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DATA SHEET

Form 10-306
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Choctaw
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: NOV 7 1978

RECEIVED MAR 25 1976 NATIONAL REGISTER

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 # 198.6

CITY OR TOWN: ~~Mantee~~ Weatherston ruins | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2

STATE: Mississippi 39751 | CODE: 28 | COUNTY: Choctaw | CODE: 019

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☒ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. AGENCY

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

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) Southeast | STREET AND NUMBER: 3401 Whipple Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta | STATE: Georgia 30344 | 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 39735 | CODE: 28

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, United States Government Printing Office

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Choctaw
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☒ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [x] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - [ ] Prehistoric
  - [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [x] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [x] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [x] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

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 ~~Spanish~~ 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Phelps, Dawson A. "The Trace in Alabama." Alabama Review, vol. VII. (January 1949). 22-41

_____. "The Natchez Trace in Tennessee History." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, vol. XIII. (September 1954). 195-203

_____. "The Natchez Trace: Indian Trail to Parkway." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXI. (September 1962) 203-18.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	33°	28'	32"	89°	12'	04"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1:03, Class VI

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	DATE:
William E. Cox, Assistant Chief Park Interpreter	10-01-74

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Natchez Trace Parkway

STREET AND NUMBER:	PHONE:
R. R. 1, NT-143	(601) 842-1572

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Tupelo	Mississippi 38801	28

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ None

Albert R. Pillsbury
State Liaison Officer Signature

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

Dennis J. Drabelle 3/23/76
Federal Representative Signature *Date*

for the Deputy Assistant Secretary
Title

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Acting
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/9/76

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/4/76

GPO 938-449

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*
Buena Vista Cotton Gin	Watson Steam Gin	DEC 27 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Mississippi 39150	Claiborne	near Port Gibson

STREET AND NUMBER

Township 12 N, Range 3 E, Section 55 (irregular)

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Robert J. Bailey	August 6, 1973	Mississippi Department of Archives & History, Jackson, Ms.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

This view shows the Buena Vista Cotton Gin from the north.

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

This view of the Buena Vista Cotton Gin shows the base of the western face from the west. On the left side of the photograph, a partially destroyed brick wall is visible. In the center of the picture is the large hole through which the smoke was introduced into the stack.

#283

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(6/72)

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

This view of the Buena Vista Cotton Gin shows the base of the large stack from the northeast.

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