

THE BRICE'S
CROSSROADS
BATTLEFIELD-CHIEF
TISHOMINGO SCENIC
BYWAY CORRIDOR
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Brice's Crossroads Visitor's Center



**The Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway
Corridor Management Plan**



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The Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan

Summary

There are many points of interest along the Proposed Byway. Being virtually unspoiled by commercial development, few places in Mississippi incorporate so much diverse history in one place. Histories derived from the Civil War, the Native Americans and early African Americans, culminating into a historically rich area with a naturally scenic backdrop. Much of the proposed Byway already has established tourist stops of historic value, anchored first by the Brice's Crossroads Visitors and Interpretive Center at 607 Grisham Street, Baldwyn, Mississippi. Here you will find Archeological Artifacts on display from the battlefield in both permanent and temporary exhibits. Our staff provides historical Interpretations of artifacts and battle. Historical resources are available for research at this location. An addition to be completed in April, 2011 includes an interpretation of the Indian presence as well as early settlers and historic battles of the area.



Many stops along the proposed Byway are already well marked by existing markers and an auto tour of the civil war is already in use. The Advisory Committee of the Byway feel with additional marketing, the Byway would be an even greater economic plus to our region.

Below, the portion of the route that goes by the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Site, where a monument was erected by the War Department in 1930 and the site was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. This site is maintained by the Natchez Trace Parkway.



This Historical marker below was placed by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History at the Bethany A.R.P. church. The church cemetery is across the road in front of the Confederate mass grave and adjacent to the National Park Service battlefield site.



One can see new enhancements and the ongoing progress of upgrading historic sites along our proposed Byway. Recent grants have led to several projects recently completed such as a new pedestrian bridge over Tishomingo creek, Tishomingo Creek overlook and additional paved parking lots provided for both. This Transportation Enhancement grant has also provided for the interpretation of two civil war soldier's graves, the original roadbed and retreat route of the Union Troops and the last stand at Brice's that occurred at the Rev. Samuel Agnew home

New Parking Area and Trail at Tishomingo Creek Overlook.

Home site of Creek Billy or Co-Hav-Jo a Creek Indian that married a Chickasaw woman lived here in the early 1800's. It was reported that he was the leader of the Crossroads community which extended a half mile along this bluff. Also, the site of the Log Cabin Knoll as cited in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion. From this overlook, Gen. Nathan B. Forrest commanded his troops to advance the Confederate cannon to the front, and fire without infantry support.



The New Pedestrian Bridge Over Tishomingo Creek

This gives Civil War enthusiasts the ability to stand in the exact location of the bridge that existed here during the battle and where some of the most intense fighting took place. This also will be a meaningful location for visiting members of the Chickasaw tribe to experience as it is over the creek named in honor of their most respected chiefs, Chief Tishomingo, who is depicted in the center of their national seal.



Typical Granite Marker of the 11 that Line the Proposed Byway



In early 1990, celebrated Civil War author and historian Shelby Foote, of Memphis, recognized the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield as one of the most important unsecured battle sites in the country.

With initial funding of a quarter of a million dollars educational Enhancement Grant from the state legislature, the donation of the artifacts from the previous museum from the Claude Gentry family and a donation of 12 acres by the Haynes family of Baldwyn, The 2800 sq. ft. Brice's' Crossroads Visitor and Interpretive Center opened in 1998. Now completed at the interpretive center is an additional 1200 sq. ft. building that will interpret the Battle of Harrisburg or Tupelo fought July 14-15, 1864 and the Home Site of Chief Tishomingo of the Chickasaw Nation.

Since then, the purchase of 1400 acres of undeveloped battlefield along with the one acre battlefield site maintained by the National Park Service, tourism has steadily increased along the proposed byway each year. The Museum's current exhibit design and fabrication were a result of a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History which funded a first-class exhibit entitled, "Forrest's Finest Hour."

A Transportation Enhancement Act in the amount of 1.5 million dollars is now funding the Museum and battlefield commission in order to interpret Old Town Creek and several sites at Brice's Crossroads Battlefield some of which were completed in October of this year. An inter-local agreement approved by the Mississippi Secretary of State between Baldwin, Tupelo and Lee County, has resulted in the creation of the Civil War Center Board and Visitor's Center for both battles.

The Civil War Center Board meets monthly and contributes to marketing, interpretation and management of the battlefield, which directly relates to the proposed byway.

Inside the interpretive center a movie introduced by Shelby Foote now interprets the battle for thousands every year. Also, a battlefield diorama and interactive exhibits help interpret the battle as well. On the Center grounds, you now see a memorial of flags which highlights the sacrifice of soldiers from many states, both North and South, who fought at Brice's Crossroads. Additionally, an audio tour and military map aid the civil war buff and casual visitor as he explores our 1400-acre battlefield and Park Service site. Visitors now find well maintained paved trails and signage that explains battle lines and troop movements within the battlefield area. Granite markers along Highway 370 describe the battle where Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest and General Sturgis met in battle June 10, 1864.

Elders of the Bethany Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church contribute to the upkeep and preservation of the Bethany Cemetery and Confederate Mass Grave, which is on the byway.

We feel the designation as a scenic byway only helps enhance this area already rich in history for tourism. It helps our youth better understand Mississippi history and helps connect many diverse people to their heritage.

History and Prehistory of Byway

All along the Byway, visitors will in many places, see a white chalky soil from eroded and weathered seashells. Even an occasional shark's tooth can be found as this region was once under a great inland salt sea. This soil is called Demopolis Clay of the late Campanian Stage of the late Cretaceous Era. According to Richard Green, the Chickasaw Nation's historian, it was no accident you see this white seashell soil at many Chickasaw home sites along the Byway because these shells were crushed and used in the manufacture of pottery used by Chickasaws. Two creeks along highway 370 are named for the Chickasaw Indians that lived near them. Okeelala Creek near Baldwin gets its name from a Chickasaw that lived on the bluff about a half mile west of the interpretive center. The Town of Baldwin celebrates with the Okeelala Festival each October honor of this Chickasaw Indian. Campbelltown Creek

a few miles beyond, gets its name from a Chickasaw family named Campbell. A community that existed then and even today called Campbelltown is situated along the proposed Byway. The Chickasaw Campbell family that once resided here moved west on the Trail of Tears but many area site names like this retain the names of people of long ago. Both these Chickasaw home sites were located on the Reynoldsburg road. A road built with in part with funds from the US government by the Chickasaws to give travelers an alternate to the Natchez Trace to middle Tennessee. Excerpts from the 14th Congress.

14th Congress.]

No. 413.

[2d Session.

ROAD THROUGH THE CHICKASAW NATION.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 1816.

Sir:

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, *December 5, 1816.*

In pursuance of the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th instant, I have the honor to transmit the report of the commissioners appointed to mark and survey a road from Reynoldsburg, on the Tennessee river, through the Chickasaw nation. No expenses in relation to this road were to be paid by this Department, except the compensation of the commissioners, who were to be allowed six dollars per day whilst employed on this service.

As no claim has been presented to this Department by the commissioners on account of their services, nothing has as yet been paid.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM, *Acting Secretary of War.*

Hon. HENRY CLAY, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

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B

Scenic Byway Route and Maintenance

The Route Description is as follows: Starting at the Brice's Crossroads Visitors and Interpretive Center which is mile post 0.00, go along Grisham Street to the intersection of MS 370. Then go along MS 370 to CR 833 to CR 503, then along CR 503 to MS 348 at the Blair Community, turn left and continue Hwy. 348, to Mississippi Highway 145 which is the terminus of the byway and milepost 12.8. The City of Baldwin maintains the portion along Grisham Street and MDOT maintains the segment along Mississippi Highway 370. Lee County maintains the segment along County Roads 833 and 503. The remainder of the route is along Mississippi Highway 348 and this portion is maintained by MDOT as well. All segments are protected from encroachments by the controlling authority.

Commercial Segmentation

There are few businesses along the proposed route and those do not detract from the overall scenic appeal of the proposed Byway. The first mile within the Town of Baldwin is zoned C-1. However, there is no county zoning for Lee County outside of municipalities. Most of the remainder of the route with the exception of the last half mile portion within Guntown is rural and primarily agricultural.

Byway Committee

The Byway committee has been organized with representatives of The BCR Interpretive Center, landowners along the route and other stakeholders. It has been determined that Byway committee meetings will take place at the Brice's Crossroads Interpretive Center Conference room.

Community Participation Program has been achieved. A public hearing was advertised and held. Minutes of the hearing and the public notice published in the newspaper are included. The project was well received by all that attended.

Scenic Byway Signage

Although many Civil War Markers are in place and a Chickasaw Nation Marker to Chief Tishomingo are on the proposed route now, the advisory committee has already contacted MDOT about sign placement and will be working with Chickasaw Nation and Lee County in order to coordinate the placement of additional signage along the County Road segment. Additionally, since the route is used daily by bicycle enthusiasts and a new 3ft. bike rule sign below has been placed near the Crossroads on the proposed route, we will be looking at signage that will designate the area as a bike route. The Uniform Manual on Traffic Control Devices will be used as reference so that signs are placed in accordance with existing rules.



According to MDOT Outdoor Advertising representative Danny Cargile, the only places that Federal and State Outdoor Advertising rules apply currently are at the two crossings of US 45 where no outdoor advertising exist. If the proposed route is accepted, with the exception of a few directional church signs and a few on-premise signs, there are no billboards on the proposed route.

Intrinsic Quality Assessment Natural Qualities

The area abounds with wildlife that is already taking advantage of designated protected areas within BCNBC (The Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Committee) controlled Battlefield areas. For example, the existing Demopolis Clay soil has created ideal conditions for the growth of large concentrations of Eastern Cedar Trees along the proposed route. This along with ample food and water sources has provided excellent habitat for Mourning Doves. Though the Mourning dove is a migratory bird, coming through the Southeast in early fall through winter, many doves will remain in the Byway area year-round. One will almost always see several while traveling the Byway area.



Hawks, owls, foxes, coyotes and deer all are common sites along the Byway. In September of this year a visitor at the Tishomingo marker on the proposed Byway counted a flock of 80 Canadian geese on an adjacent lake.

Historic Qualities

The battle fought here on June 10, 1864 was a brilliant tactical victory against long odds that cemented Nathan Bedford Forrest's reputation as one of the foremost mounted infantry leaders of the war and his battlefield tactics are studied in military classes today.

It was recently discovered that just two miles southwest of the battlefield was the home of the most revered chief in the Chickasaw Nation, Chief Tishomingo. This resulted in the extension of the proposed Byway to include Tishomingo's home site and marker along with several other Chickasaw historical sites

along the proposed byway. The Battle of Brice's Crossroads is even called the Battle of Tishomingo Creek by many in other parts of the nation. Chief Tishomingo is probably the most famous Chickasaw chief from the past. The town of Tishomingo, MS and Tishomingo County bears his name here in Mississippi. Also, Tishomingo, Oklahoma the county seat of Johnston County bears his name there as well. Here are some accounts compiled by author Harry Warren around the early 1900's. In it he gave some interesting reports. His account from Edwin Thomas reported that and I quote:

"In 1834, before I moved to Pikeville, I made a trip through Indian nation, I first made my way to Cotton Gin, on the east side of the Tombigby, across which was the Indian nation, By night of one of the days when traveling in the Chicksaw nation, we reached the settlement of an Indian, Tishomingo. On this day we were guided by an Indian, and passed several Indian huts. Some Indian ran their horses by us during the day." Later, he went on to say that Tishomingo lived on the south side of a traveled road running a little north of east and that he had a right smart sized farm and a large spring across the road from his house. Another Warren account was from Berry Hodges from Union County who said this while reminiscing to the author in 1880 "While I was living near Ripley I visited the neighborhood of Tishomingo. Tennessee wagoners got me to sell their stock to the Indians, because I understood their language. I found no whites in Tishomingo's neighborhood. Tishomingo was a noted Indian, and old man, very old. I saw him at Ripley several times. The Indian knew me very well. At Indian's houses men would lie on bear-skins, covered with blankets if they had them. Their eating was poor stuff. I have eaten tom-fulla (hominy) beat and boiled, a little lye dropped in it, and turned a little sour) with Tishomingo. Tom-fulla was a common diet among the Indians."

Tishomingo was a US veteran but in service long before the civil war. Actually, he was a veteran of the war of 1812 where he and a group of Chickasaws under leadership of Chickasaw Chief William Colbert joined Davey Crockett in Alabama in battle against the Creeks. Crockett and this contingent of Chickasaws were in the 39th US Infantry under overall command of Andrew Jackson. Tishomingo received a government pension of \$100 a month until his death for his service to the United States. Tishomingo was and is so respected by the Chickasaw Nation he is honored by his image being placed in the center of the National Seal of the Chickasaw Nation. Tishomingo's military service card from the War of 1812 was located in the National Archive and a copy of it is on display at the Brice's Crossroads Interpretive Center.

Worthy of mention also is at the terminus of the Byway is Guntown Mississippi and according to H. B. Cushman is his book "The History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw and Natchez Indians" written in 1899, Guntown, MS gets its name from James Gunn. A British Loyalist who moved into the area shortly after the Revolutionary war and married into the Chickasaw Tribe and although most all histories credit Father T.C. Stuart a Presbyterian missionary for converting the Chickasaws to Christianity most fail to mention that when he arrived, he could not speak the Chickasaw language. So, he enlisted the help of Diana an African American slave of James Gunn to translate for him. It was said that she became concerned about her future during the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811 and 1812 and as a result tried to lead a better life. Years later when preaching started at Monroe mission, she became a regular

attendant. Things being slightly more liberal in the Chickasaw Nation, she was able to learn to read and became a reader of the Bible, caring the New Testament around with her. Dinah was a native of the Chickasaw Country, and although Chickasaw was her native language, she was fluent in English. Because she had the confidence of the Indians, Father Stuart of Monroe Mission employed her as his interpreter for several years, and she was said to have delivered the missionaries messages with great earnestness. Dinah saved enough money to purchase her freedom and helped her husband to purchase his. Dinah according to the church records of Monroe Mission joined the church there in the 1820's and likely lived near there but prior to that time around 1800, histories indicate that James Gunn lived in the area of present day Guntown and that members of his family lived there after his death. The fact that an African American Slave that was fluent in Chickasaw and English was literate and was one of the first to bring the gospel to the southeast is an important historical fact missing from our history books today. Unfortunately, the Chickasaws were forced to move west on the trail of tears but many now return to visit the home sites of their ancestors. With the designation of Tishomingo's home site as an official Chickasaw Nation historic site, the placement of a monument to him last year by the Chickasaw nation there at his home site, many Chickasaws from Oklahoma are now touring the proposed Byway area as well. Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby has sent an official letter of Support from the Chickasaw Nation for the designation of the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

Archeological

As mentioned earlier the Demopolis Clay of the late Campanian Stage of the late Cretaceous Era that was used in Chickasaw pottery should be evident at some of their old home sites. With guidance from the Chickasaw Nation, future archeological studies may be performed at some sites that may help build a better picture of the living conditions of Chickasaw life here just prior to removal west on the Trail of Tears.

Cultural

The Chickasaws returned to the home site of Chief Tishomingo and preformed the first Stomp Dance there in over 170 years. Their cultural connection to this land is still very evident by their comments and sometimes emotional response while visiting this and other historic sites in the old homeland. Below is a photo of their Stop Dance at the home site of Chief Tishomingo.



Reenactments are a yearly occurrence at the Battlefield. Many hundreds from all over the county come to these events. This gives our youth an insight on history and with vivid detail brings history to life for them. The economic impact of these reenactments as well as the daily visits of tourist from is big plus for our region.



The view below from the Crossroads area during a recent reenactment gives us an idea of hardships of our early ancestors.



Recreational

This group use area with water hookups is available for scout camping and tours by reservation through the interpretive center and located along the proposed Byway. This is at mile post 4.709.



Group Use Area open to the public
by Reservations through The
Brices Crossroads Visitor's
Center

Biking

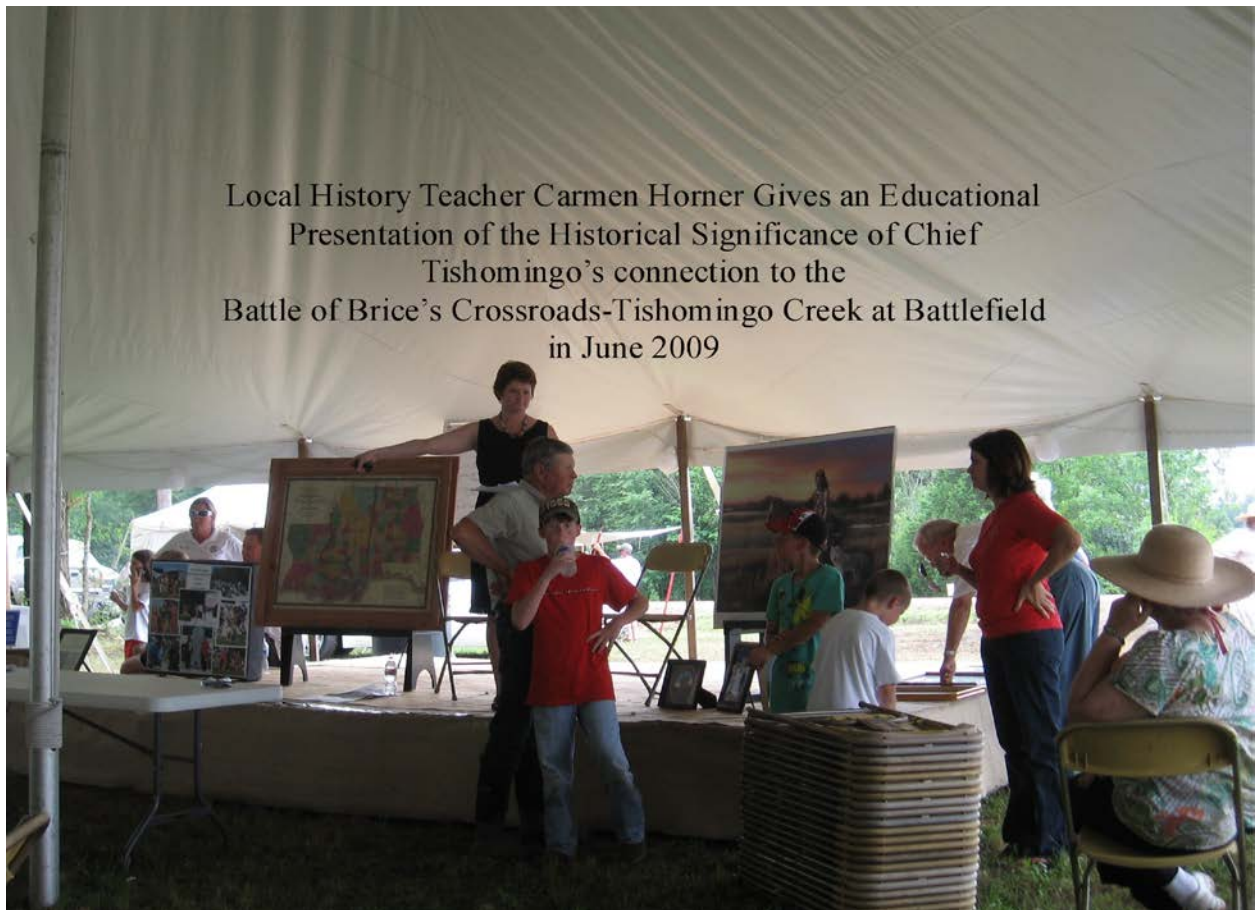
Brian Piazza owner of Bicycle Pacelines Shop in Tupelo said our proposed Byway is one of the most popular routes chosen by local bike enthusiast in the Lee County area. With heavier traffic on other scenic routes in the area making safety an issue, many bikers are choosing CR 503, CR 833, MS 348 and MS 370 to ride. All these are roads are on the proposed Byway and bike traffic has substantially increased over them the last few years.

Scenic

Much of the scenic aspects of this area of Mississippi were common throughout Mississippi many years ago but this isolated and undeveloped area gives us a unique opportunity to see first hand the images our ancestors saw. Fresh air, nature and the often forgotten quality of quietness provide a backdrop for reflection on our past. Spring flowers or fall sage grass, no matter the time of year, you are always greeted with charm and beauty along this route.

Interpretive Plan

Local History Teacher Carmen Horner is pictured below as she is about to give a presentation on the connection of Chief Tishomingo to this area. Our plans are to increase the knowledge of local history teachers so that this piece of American History can be included in their curriculum. Through the efforts of the newly established exhibit at the visitors' center, a driving tour that will direct visitors from the Brice's battlefield site to the Old Town Creek battle site will be inclusive of most of the proposed byway sites. Also, maps, directional signage will be provided through the site's interpretation.



Development Plan

The Chickasaw nation is already relating the erection of the Chief Tishomingo home site marker to members of the tribe, once designated; the byway will be advertised and promoted on the website of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield. Additionally, funding for interpretation is now budgeted the Civil War Center Board for the driving tour of the battlefield and relates to sites on the proposed byway.

Support Letters

We as members of the Corridor Management Group, Endorse and support the designation of the Battle of Brice's Crossroads-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

We understand our continued support is necessary for the future success of the Byway.

We will strive to make enlist the support of Local, State and Federal authorities to build on the already historically developed route to make it even better and plan for it to be one of the best Byways in the State when designated.

Members of the CMG



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The Chickasaw Nation

Post Office Box 1548 • Ada, Oklahoma 74821

(580) 436-2505 • Fax (580) 436-1287

<http://www.chickasaw.net/nation>

BILL ANSATUBBY
GOVERNOR

February 11, 2010

Ms. Felwina Carpenter
Brice's Crossroads Visitor Center
607 Crissham Street
Baldwyn, MS 38824

Dear Ms. Carpenter:

The Chickasaw Nation is pleased to voice our support for the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway. Chief Tishomingo was a great leader for the Chickasaw people and is to this day a respected and beloved chief.

It was an honor for the Chickasaw Nation to place the Chief Tishomingo Monument at his original home site. Having the monument as part of the scenic byway will be a valuable means of educating the public on the heritage of the unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation.

Sincerely,

Bill Ansattubby
Bill Ansattubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

February 25, 2010

Dear Ms. Johnson:

I fully endorse the efforts of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission in their application for the Braces' Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

The scene of a decisive Confederate victory, Brice's Crossroads is now preserved and interpreted by the local commission along with the National Park Service. It is also referred to as the Battle of Tishomingo Creek, which was named for the Chief.

The Chief Tishomingo site is an official Chickasaw Nation Historic Site. Highway 370, Highway 348, CR 833 and CR 503 are rural routes with a rich history of civil war, Indian culture and early settlements of the area. Many of the residents who live along byway endorse this designation.

The Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission and the Chickasaw Nation have made great efforts to protect, preserve and enhance this byway and its historical and cultural sites.

Sincerely,

Warner McBride
Mississippi House of Representatives

Dear Ms. Johnson:

I fully endorse the efforts of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission in their application for the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

The scene of a decisive Confederate victory, Brice's Crossroads is now preserved and interpreted by the local commission along with the National Park Service. It is also referred to as the Battle of Tishomingo Creek, which was named for the Chief.

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Many of the residents who live along the byway endorse this designation.

The Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission and the Chickasaw Nation have made great efforts to protect, preserve and enhance this byway and its historical and cultural sites.

Sincerely,

State Representative District #18

Jerry R. Turner



City of Baldwin

P.O. Box 40

Baldwyn, Mississippi 38824

Phone 662-365-2383

Fax 662-365-2387

Mayor
Michael James



Alderman

Virginia Geise

Ward One

Tom Nelson

Ward Two

Richard Kohlstein

Ward Three

Tamara C. Waters

Ward Four

Alderman at Large

Jason Mc Kay

City Clerk

Nan L. Nunnay

Chief of Police

Don Rouse

February 17, 2010

Alyson Johnson
Mississippi Department of Transportation
Mississippi Scenic Byways
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39215

Dear Ms. Johnson:

As Mayor of the City of Baldwin, I fully endorse the efforts of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission in their application for the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield-Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

The scene of a decisive Confederate victory, Brice's Crossroads is now preserved and interpreted by the local commission along with the National Park Service. The Chief Tishomingo site is an official Chickasaw Nation Historic Site.

In 1998, the City of Baldwin constructed a visitors and interpretive center that educates visitors about the battlefield and the historical significance of the area.

The center is located on Grisham Street where the byway's designation is to begin, if approved, and continues to the crossroads where the battle was fought. The battlefield property is actually located along Highway 370 and granite markers were placed in 1957 to mark where the first shots were fired, battle lines and troop movements.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply with MDOT as a scenic byway for our tourist attraction here in Baldwin.

Sincerely,

Michael James
Mayor
City of Baldwin

"Baldwyn ----- A City On The Move"

LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOBBY G. SMITH
MEMBER - 2ND DISTRICT
SAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI

PHIL MORGAN
MEMBER - 1ST DISTRICT
SAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI

TOMMIE LEE IV
MEMBER - 4TH DISTRICT
SHANNON, MISSISSIPPI

DARRELL RANKIN
MEMBER - 3RD DISTRICT
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

BILL GORSON, CLERK
SHANNON, MISSISSIPPI
SEAN P. THOMPSON, ADMINISTRATOR
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

JOE MCINNIS
MEMBER - 5TH DISTRICT
VENONA, MISSISSIPPI

February 25, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Bobby Smith, District 2 Supervisor, Lee County, MS, would fully support the designation of a route from Baldwyn, MS to the Blair Community as THE BRICE'S CROSSROADS BATTLEFIELD-CHIEF TISHOMINGO SCENIC BYWAY. I believe this would be an asset to Lee County and Mississippi. I will always support the efforts to preserve the heritage of those who have gone before us and the freedoms they have afforded us.

Sincerely,



Bobby Smith
District 2 Supervisor
Lee County, Mississippi



Town Of Guntown

P.O. Box 27

Guntown, Mississippi 38849

Phone (662) 348-5353

Fax (662) 348-2319



Robert Herring
Mayor

Bob Davis
Vice Mayor

Shelly McKee
Clerk

Aldermen

Mickey Kaykendall
Ronny Lindsey
Bob Davis
Greg Cagle
Pete Hopkins

Allyson Johnson
Mississippi Department of Transportation
Mississippi Scenic Byways
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39215

Dear Ms. Johnson:

As Mayor of the Town of Guntown, I fully endorse the efforts of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission in their application for the Brice's Crossroads Battlefield Chief Tishomingo Scenic Byway.

The scene of a decisive Confederate victory, Brice's Crossroads is now preserved and interpreted by the local commission along with the National Park Service. The Chief Tishomingo site is an official Chickasaw Nation Historic Site.

The Brice's Crossroads Visitor and Interpretive Center, located on Grisham Street in Baldwin, is where the byway's designation is to begin, if approved, and continues to the crossroads where the battle was fought. The battlefield property is actually located along Highway 370 and continues on CR 503, also the site of the Chief Tishomingo Homesite. Chief Tishomingo was a great leader for the Chickasaw nation. The route along CR 503 is also the home and council locations of many other Chickasaws. The route will continue to Highway 348 and end at the Campground-Guntown intersection.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply with MDT as a scenic byway that recognizes our heritage and scenic routes here in north Mississippi.

Sincerely,

Robert Herring
Mayor
Town of Guntown

Ms. Alyson Johnson
Mississippi Dept. of Transportation
Scenic Byways Coordinator
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS 39215

Dear Ms. Johnson:

As executive director of the Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission, I am writing to endorse the designation of Highway 370 as a Mississippi Scenic Byway.

Tourists and civil war enthusiasts have traveled the roadway for many years. The National Park Service and the state and local governments recognize it as an important route to the famous site of the Battle of Brice's Crossroads.

The battlefield commission, with the help of Lee and Prentiss County and the Civil War Preservation Trust and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has contributed to the preservation and interpretation of the battlefield.

We appreciate what your department is doing to enhance the beauty of our roadways and to preserve this historic route used by Gen. Forrest men in their pursuit of Union troops in Mississippi.

Sincerely,

John Haynes
Executive Director
BCNBC

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
County of LEE/PRENTISS

(Attach Publication Here)

PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE
The Brice's Crossroads National Battlefield Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 13, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Baldwyn City Hall. The purpose of the hearing is to gain public input regarding the nomination of State Route 370 for designation as a Mississippi Scenic Byway. The proposed designated area includes Highway

370 west from the intersection of Highway 370 and Grisham Street on the east to the intersection of Highway 370 and Cr 833 on the west. In July, 2002, the Mississippi Legislature established the Mississippi Scenic Byways Program through the passage of Senate Bill 2098. The intent of the program is to identify and designate Highway, road and street corridors as scenic byways in an attempt to preserve, enhance and protect the state's intrinsic resources for visitors and residents of the state. Anyone with questions can call Edwina Carpenter at 365-3969. 3/29 - 4/12/06

(SEAL)

Give:

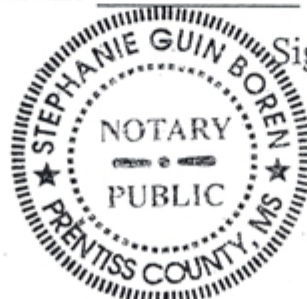
and seal this the

18th

day of

April

2006



BEFORE ME, Stephanie Guin Boren

a Notary Public in and for the said County, day personally came Tammy Bullock

Publisher and proprietor of The Baldwyn News, a newspaper published weekly in the City of Baldwyn, in Lee & Prentiss Counties of Mississippi, who being duly sworn, states that the notice, a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in the aforesaid newspaper for _____ consecutive weeks to-wit:

- Volume 67 Number 40 3/29 2006
- Volume 67 Number 41 4/05 2006
- Volume 67 Number 42 4/12 2006
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____
- Volume _____ Number _____ 20____

Signed: Tammy Bullock, Publisher

Signed: Stephanie B. Boren

My Commission Expires
March 15, 2009

On this the _____

day of _____

20____

By _____

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY HALL- BALDWIN, MS
April 13, 2006 @ 10:00 A.M.**

A public hearing was held at the City of Baldwin's City Hall on April 13, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. A roster of those in attendance is attached.

The purpose of this hearing was to obtain input from local citizens in the development and submission of a scenic byway designation from the Mississippi Department of Transportation. All of those attending were in strong support of proceeding with the application.

There were no negative comments regarding the project either verbally or in writing.

Discussions

The committee members have discussed the proposed Byway with the Mayors of Baldwin and Guntown, Lee County Supervisor Bobby Smith, MDOT and the Chickasaw Nation. All feedback has been supportive of the effort.

