS
Public Acquisition:
In Process
Being Considered

c

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
Agricultural
Commercial
Educational
Entertainment
Government
Industrial
Military
Museum

4. AGENCY
U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Natchez Trace Parkway
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Southeast
CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta
STATE:
Georgia
CODE:
13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Chancery Clerk's Office
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Ackerman
STATE:
Mississippi
CODE:
28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, United States Government Printing Office
DATE OF SURVEY:
1941
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
District of Columbia
CODE:
13

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE:
JULY 7 1976
RECEIVED
MAR 25 1976
NATIONAL REGISTER
The Old Trace is obliterated to the southwest and on the west side of the parkway the section of Old Trace has been designated as one of our interpretive stops. There is a parking lot and sign that tells about the Old Natchez Trace.

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

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

When Europeans began to explore the Old Southwest, they found a network of trails which showed a marked tendency to follow watershed divides, avoiding wherever possible stream crossings and swamps. Several of these trails, though individually unimportant, led southwesterly from Nashville, Tennessee, to Natchez, Mississippi.

One such trail was the Chickasaw Trace which ran from Nashville to about Tupelo, Mississippi, to the Chickasaw Nation. There it intersected another trail which connected to the Choctaw and Natchez Tribes and which appears on French maps of the 1730's. The southern part of the trail appears on British maps of the 1770's as the "Path to the Choctaw Nation." These trails often shifted with the weather and population as towns sprang up nearby.

Explorers and traders traveled over these trails and they let it be known that they connected Natchez and Nashville. In 1785 a small scow from Pittsburgh loaded with flour landed at Spanish Natchez. This was the beginning of the Natchez Trace as the Boatmen's Trail. From this humble beginning, western products began to flow down the Mississippi to Natchez and New Orleans. The effect on the western economy was enormous. This was the major outlet of trade for them.

In 1798 the Mississippi Territory was formed and traffic increased so much there was a demand to improve the road. By 1810 about 8-10,000 people were using the road. It was also important to have a good line of communication between the Federal Government and the capital of the Mississippi Territory.

In 1801 President Thomas Jefferson authorized improvement on the Natchez Trace and work began in that year and ended in 1807. Postal service also began on the Old Natchez Trace in 1800 and continued until the 1830's. Stands or inns, such as Mount Locust, sprang up along the Trace until 50 were located between Natchez and Nashville.

In 1812 the United States declared war on England. Gen. Andrew Jackson's Tennessee Militia was ordered down the Natchez Trace to protect New Orleans from a threatened British invasion. This invasion never materialized, and he and his men returned over the Trace to their homes. It was on this march that Jackson won the sobriquet "Old Hickory." The Natchez Trace Parkway was created in 1938 to memorialize the Old Natchez Trace.

Significance: 1st order
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.03, Class VI

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

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Natchez Trace Parkway

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

CITY OR TOWN: Tupelo

STATE: Mississippi 38801

CODE 28

DATE: 10-01-74

PHONE: (601) 842-1572

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

☐ Yes
☐ No
☒ None

State Liaison Officer Signature

State Liaison Officer

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☒ Local

Federal Representative Signature

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/9/76

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/4/76
**1. NAME**

**COMMON:** Old Natchez Trace (No. 230-3H overview)

**AND/OR HISTORIC:** Path to Chickasaw Nation

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**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:** Route 1, Box 233 - Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost #128.6

**CITY OR TOWN:** Mantee

**STATE:** Mississippi 39751

**CODE COUNTY:** 28 Choctaw

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**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**

**PHOTO CREDIT:** William E. Cox

**DATE OF PHOTO:** August 30, 1974

**NEGATIVE FILED AT:** Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS 38801 Negative No. 11466

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**4. IDENTIFICATION**

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.:** Overview west-from left of photo to where man is in road park boundary cuts diagonally across to lower right of photo. Old Natchez Trace is at right center of photo.
**Common:** Old Natchez Trace (No. 230-3H)
**And/or Historic:** Path to Chickasaw Nation

### 2. Location

**Street and Number:**
Route 1, Box 233 - Natchez Trace Parkway, milepost # 138.6

**City or Town:**
Mantee

**State:** Mississippi
**Code:** 28
**County:** Choctaw

### 3. Photo Reference

**Photo Credit:** William E. Cox

**Date of Photo:** August 30, 1974

**Negative Filed At:**
Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS 38801 Negative No. 11465

### 4. Identification

**Describe View, Direction, etc.:**

Facing northeast. Interpretive exhibit to right of photo, parking lot to left and mowed Old Trace to left center of photo.