Rediscovery Description

In the year 2006, the SFTA and the NPS undertook an enormous effort to survey sites along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. Known as the **Rediscovery Project**, primary team members included: NPS staff, John Conoboy and Andrea Sharon; SFTA Members and Trail experts: Ross Marshall and Craig Crease; and SFTA Association Manager, Clive Siegle. Additional help was obtained from Chapter members and local experts along the Trail. The goals of the Santa Fe Trail Rediscovery Project were to: 1.) Visit as many Trail sites as possible, document conditions, levels of visitor services and interpretive media, potential threats to resources, and management issues; 2.) Take documentary photographs and GPS coordinates; 3.) arrange with local Santa Fe Trail Association chapter members to provide assistance to the survey team and input on the local trail resources; 4.) prepare a final report with copies of all site forms and photographs provided to the National Park Service and the Santa Fe Trail Association headquarters; and to 5.) recommend sites that need additional development and interpretation, sites with resource management and protection needs, and sites that should not be developed and left in their existing condition. During the survey, 339 sites were visited and assessed. Those who assisted the Survey members in their efforts and research included: Dub Couch, Don Cress, Britt and Linda Colle, Steve Schmidt, David Clapsaddle, Larry Mix, Jeff Trotman, Faye Gaines, Hal Jackson, Billy Mock, Morris Alexander, Roger Slusher, Joanne VanCoevern, Kathleen Pickard, and John Atkinson. Upon completion of the site visits, information was then compiled by survey members and data was compiled and entered. Brooke Safford, NPS, prepared the final results of this data in a very impressive CD format. A hard copy of the results is also available at SFTA Headquarters, however, due to the fact that the report is 855 pages long, the SFTA board decided that the CD format would be more user friendly to the majority of people wanting to access this information. CD’s have been given to all chapter presidents, all SFTA board members, as well as the SFTA headquarters. In addition, this information can be accessed at the following website:  [http://ntsimr.digit.utah.edu](http://ntsimr.digit.utah.edu)  In October 2010, Jeff Trotman, Mapping/Marking Chair and Brooke Safford, NPS presented this project to the other historic trails administered through the Santa Fe NPS office. The NPS hopes that other trails will follow SFTA’s example and results from all Trails can be posted on their website.