



NEWS RELEASE

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Lewis & Clark Route in Kansas Designated as Glacial Hills Scenic Byway

The Kansas Department of Transportation recently designated a 63-mile stretch of Kansas Highway 7 as the Glacial Hills Scenic Byway. The byway roughly parallels the Missouri River through northeast Kansas and also is designated by the National Park Service as the official route of the Lewis and Clark Historic Trail in Kansas.

The Glacial Hills Scenic Byway takes travelers through rolling hills and rich farmland and on Missouri River bluffs between Leavenworth and the Kansas/Nebraska border. The historic communities of Leavenworth, Atchison, Troy, and White Cloud are along the route.

To receive designation as a scenic byway, a route's scenic and historical aspects must be inventoried mile by mile. Representatives from communities along the byway worked together to nominate the byway and develop a management plan to share the beauty and heritage of some of the state's oldest communities, while preserving the rural character of the river bluff corridor.

Travelers along the route discover many treasures, including impressive views of the Missouri River, abundant railroad history, historic barns, numerous museums and sites associated with the Lewis and Clark expedition, Buffalo Bill Cody, and Abraham Lincoln's 1859 campaign tour through the Kansas Territory.

The route between Leavenworth and Atchison also is designated as the Amelia Earhart Memorial Highway to honor the world-famous aviatrix whose birthplace is an Atchison museum. The entrance to Fort Leavenworth and the daunting walls of the Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary are at the southern terminus of the byway. At the northern terminus of the byway, an iron pillar on a bluff high above the road marks the 40th Parallel. Set in 1855, the marker denotes the Kansas/Nebraska state line and was used in surveying the two states, as well as portions of Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota.

As this new route joins four others already designated as a Kansas Scenic Byway, it will receive recognition with highway markers and a designation on the official state highway map.

For more information on Lewis and Clark in Kansas, call 1-800-2-KANSAS to request a Kansas Getaway Guide and Lewis & Clark Travel Kit or visit us on the web at www.travelKS.com.