“The Trail Where They Cried”
Digitizing the Northern Route of the Cherokee Removal through Tennessee

Painting by Robert Lindneux 1942

By Deborah Kirk
Haskell GIS Lab
Federal Indian Removal Policy forced the relocation of Southeastern tribes to Indian Territory (Oklahoma).
The Journal of Rev. Daniel S. Butrick
May 19, 1838 - April 1, 1839

CHEROKEE REMOVAL

Monograph One

The Trail of Tears Association
Oklahoma Chapter

The United States

In Apr. with the Cherokee Nation for the purpose of removing to an arrangement with Major General Wayne's agent for the removal of the Cherokees.

NASHVILLE WHIG
Nov 1838

NASHVILLE UNION
FRI. 11/30/1838

The Cherokees—The last detachment of the emigrating Cherokees, numbering 1,700 or 1,800 persons, is now at Mill Creek, about four miles from this city.—Winter is approaching so rapidly that some of the detachments will be compelled to halt for short of their ultimate destination. A point upon the Ohio, convenient to navigation, will probably be selected for their winter quarters. When the navigation becomes good in the spring, they can easily be transported by water to their future homes.

Another Fire.—The paper mill in the lower part of this city was discovered to be on fire this morning about breakfast time, but by the activity of Fire Company No. 1, its progress was checked after burning a small hole in the roof. We regret to learn that Mr. B. Fusstall accidentally got his arm broke, by the engine's running over it.
Historic Hand-Drawn Maps

c. 1839

McMinnville

Collins Ridge

Harrison's Ferry

Buck's Trace

McGregors Island

Irving College

Mt. Lemond

Blue Spruce Cove

c. 1862

c. 1865
James Brown Farmhouse, leader 9th detachment
c. 1900

c. 2004
Thank you:

- National Trail of Tears Association (Research)
- Tennessee Chapter, Trail of Tears Association (Research) - Bill Jones, Shirley Lawrence, Doris Tate Trevino and Floyd Ayers
- Tennessee Trails and Greenways – Mr. Robert Richards
- National Park Service
- And especially the Haskell GIS Lab – Mr. RJ Rowley

Historical Map Sources:

- University of Alabama, Library
- Library of Congress
- David Rumsey Map Collection