

# WASHINGTON IRVING'S 1832 TOUR ON THE PRAIRIES

## THE RIVER BOTTOM FORESTS, AND THE CROSS TIMBERS

The Oklahoma Historical Society and other groups have noted the following **places with plaques and monuments and names on the land**:

- The spot Irving camped at Fort Gibson. He was at Fort Gibson, but may not have camped. He was a super star and would perhaps have been offered a bed, maybe even by Colonel Arbuckle.
- The place Irving crossed the Verdigris going west and returning east, near Okay, October 10 and November 8. This is also the end of the trail for many Southeastern Indians and a site on the old Texas Road.
- In Washington Irving Park, on the Arkansas River north of Bixby, night of October 12. The Osage rap session took place here or near here.
- On a bluff overlooking the Arkansas River Valley in Tulsa, October 13, the night of honey and lugubrious psalm signing.
- Washington Irving Cove and Bears Glen at Keystone Lake. The names remain to remember the Arkansas River Crossing and campsite of October 15. That beautiful site is probably under water now.
- In Jim Thorpe Park in Yale, the night of fire and water, October 19.
- Washington Irving Trail and Museum a few miles east of Stillwater right off Highway 51, near the campsite of October 20, the night of crystal clear, beautiful – and sickening water.
- Irving's Castle near Ingalls. Irving described his castle, a landmark still here today, nearly as it was then. In 1978, the castle was named a National Historic Place. This is the entry from the National Park Service: [Irving's Castle \(added 1978 - Site - #78002257\)](#) Also known as [Washington Irving Point of Interest 2.5 mi. \(4 km\) S of Ingalls, Ingalls](#).
- Near Wild Horse Creek west of Perkins. A stone column is still on the site of an old community building. The plaque is now in the Washington Irving Museum, saved by Dale and Carla Chlouber to memorialize the night of the beautiful big eyed colt, October 21.
- In the middle of Meridian, the night of alarms, October 22.
- In Arcadia, first sighting of buffalo, not buffalo poop, real buffalo, October 24.
- In Jones, at the site of the grand maneuver called Ringing the Wild Horse. This spot has been honored three times. First it was honored with the placing of a plaque on the day of the Centennial, October 25, 1932. Then it was honored in 1971 with the official naming of this spot as a National Historic Place. This is the entry from the National Park Service: ["Ringing the Wild Horse" Site \(added 1971 - Site - #71001081\)](#) NW of Jones, Jones The site was honored this spring of 2007 with a rededication of the plaque on the stone column where it first was placed. The rededication was part of an official Oklahoma Centennial Project.
- In Moore, right in the middle of the great buffalo hunt, October 29.
- In Shawnee, once was south of the Canadian near Tecumseh, the evening of the apple green sunset, November 2. This memorial plaque has been moved from the site chosen by the Oklahoma Historical Society.