

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Fort Smith National Historic Site

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: FOSM

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Fort Smith National Historic Site will protect and preserve the physical grounds, buildings and artifacts associated with the varied and unique historical periods. At the same time the park will interpret and disseminate the stories, historical facts and the impacts and relevance of the 80+ years of history that occurred both within the park and Indian Territory. The Centennial of the National Park Service provides the opportunity for the park to insure the stories are relevant to the diverse populations that visit the park and that their visit is safe, clean, accessible, interesting and worthwhile.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

William N. Black

Site: FOSM

STEWARDSHIP

Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Working with EPA and our partners, acquire the former U.S. Forgecraft property to protect the site of the first Fort Cemetery and the Poteau River crossing of the Butterfield Stage Coach. This will also provide overflow parking, preservation of a historic mule barn and serve as a buffer protecting the site of the First Fort Smith.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: FOSM

RECREATION

Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

Increase visitation by 25 percent at lesser-known parks through a national tourism effort aimed at helping people to discover the breadth of parks and experiences.

In addition to working with the local and state tourism partners, the park will continue working to build a user friendly and comprehensive web site that both informs and intrigues visitors in the hope they will actually physically visit the park.

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Site: FOSM

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

If staff funding is available, the park will enlarge its current teacher workshop programs to include more teachers. Efforts will be made to reach out to teachers around the world through the web and interactive learning opportunities with the park staff.

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