



ON THE TRAIL
A Group Leader's Guide to
Old Washington Historic State Park

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ON THE TRAIL

Introduction

The staff at Old Washington Historic State Park has been informed by many school groups and organizations that a field trip to the facility greatly enhances their educational activities. We are pleased to get such an excellent response and would like to thank you by offering this handy guide to help you plan your visit. Those of you who have visited the park before will notice some additions to the programs that we offer. We hope you will take full advantage of these new opportunities!

The purpose of this handbook is to provide information that will:

- 1.) make your visit more pleasant, and
- 2.) increase the benefits for you and your group

What is Old Washington Historic State Park?

Old Washington Historic State Park preserves and interprets to our visitors, the history of Washington, Arkansas, emphasizing its cultural and architectural history from 1824 to 1889, and the historic restoration process.

Washington is a unique, historic Arkansas community conserved and interpreted by Arkansas State Parks in conjunction with the Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation. From its establishment in 1824, Washington was an important stop on the rugged Southwest Trail for pioneers traveling to Texas. James Bowie, Sam Houston and Davy Crockett traveled through Washington. James Black, a local blacksmith, is credited with creating the legendary Bowie Knife here. Later, the town became a major service center for area planters, merchants and professionals. Washington was the Confederate Capital of Arkansas from 1863-1865.

Established in 1973, the state park interprets Washington from 1824-1889. The 1874 Courthouse serves as the park visitor center. Visitors can also see the 1836 Courthouse, Blacksmith Shop, Weapons Museum, several residences and other historic structures on self-guided tours. Buildings open for touring vary each day. Lunch featuring delicious, Southern country fare is served daily in the circa 1832 Williams' Tavern Restaurant.

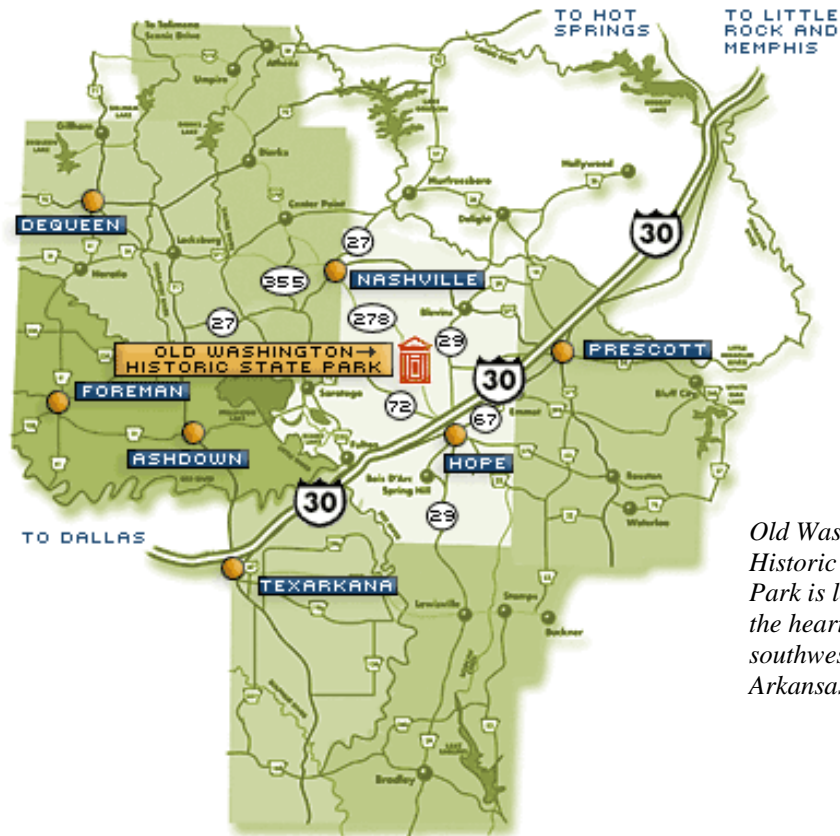
The park also houses the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives, a resource center for historical and genealogical research, and the American Bladesmith Society/ Bill Moran School of Bladesmithing.



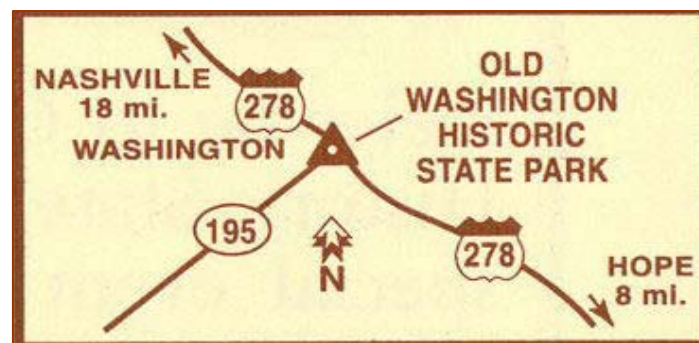
The staff of Old Washington welcomes you to the park.

How do we get there?

The park is located in beautiful Washington, AR. To reach the park, from Hope: take exit 30 off I-30, and take U.S. Highway 278 West for 8 miles. From Nashville: take U.S. Highway 278 East for 18 miles. From Fulton: take Arkansas Highway 195 for 14 miles. See Appendix A for a map showing the location of the park.



Old Washington Historic State Park is located in the heart of southwest Arkansas.



The park is located 8 miles northwest of Hope, and 18 miles southeast of Nashville at the intersection of Highways 278 and 195.



The Visitor Center is located in the 1874 Hempstead County Courthouse.

Where do we begin?

A trip to Old Washington Historic State Park begins at the Visitor Center, which is located in the restored historic 1874 Hempstead County Courthouse. Information, maps, and literature as well as the park's gift shop can be found there. The courthouse is easy to spot when coming into town. It is a two-story red brick building with a large cupola on top. Coming into the park on West HWY 278 from Hope, the visitor center will be located on the left. Coming into the park on East HWY 278 from Nashville, the visitor center will be located on the right. Coming into the park on North HWY 195 from Fulton, the visitor center will be on the right.

Where are the restrooms?

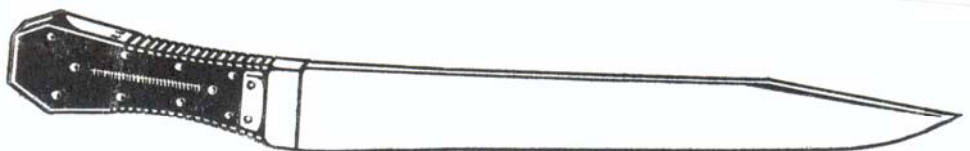
Restrooms are located behind the visitor center (1874 Hempstead County Courthouse), behind the Williams' Tavern Restaurant, behind the 1914 Washington School, and in the courtyard of the 1836 Hempstead County Courthouse. All restrooms are ADA accessible.

What are the Park's Hours of Operation?

The park visitor center is open Sunday through Saturday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The park is closed for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

How do we contact you?

Old Washington Historic State Park
P.O. Box 98
Washington, Arkansas 71862
Phone: (870) 983-2684
Fax: (870) 983-2736
Email: oldwashington@arkansas.com
Web: www.oldwashingtonstatepark.com



A drawing of the Bowie Knife that Washington smith James Black made for Jim Bowie.

Planning a Trip to Old Washington Historic State Park

Group Leader Information

Teachers and group leaders are requested to schedule their visit to the park by calling the park visitor center during business hours. Scheduling should be planned well in advance due to the high volume of groups that participate in the educational programs annually. Allow at least 3 hours for basic tour program time with additional time for shopping, lunch, and restroom breaks. Fees are required to tour the park's historic buildings. When you call to schedule a reservation for your group, please be prepared to provide the following information:

- Several options for dates (or have your calendar ready)
- Your name
- Organization name, address, phone number, and e-mail
- Number of children and number of adults
- Expected arrival time and departure time
- Special requests and educational objectives
- Plans for lunch
- Any necessary accommodations for children or adults with disabilities
- Grade level, age, or general description of audience



Students learn about home life in Washington in the 1800s during a visit to the Simon T. Sanders House.

Making a Preview Visit

Teachers are strongly encouraged to visit the park in order to prepare their class prior to their scheduled visit. This will provide contact with the park personnel and allow you to become familiar with locations of restrooms, water fountains, exhibits, classrooms, audiovisual services, trails, and the accessibility of the site. You may also pick up teaching resources.

What should we wear?

Park staff suggests that your group wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing appropriate for outdoor activities and inclement weather. If it should rain, the tour will be offered unless there is severe or threatening weather. Please have your group dress accordingly. It is strongly suggested that you bring sunscreen and bug repellent in the spring and summer months. If, for any reason, you would prefer to keep your group indoors on the day of your visit, please contact the Park Interpreter prior to your reservation date for other programming options.

Can we visit the gift shop?

Yes! If you would like to allow your group time to visit the gift shop, please plan to spend additional time beyond the time allowed for scheduled programming. Inform the park staff at the time of your arrival and they will work out arrangements for shopping. We can only have a limited number of people shopping at one time and only those who brought money for shopping should be in the gift shop area. The remainder of your group may wait outside the building or look through the museum area. Members of your group should be encouraged to make their selections quickly so that others may have their turn. A variety of gifts is available. Gift shops are located at the 1874 Courthouse and the Candle Shop.

Can we eat lunch there?

Sure! The following options are available for lunch:

- **Sack lunches:** You are welcome to bring sack lunches. We have 10 semi-shaded picnic tables available behind the Williams' Tavern Restaurant. There are no eating facilities inside the Visitor Center. The parks pavilion near the 1914 Washington School, if available, can be used for small groups of 20 or less.
- **Williams' Tavern Restaurant:** You may also choose to eat at Williams' Tavern Restaurant. The Restaurant is located in an historic 1832 building. Small groups of 20 or less may order off the menu. For larger groups, a special selection can be preordered and be available upon arrival.
- **Hamburger lunch:** The park can prepare a hamburger meal for your group if you wish. Hamburgers are prepared by park staff and served hot off the grill. We will need to know how many to prepare. There is a charge for the hamburger lunch.
- **Inclement weather:** The 1940 WPA

Gymnasium, if available, may be used as an eating facility during inclement weather. Please contact staff prior to the arrival date of your group if you would like to use the gymnasium. In some instances, we may not be able to offer any indoor eating facilities so please have a contingency plan for rain or hot and cold weather.



Students enjoy a hamburger lunch in the 1940 Gymnasium during inclement weather.

Candy, crackers, and soda are sold in the gift shop. We ask that you please dispose of all trash in receptacles located near the picnic tables or in the gymnasium. No food or drink will be allowed inside any of the park's historic homes and museums.

What if it rains?

Inclement weather may limit some outdoor activities. Alternate indoor programs or activities may be provided. All groups should contact the park to discuss options PRIOR to the day of your arrival if you would like alternate programming. Light ponchos can be purchased in the gift shop.



A living history encounter at the Royston Log House.

Accessibility for people with disabilities

The Visitor Center and Gift Shop, Williams' Tavern Restaurant, and many of our historic buildings are wheelchair accessible. We are also committed to providing program access to people with disabilities to ensure full participation. This is accomplished by providing auxiliary aids and services when necessary. If you are aware of any auxiliary aids and services that would ensure full participation of any of your group members, staff, or chaperones, please let us know when you call to make your reservations or as soon as you are aware

of a need. For your convenience, we do have a wheelchair available at the park. You may reach us at (870) 983-2684 or by e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com.

What will we do when we get there?

When you arrive please have your group wait outside or on the bus while you check your group in and pay your fee at the 1874 Courthouse Visitor Center. **We ask that you pay all fees in one lump sum. Our staff will need to know the exact number of children and adults, the time you need to leave the park, and if you want to give the students time to shop.** At that time the staff will give you instructions on how to divide your group and the order of your programming. **IF YOUR GROUP ARRIVES LATE, YOUR PROGRAMS MAY HAVE TO BE SHORTENED.**

Discipline of your group

You are responsible for the discipline of your group. This allows the park staff to spend their energy providing quality programs and responding to questions from the group. We suggest that your group have one adult chaperone for every 10 to 15 children.

Chaperones are expected to aid in supervision of the group. Therefore, please have your chaperones dispersed throughout the group to ensure discipline problems do not arise.

Please make chaperones aware of their disciplinary responsibilities. Park staff may request that visitors who continually break rules or who are disrespectful to park staff or other members of the group to leave the program immediately. Park staff may end a program or guided tour at their discretion if the problem is not corrected.

Rules and Regulations

To help protect your group and your park, please make sure every member of your group follows the rules of the park. **All plants, trees, animals, artifacts, and features in the park are protected.** Please leave them for the next person to enjoy. Please dispose of trash properly. Trash containers are located near picnic tables and inside the buildings. While on tour, all members of the group should remain with the group unless they are instructed by staff or a chaperone to leave the group for any reason. To protect other visitors, pets must be kept on a leash and attended to at all times. Pets are not allowed inside the buildings. Service dogs are allowed in buildings. No smoking within 25 ft of any entrance to buildings or inside any buildings. No food or drink inside buildings.

Prepare Your Students for the Trip

What Your Students Need to Know:

Studies have shown that students learn more when they know the plan for the day: where they will be, what will be expected of them, and when they will return. Lack of this basic information often causes worry about “what happens next,” to the point they cannot concentrate on your educational mission. Be sure they know:

- The time and date of departure
- Educational objective of the field trip
- Lunch
- Rules (of teacher and the park)
- Parental permission forms as required by the school
- Field trip supplies (camera, notebook, pencils, etc.)
- Special assignments/ worksheets
- Point of departure
- Necessary expenses
- Appropriate dress
- Available free time
- The time they will return to school



*An Historic Catalpa tree with the
1836 Hempstead County
Courthouse in the background.*

Recommended resources to help you prepare

Once you have explained the mechanics of the trip, prepare your students for field trip learning with classroom activities related to what they will be doing at the park. Research shows that students retain more information from field trips if they have some knowledge about what they will see, hear, and experience prior to their visit. We hope that you will take the time to share some of this information with your students prior to visiting Old Washington Historic State Park. Consider some of the resources below as possibilities for preparing your students.

- *Washington, Arkansas: History in the Southwest Trail*, by Mary Medearis
- *Sam Williams: Printer's Devil*, edited by Mary Medearis
- *Historic Washington Arkansas*, by Steven Brooke.

The above publications can be purchased in the park visitor center.

Also visit Old Washington's website at: <http://www.oldwashingtonstatepark.com>. For general information on visiting any Arkansas State Park, visit <http://www.arkansasstateparks.com/schools/>.

Using Educational Supplements

Pre and post-trip educational supplements are included in the appendix of this guidebook. These supplements cover multiple grade levels. If you would like additional supplements, contact the Park Interpreter. For convenience, these supplements are tabbed. If you are on our mailing list, you will receive new supplements to add to this guidebook as they become available. To join our mailing list, contact the park by phone at (870) 983-2684 or e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com.

Educational Programming

The staff at Old Washington Historic State Park has developed a variety of programs aimed at meeting the educational goals of teachers, scout leaders, and civic organizations. In fact, many groups visit the park a number of times over the course of several years. By providing different programs aimed at various age levels, we ensure groups get a new and exciting experience with each visit to the park.

Programs for Schools

Old Washington Historic State Park is proud to present programs that meet or exceed the standards of the Arkansas Department of Education's curriculum frameworks. Traditionally, Arkansas History is thought of as the only curriculum framework offered at the park. However, many programs meet the strands in more than one curriculum's frameworks. For a list of the curriculum frameworks that each program meets, please contact the park interpreter at (870) 983-2684 or by e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com.



A park interpreter presents a program to students on notable and historic trees in Old Washington Historic State Park.

Technological and Cultural Change: A Program for Middle and Secondary School Students

Explore the benefits, detriments, and dynamics of technological changes as it applies to culture and economics, with emphasis on changes in 19th-century Arkansas and America. Students will take part in the programs at the following sites:

James Black's Blacksmith Shop

Here students will study the transitions from hand labor in the early iron and steel trades to the resulting rise of mass production in the iron and steel industry of 19th century America. Programs include fuels used in different types of forges, a first hand look at routine repair work and fabrication in the shops of early Arkansas blacksmiths and bladesmiths such as James Black of Washington.

Agricultural and Animal Areas

Study developments affecting animal usage and care in Arkansas and America. Transportational programs related to this will cover different wagons, carriages and their uses. If available, a ride in a horse- or mule-drawn vehicle may be offered. Contact the park for availability.



Students learn about animal and agriculture in Old Washington.

B. W. Edwards Weapons Museum

Explore the development of firearms from the guilds and schools of gun-making locally and nationally with a look toward the evolution of mass-produced parts, attention being given to civilian and military cultural considerations.

Monroe House

Allows students a look at how early cloth and wool were made and used in contrast to the modern mass-produced textiles industry. Note: This site, like others, offers teachers the ability to show students how such things as animal usage and husbandry interrelate to other disciplines, such as, in this case, spinning and weaving. Development of dyes and its relation to chemistry will be examined also.



A guide operates a printing press in the Washington Telegraph Print Museum.

Washington Candle Shop

Journey through the history of illumination at the candle shop with emphasis on cultural and economic changes associated with advancements in lighting. Students will get to take home a candle that they dipped themselves.

The Washington Telegraph Print Museum

Students will learn about the techniques used to print a newspaper in a frontier town. Programs will include learning how to set type, preparing ink, and printing with a 19th century printing press. Students

will also learn about the importance of a newspaper to a 19th century Arkansas town, specifically the *Washington Telegraph*.

Technological and Cultural Change is the basic tour package offered to school groups. Up to two more sites, such as the Sanders House or Royston Log House, may be added at no cost. Fifteen minutes per site should be allowed.

Any of the above listed programs may be extended for those classes wishing a more detailed and in-depth analysis of the subject matter. Programs may be extended from 45 minutes to one hour for a maximum of 20 students per program for an additional fee. Contact the park by phone at (870) 983-2684 or e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com for more information.

Custom Designing Your Interpretive Programs

The following programs are exclusively offered as extended programs for schools and groups, for an additional fee. If you desire, you may forego the basic tour package and substitute three of the extended programs below for the base tour price. Contact the park for reservations at least one month before your trip at (870) 983-2684 or e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com for a custom-designed program.

Historic Gardening

Join the staff for a tour of the park's gardens, and their important roles in the survival of everyday life in the 1800s.

“Who’s Buried Here” Cemetery Program

In the Pioneer Cemetery, one can see the final resting place of the people who made Washington's history.



Students learning the Virginia Reel, a popular American dance of the 1800s.

Historic Dancing

Join the staff and learn a period dance such as the Virginia Reel, set to music of the period.

Historic Games

Learn about the types of games, both indoor and outdoor, that children played during the 1800s, from the game of grace to shooting marbles.

Historic Trees

Take a stroll through the park and visit some of the park's notable and historic trees, which will leave you thinking, “If these trees could talk, just think about what they could tell us.” Self-guided tour: free. With guide, additional fee required. Allow 45 minutes to one hour.

Storytelling

Hear an old story that has been passed from generation to generation. Sit under the Magnolia tree for some good ole tales!



A group of students enjoys a ride on a horse-drawn surrey while traveling down the Old Southwest Trail.

Transportation

Learn about the Southwest Trail and other transportation routes in the area, and the people, animals, and the types of vehicles that have passed down them.

Period Music

Learn about the types and formats of music from the 1800s.

Pioneer Cooking Demonstrations

Learn about pioneer food preparation methods and the types of cooking utensils needed to make a truly home cooked meal.

Primitive Dyeing

Learn about the primitive techniques of dyeing fabrics and cloth.

Meet Major Bering

The time is 1864 and the War Between the States is raging. Meet Major John Bering, a Union prisoner of war who has been brought to Washington, Arkansas. Listen to him as he describes the harrowing story of his escape from a Confederate Prison of War Camp, his recapture, and his impressions of Washington. Minimum of 20 people required, maximum of 60.

Meet James P. Jett

James P. Jett, frontier editor and co-owner of the newspaper the *Washington Telegraph*, talks about social and economic issues of early 1840s Arkansas and elaborates on the origins of the Bowie Knife. Minimum of 20 people required, maximum of 60.

Tales of Washington

This guided candle-lantern tour provides guests a glimpse into the lives of the residents of nineteenth century Washington. Moderate walking is involved in this hour and a half presentation. This program is available during the winter months during the evening. Minimum of 10 people required, maximum of 20.

New Interpretive Programs

Park Interpreters are continually developing new and exciting educational programs for groups who visit the park. If you have any suggestions for interpretive programs or educational activities you would like to see at Old Washington Historic State Park in the future, Park Interpreters are always open for new ideas and comments. Send them by e-mail to oldwashington@arkansas.com or by U.S. Mail at P.O. Box 98, Washington, AR 71862.

Out of Park/Traveling Interpretive Programs

Some of the previously mentioned programs can be provided in your schools or other facilities. Staff members can travel to locations that are within a 50-mile radius of the park. These programs are available on a limited basis so please call (870) 983-2684 or e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com well in advance.

Comments/Program Evaluation

We hope your experience at Old Washington Historic State Park is a great one! In order to improve upon our programs, exhibits, trails, and gift shop area, the park staff asks that you please fill out a program evaluation form and/or a park comment card. We appreciate receiving your feedback and suggestions. Evaluation forms and/ or comment cards will be distributed at the time of your visit.

Spending the Night at Old Washington

Can We Spend the Night at Old Washington?

Yes! Old Washington Historic State Park has many wonderful and exciting things to see, and you might want to take longer than a few hours or a day to see everything. Extra programming is available for an additional charge. All after-hours programs conclude at 8 PM. Contact the park by phone at (870) 983-2684 or by e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com for more information or to make an overnight reservation.



The 1914 Washington School is now used for overnight accommodations and as a rental facility



48 Bunk Beds are located in the 1914 School.

Where Can We Sleep?

Old Washington Historic State Park offers 48 bunks inside the restored 1914 Washington School.

What items do you provide?

Old Washington Historic State Park provides sheets, pillows with pillow cases, a blanket, a towel, and a wash cloth. You will need to bring soap, a toothbrush & toothpaste, and shampoo.

Do you have shower facilities?

The park has a modern shower/ restroom facility behind the 1914 Washington School.

Can we store our things securely?

Yes. The park has wall lockers available to secure your items. However, padlocks are not provided. You will need to bring your own padlock.

Can we camp?

Yes you can camp. The park has several areas available to pitch tents. Any open fire must be kept in the fire ring only!

What will we do in the evening?

You may pick several of the extended programs listed under “Custom Designing Your Interpreter Programs at an additional fee. All after hours programming will end at 8 PM.

What about meals?

Williams’ Tavern Restaurant has some meals available. They offer a themed “Civil War Supper,” breakfast, and a snack at an additional fee.



Williams’ Tavern Restaurant, built in 1832, serves delicious southern cooking.

Other Things to Do at Old Washington

American Bladesmith Society

Bill Moran School of Bladesmithing

Visit the only school in the world dedicated to the art of making knives and swords. The school has some of the finest instructors in the world. Classes are offered through Texarkana College, in Texarkana, TX. Visit the School’s website at: http://www.americanbladesmith.com/ABS_School1.htm

Gardens

While in the park see the heritage vegetable gardens behind the Royston Log House and next to the Williams' Tavern Restaurant. The herb garden behind the Purdom House offers visitors a chance to see a variety of medicinal herbs.



The Augustus Crouch House, built in 1856, showcases exhibits on historic tools and construction techniques.

Historic Cemeteries

See two historic cemeteries. Visit pioneer and early settlers graves at the Pioneer Cemetery. The cemetery, one of the oldest in southwest Arkansas, began about 1820 and was used until 1860. The Presbyterian Cemetery began in 1860, and continues to be used today as the town's cemetery.

Historic Trees

See historic and grand champion trees in the park including: Magnolia Tree, planted in 1839, and one of the largest in the south, Pecan, and a "Moon" Loblolly Pine Tree, as well as many more.

Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives

Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives is a central clearing house for archival material from twelve counties in southwest Arkansas: Columbia, Howard, Hempstead, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Pike, Polk, Sevier, and Union.

Visit the Archives online at: <http://www.southwestarchives.com>

Community Service Project

If you or your group would like to conduct a community service project at Old Washington, please contact us for approval. We will have some ideas if you are not sure what you would like to do.

Planning a Workshop, Conference, or Meeting at Old Washington

Do you have a suitable location to host a workshop, conference, or meeting?

Yes! If you or your school, group, or organization would like to host a workshop, conference, or meeting at Old Washington, we have several facilities to meet your needs. Contact the park by phone at (870) 983-2684 or e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com to check for availability and prices.

What Facilities do you have?

- **1914 Washington School:** This historic school building has a large auditorium capable of holding 120 people. It also has one large conference room and two smaller meeting rooms. The kitchen includes a refrigerator, ice maker, coffee maker, tea maker, dishwasher, and a microwave. The 1914 School building also provides multimedia capability including a digital projector, VCR, DVD, and hookup for laptop computer and dial-up internet access. The 1914 School also offers 48 bunk beds (24 in two rooms), restroom/ shower facility, and wall lockers for people wishing to spend the night.

- **1940 WPA Gymnasium:** This historic gymnasium can be utilized in several ways. Tables and chairs can be set up on the floor to accommodate 200-250 people. The bleachers can seat an additional 100-150 people. The stage can be used for a variety of programs and presentations. The

gymnasium has a full catering kitchen including a microwave, refrigerator, freezer, food warmer, and food preparation tables.



The 1940 WPA Gymnasium can host your special workshop, conference, or meeting.

- **Williams' Tavern Restaurant:** The Historic 1832 Williams' Tavern Restaurant makes the ideal setting for any lunch or dinner meeting. The restaurant also makes a perfect place to dine during your locally planned meeting. Contact the park for menu options. Maximum of 60 people.

Can We Cater?

Williams' Tavern Restaurant can cater your meal to either the 1914 Washington School or the 1940 WPA Gymnasium. Please contact the park by phone at (870) 983-2684 or by e-mail at oldwashington@arkansas.com to plan your meal for your workshop or program.

Special Events & Workshops

What are Your Special Events?

In addition to visiting historic sites, Old Washington Historic State Park presents and hosts a variety of special events year round. These events are listed in the park's Calendar of Events. If you are interested in receiving a Calendar of Events or would like to be put on our mailing list, please call (870) 983-2684 or e-mail the park at oldwashington@arkansas.com. Throughout the year, Old Washington Historic State Park offers these special events for schools and the general public. Programming for these events meets or exceeds the standards of the Arkansas Department of Education's curriculum frameworks. The number of students may be limited based on program availability. Make your reservations early.

Frontier Day

Annually, Late April

Curriculum-based school programs relating to life on the frontier are presented from 10 AM to 2 PM. Students will be able to visit with frontiersmen, learn about flint knapping, try their hand at 'throwing the hawk' and take home a candle they dipped themselves as well as other activities and programs. Fee required per student.



Students try their hand at sawing logs, frontier style.

Trial by Jury

Annually, Once during the Spring; Once during the Fall

Trial by Jury provides visitors the opportunity to experience the judicial system and interpretation of the law on the frontier. This dramatic retrial of a murder case is conducted in the actual building where the original trial was held in 1844. Members of the audience are chosen as jurors. Experience the difference between justice today and yesteryear! This program will be presented once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Length: 2 hours. Limit of 60, reservations required. Recommended minimum age is 10. \$10 Adults, \$5 Children. Call (870) 983-2660.



Students take part in infantry drill during Civil War Day.

Civil War Day

Annually, Early, November

Students join reenactors and park staff as they learn about the military and civilian issues of the War Between the States. Visit the 1836 Hempstead County Courthouse, which served as the Confederate Capitol of Arkansas from 1863 to 1865. Students may learn a 19th Century dance, drill with an infantry sergeant, see a cannon firing demonstration, and participate in many other activities from 10 AM to 2 PM. Fee required per student.

Christmas Past

Annually, December

Learn how our forefathers celebrated the season! See the historic homes and buildings decked out in natural period decorations. Special curriculum-based school programs relating to the Christmas season and preparation for winter will be presented daily during this two-week period. Fee required per student.



During Christmas season, our homes are dressed in period holiday splendor.

What kinds of Workshops Do You Offer?

Old Washington Historic State Park will be planning special workshops throughout the year. Times will be from 10 AM – 2 PM. Up-to-the date information will be posted to the park’s website at: <http://www.oldwashingtonstatepark.com/calendar-of-events/>, or you may call (870) 983-2684 or e-mail oldwashington@arkansas.com for more information. Some of the topics will include:

- Gardening
- Dyes for Textiles
- Dutch Oven Cooking
- Harness and Driving
- Introduction to Forging
- Candle making
- Bow-making
- Bonnet-making Class
- Introduction to Weaving



Students forge hot steel at the Blacksmith Shop.

Junior Naturalist Program

The Junior Naturalist Program is a special environmental awareness program for our young park visitors, aged 7 through 14. Participants qualify for a Junior Naturalist certificate and badge by participating in five interpretive programs and completing one service project.

Requirements include:

- Must be 7-14 years of age (or capable of explaining something that was learned.)
- Pick up an activity card from any Arkansas State Parks Visitor Center
- Attend five interpretive programs and have a Park Interpreter initial your card after each activity.
- Complete one service project suggested by a Park Interpreter or staff.
- Turn in your activity card to a Park Interpreter or at any State Park Visitor Center.



After completing the requirements, participants will become an Arkansas State Parks Junior Naturalist. They will receive a Junior Naturalist badge and certificate.

Visit the Junior Naturalist website at: http://www.arkansaskids.com/junior_ranger.asp.

Other Parks to Add to Your Experience

Fun trips and vacations begin with a visit to Arkansas's State Parks. Arkansas State Parks offer a wide diversity of facilities and outdoor offerings for your family. They are naturals for enjoying the beauty and history of Arkansas. Consider visiting another

Arkansas State Park when planning a trip to Old Washington Historic State Park. Time and distance from Old Washington Historic State Park is noted.

Millwood Lake State Park

1564 Highway 32 East
Ashdown, AR 71822
E-mail: millwood@arkansas.com
Phone: (870) 898-2800
approximately 25-30 miles/ 30 minutes.



The fishing is great at Millwood Lake State Park.

Crater of Diamonds State Park

209 State Park Road
Murfreesboro, AR 71958
E-mail:
craterofdiamonds@arkansas.com
Phone: (870) 285-3113
approximately 40 miles/ 30 minutes

White Oak Lake State Park

Route 2, Box 28
Bluff City, AR 71722
E-mail: whiteoaklake@arkansas.com
Phone: (870) 685-2748
approximately 45 miles/ 50 minutes

DeGray Lake Resort State Park

2027 State Park Entrance Road
Bismarck, AR 71929-8194
E-mail: degraylakeresort@arkansas.com
Phone: (501) 865-2801
<http://www.degray.com>
approximately 52 miles/ 45 minutes



Dig for diamonds at North America's only public diamond mine, located at Crater of Diamonds State Park near Murfreesboro.

Daisy State Park

103 East Park
Kirby, AR 71950-9061
E-mail: daisy@arkansas.com
Phone: (870) 398-4487
approximately 60 miles/ 1 hour 15 minutes

Cossatot River State Park

1874 Highway 278 West
Wickes, AR 71973
E-mail: cossatotriver@arkansas.com
Phone: (870) 385-2201
approximately 85 miles/ 1 hour 45 minutes

Queen Wilhelmina State Park

3877 Highway 88 West

Mena, AR 71953

E-mail: queenwilhelmina@arkansas.com

Phone: (479) 394-2863

www.queenwilhelmina.com

approximately 100 miles/ 2 hours



Queen Wilhelmina State Park is located high atop Rich Mountain, Arkansas's second highest peak.

Arkansas State Parks

To learn more about these and the other wonderful state parks of Arkansas please contact:

Division of State Parks, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

One Capitol Mall

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

1-888-AT-PARKS (V/TT)

info@arkansasstateparks.com

<http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com>

We would like to hear from you

If you have further questions, comments, or would like to make a reservation, please call the park at (870) 983-2684, or write to us at the following address:

Old Washington Historic State Park
P.O. Box 98
Washington, Arkansas 71862

Fax: (870) 983-2736
Email: oldwashington@arkansas.com
Web: www.oldwashingtonstatepark.com

Appendix: Educational Supplements