The Flint Hills

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Recommended Citation

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The Field Journals are made possible in part with funding from the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation.

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You can still see them if you know where to look: ruts and swales, the mute remnants of the Santa Fe Trail in the Flint Hills.

The trail wound through four Flint Hills counties; the map in this section shows the path from water source to water source. The trail sparked the development of settlements including Council Grove, which was a much-appreciated gathering place even before it developed into a town.

In this section, you’ll also learn about individuals, including a famous bushwhacker who shot, plundered and stole horses along the trail. The final article, “Trail Tales,” includes delightful descriptions of Council Grove penned by travelers on the trail.