

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

Fast Facts

- Federal law set boundaries for the heritage area that include 41 counties— 29 in Kansas and 12 in Missouri. It covers an area roughly that of Indiana.
- We are one of 55 National Heritage Areas. President Donald Trump created the last six. President Ronald Reagan created the first one in 1984.
- Our legislation prohibits land ownership, requiring access to land, or allow us to impact personal property rights. These include water, hunting, and fishing rights.
- Our primary role is to help museums and historic sites work together to tell the stories of the shaping of the frontier, the Kansas-Missouri border war, and the enduring struggle for freedom.
- We are an “opt-in” organization. Each historic site and museum makes their own choice to participate. Membership is always optional for any individual, organization, or community -- including for property owners.
- Throughout the region, we have 319 total partners who requested to participate with us.
- We use weekly newsletters, partner meetings held throughout the heritage areas, and serve as connectors to make it easier for individual partner sites find cooperative colleagues to work on projects together.
- Freedom's Frontier encourages heritage tourism in Kansas and Missouri. We make it easy for tourists interested in history to visit our communities -- bringing their tourism dollars to all communities – even those which often are left out of the U.S. national history narrative.
- A new smart phone app, our “Shortcut to Discovery” newsletter, and our partnerships with tourism groups -- *Travel Kansas* and the *Lewis and Clark History Trail* -- make it easy for heritage travelers to discover our sites and visit our locations.
- Economic development studies show national heritage areas generate \$5.50 for each \$1 from the National Park Service.