

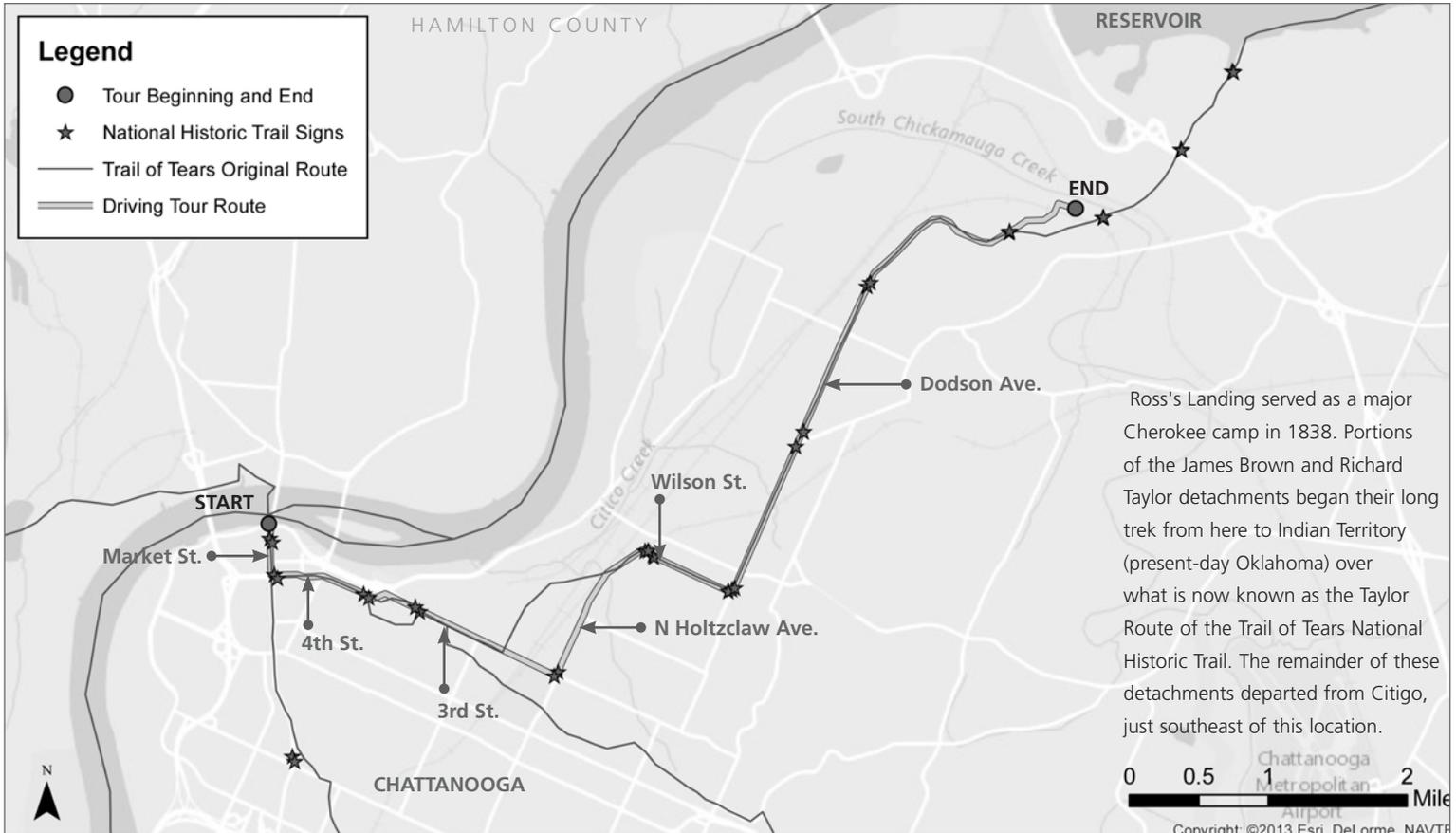
Trail of Tears

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail
Hamilton County, Tennessee



Driving Tour: Retracing the Trail of Tears through Chattanooga, Tennessee



Ross's Landing served as a major Cherokee camp in 1838. Portions of the James Brown and Richard Taylor detachments began their long trek from here to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma) over what is now known as the Taylor Route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The remainder of these detachments departed from Citigo, just southeast of this location.

General guidance for following the route

This driving tour is approximately seven miles long in one direction, beginning from Ross's Landing. Along the drive, you will be following a section of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail as closely as possible along modern day roads. Keep an eye out for "Original Route" signs that mark the route along the way. Images of these signs are shown below.

Beginning the tour - Ross's Landing to 4th Street

Beginning at Ross's Landing, head south on Market Street. This historic road is a part of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

guide two detachments of Cherokee to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma).

Follow the original route along Market Street for four blocks until you reach 4th Street.

Note: If you continue south on Market Street, you can also follow the historic route of the Trail of Tears, designated as the Round-Up Route, for 11 blocks to the intersection of Main and Market Streets.

At 4th Street, turn left. You are now on the route Richard Taylor and James Brown used to

4th Street to Wilson Street

Continue east on 4th Street. In 0.8 miles, 4th Street will merge onto 3rd street. Continue southeast on 3rd Street for another mile until you reach the intersection of North Holtzclaw Avenue.

Turn left onto North Holtzclaw Avenue, and follow it north for one mile to the intersection of Wilson Street. Turn right onto Wilson Street.



Wilson Street to Sterchi Farm Trailhead

Follow Wilson Street for a half a mile to Dodson Avenue. Turn left onto Dodson Avenue and continue north for 3.7 miles until you reach the Sterchi Farm trailhead (on the right). This entire stretch of road follows the historic route of the trail. *Note:* Dodson Avenue turns into Harrison Pike around the 2.5 mile mark.

The Sterchi Farm trailhead marks the end of this driving tour. From here, the Taylor Route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail crosses Chickamauga Creek and heads northeast towards present-day Harrison.

Tidbit of history: From this location in 1838, the Taylor and Brown detachments headed towards Vann's Town, just weeks apart, where they set up camp and made their final preparations for the journey west. From Vann's Town, the detachments crossed the Tennessee River and traveled northwest through what is now Chester Frost Park and the cities of Lakesite and Soddy-Daisy. Much

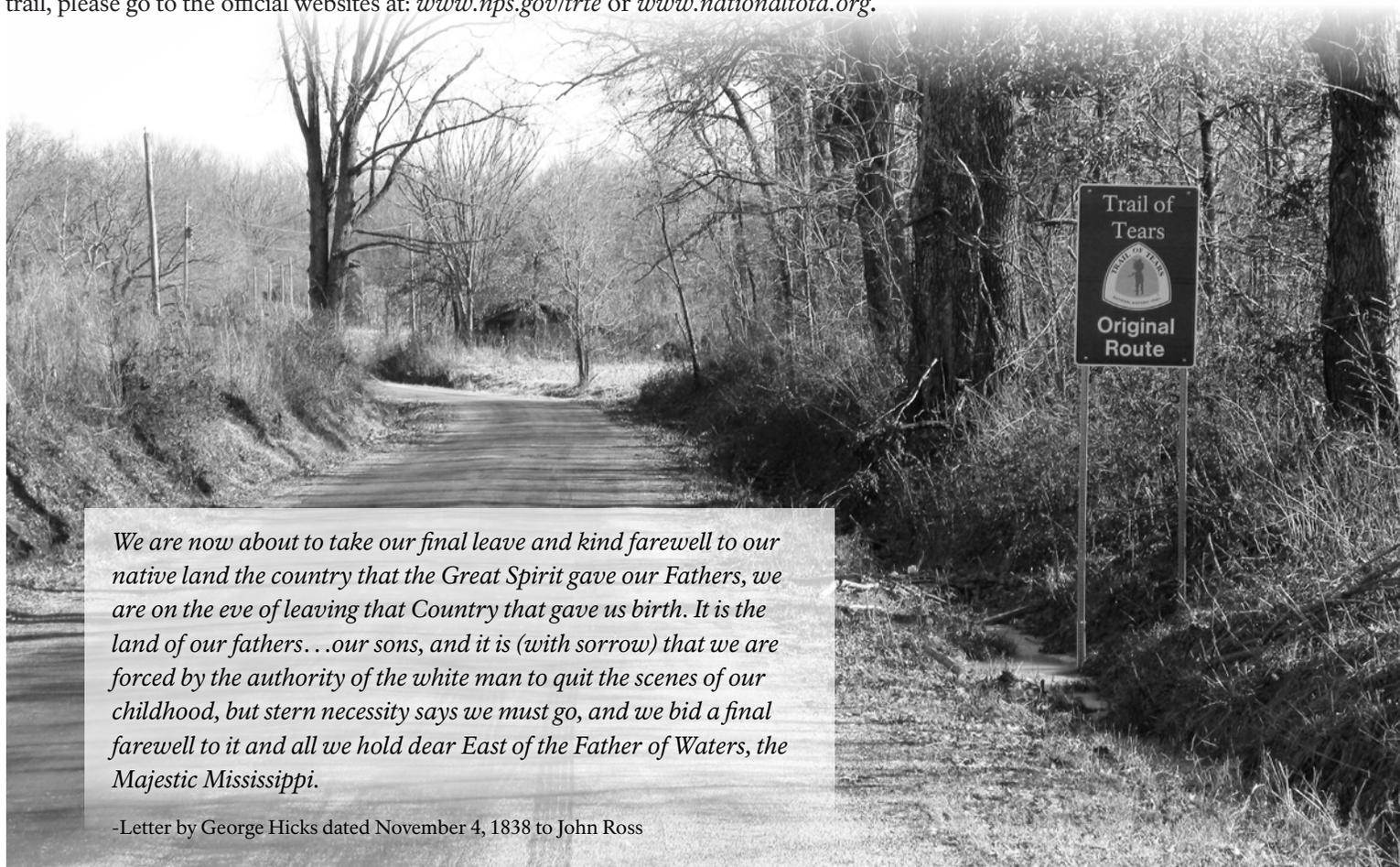
of the trail across this area, including historic Vann's town, now lies under the Chickamauga Reservoir.

If you wish to continue the driving tour, please go to www.chattanoogaofun.com/vacation-packages/civil-war-history or www.nps.gov/trte/planyourvisit and download the driving tour labeled Hamilton County Driving Tour. That tour is approximately 12 miles long one way.

If you would like to walk a portion of the Trail of Tears NHT in this area, please visit www.nps.gov/chch/planyourvisit/things2do.htm for more information and directions to the Brown's Ferry Federal Road trace, located on Moccasin Bend.

To access a map that details the alignment of the Trail of Tears as it heads west visit: imgis.nps.gov/#Trails and click on the National Historic Trails Map Viewer link.

For more information on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and opportunities to visit sites and segments along the trail, please go to the official websites at: www.nps.gov/trte or www.nationaltota.org.



We are now about to take our final leave and kind farewell to our native land the country that the Great Spirit gave our Fathers, we are on the eve of leaving that Country that gave us birth. It is the land of our fathers...our sons, and it is (with sorrow) that we are forced by the authority of the white man to quit the scenes of our childhood, but stern necessity says we must go, and we bid a final farewell to it and all we hold dear East of the Father of Waters, the Majestic Mississippi.

-Letter by George Hicks dated November 4, 1838 to John Ross

Thank you to our partners and many volunteers for making this trail experience a reality.