OMB Control Number 1090-0011

Evaluation Guide
High Potential Sites and Segments
Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Recommended by:

_____   7.25.19
HPSS Team Lead   Date

Approved by:

_____   _____
Superintendent, National Trails Intermountain Region   Date

BACKGROUND

The National Trails System Act (hereafter referred to as "the Act") was passed October 2, 1968, establishing the Appalachian and Pacific Crest Scenic Trails, and a decade later was amended to include National Historic Trails (NHTs). The Act has been amended numerous times over the years as new trails are added to the system, but the requirement that NHTs have identified High Potential Sites and Segments has remained consistent throughout. The Act offers the following definition for a High Potential Site:

> 1) The term "high potential historic sites" means those historic sites related to the route, or sites in close proximity thereto, which provide opportunity to interpret the historic significance of the trail during the period of its major use. Criteria for consideration as high potential sites include historic significance, presence of visible historic remnants, scenic quality, and relative freedom from intrusion.

However, the Act is not specific as to what qualifies as "close proximity", how to measure "scenic quality", or what is to be used as a baseline for "relative freedom from intrusion". The Act goes on to define a High Potential Segment as:

> (2) The term "high potential route segments" means those segments of a trail which would afford high quality recreation experience in a portion of the route having greater than average scenic values or affording an opportunity to vicariously share the experience of the original users of a historic route.

The definition for High Potential Segments draws on even more subjective measures than that for High Potential Sites, making consistency and transparency difficult. How do we define or quantify "high quality recreation", what is the average for "greater than average", what is meant by "vicarious experience"? Even the term "high potential" is somewhat confusing, as the Act doesn't specify a desired finished or final status for these places.

In seeking to answer these questions it would be logical to refer back to what the Act cites as the purpose of High Potential Sites and Segments (HPSS), but no clear picture is offered in this regard. The Act specifically calls out the role of HPSS in two situations: the acquisition of non-federal land (federal dollars can only purchase HPSS) and in the Department of Transportation's 4f review process (NHTs are generally exempt from review except in the cases of HPSS and archaeological resources eligible for the National Register). But in an operational sense, HPSS have been used to guide land management decisions, administrative strategies, priorities for preservation, and interpretive

developments. Because HPSS are used in such a broad manner, it is important that how they are identified is consistent and defendable.

Please note that the evaluation of whether a given site or segment merits high potential status is an administrative action not subject to NEPA.

DEFINITIONS*

The National Trails System Act uses the phrase "high potential" in reference to a certain class of historic sites and route segments. The use of the term "potential" implies that the resulting list is somehow draft or temporary, and more specifically the potential for change at sites and along segments over time suggests that any HPSS list must reflect a current snapshot of sites or segments that meet established criteria. There are actions that could degrade a trail resource to the point that it no longer merits high potential status just as there are actions that could elevate a resource to high potential status. For instance, building a shopping mall directly over a high potential site and paving a square mile area around it would degrade the site to the point that it has lost all visible historic remnants, scenic quality, and is certainly not free from intrusion. But a historically significant site could also be improved upon to remove intrusive features and enhance the vicarious experience to such an extent that it may then qualify as a High Potential Site. The world is not static and our assessment of NHT resources must be capable of reflecting this.

The Act offers several criteria by which sites or segments may be evaluated for high potential status, but it isn't clear what these criteria mean or how they should be applied. Much of the ambiguity stems from the availability of multiple definitions for some key terms (remnant, scenic values) and a lack of adequate explanation in the Act for others (vicarious experience, relative freedom from intrusion). This evaluation guide was crafted using the following definitions:

Remnant – human-made items, defined as *something that remains, or is left behind* and *a usually small part, member, or trace remaining*. By this definition, landmarks (e.g. Pilot Peak, La Bajada, or South Pass) are not remnants but swales, ruts, inscriptions and artifacts are.

Scenic Value – Drawing from the spirit and intent of NHT designation, the critical aesthetic or visual qualities of a landscape are those that are similar to the historic appearance of the trail and its setting, connecting people to the historic landscape and

facilitating a vicarious experience of trail travel. More specifically, *the visual elements that reflect an action, event, or episode* (i.e. the experience of the historic trail) are the scenic values that we seek to preserve. Thus we use the word scenic in the sense of "representing an action, event, or episode" as opposed to the more common use in reference to "beautiful" or "pretty".

Vicarious Experience – vicarious is defined as *experienced in the imagination through the feelings or actions of another person*. A vicarious experience does not require a person to be physically present at a given site or segment.

Intrusion – defined here as *an inappropriate or unwelcome addition*, with the baseline for appropriateness stemming from the period of significance for a given trail. For example, if low, green shrubs were dominant on that site during the period of significance but currently the site is dominated by a different species of low, green shrubs there would be no intrusion. Conversely, if the site is now dominated by giant redwoods the "new" species would be seen as an intrusion as it would be an inappropriate addition to the site in reference to the period of significance.

Site – the location of an event or activity which took place in a static location (e.g. camp, water source, trail decision point, grave, resupply point, etc.)

Segment – a portion of trail that conveys a sense of movement through a particular area on a designated national historic trail alignment

*Definitions appearing in italics were quoted or paraphrased from multiple online resources, including oxforddictionaries.com and merriam-webster.com

SITE OR SEGMENT?

Part of evaluating high potential status for a given resource is determining which one of the two high potential place categories, sites and segments, it best fits. It is not always immediately apparent whether a resource should be nominated as a site or nominated as a segment. As such, some guidelines have been developed to assist with this decision.

First, examine the evaluation criteria for sites and the evaluation criteria for segments. If a given resource fits one set of criteria better than the other, use that criteria's high potential category (either site or segment) as the resources high potential category. For example, if the resource best fits the evaluation criteria for segments, consider this resource a segment and nominate it as a High Potential Segment.

If there is uncertainty in the evaluation criteria that best fits a given resource, score the resource using the evaluation criteria for sites and score the resource using the evaluation criteria for segments. Compare these two scores and nominate the resource under the category that gives it the highest score.

An additional guideline for determining whether a given resource is a site or a segment, is that sites are static, whereas segments are meant to convey a sense of movement. While the length needed to convey movement will differ from person to person, in general, segments should have at least a half (0.5) mile of continuous National Historic Trail. Note, there is flexibility in this guideline. If a given resource best fits the evaluation criteria for a segment, and there is enough information about the resource to fulfill the requirements of the nomination package (page 21), but the resource is less than a half mile in length, please contact our office for guidance on the resource's high potential eligibility.

Finally, it may also be difficult to determine where a proposed High Potential Segment begins and ends. A general guideline to assist with this decision is to use the scores of Criteria 3 and 4. Both criteria require the segment be evaluated in half mile intervals and require the number of the best scoring option be recorded for each of these intervals. Pay attention to these half mile scores. A large deviation in scores between two adjoining intervals is a potential indicator of a segment's start and end points.

CRITERIA AND SCORING

Specific criteria listed in the Act are used to evaluate a given resource's high potential status. Within the Act, stated criteria for High Potential Sites include specific attributes such as historic significance, presence of visible historic remnants, scenic quality, and relative freedom from intrusion. Drawing from this statement, we use the following criteria for evaluating High Potential Sites: 1) confidence of location, 2) historic significance, 3) opportunity to interpret the trail's significance, 4) visual similarity to historic landscape, 5) inappropriate non-visual intrusions, and 6) the presence of visible historic remnants.

Stated criteria for High Potential Segments are more broadly defined and include a high quality recreation experience in a portion of the route having greater than average scenic values or affording an opportunity to vicariously share the experience of the original users of a historic route. Drawing from this statement we use the following criteria for evaluating High Potential Segments: 1) confidence of location, 2) high quality recreation experience, 3) opportunity for vicarious experiences, 4) visual similarity to historic landscape, and 5) inappropriate non-visual intrusions.

These criteria are used to evaluate a given resource's high potential status. The presence or absence of each criteria, and their quality, allows a resource to be scored, which, in turn, provides an objective measurement. High potential status is evaluated based on the results of this score.

As such, all resources nominated for high potential status must first be scored. To obtain a score for a given resource, the first step is to decide if the resource is a site or if it is a segment. Use the guidelines on the previous page to assist with this decision. If it is decided the nominated resource is a site, then the next step is to evaluate and score the resource using the criteria for High Potential Sites, listed on pages 7-14 of this guide, and the "High Potential *Sites* Matrix" (separate document). If it is decided the resource is a segment, then the next step is to evaluate and score the resource using the criteria for High Potential Segments, listed on pages 15-20 of this guide, and the "High Potential *Segments* Matrix" (separate document). The next, and last, step in obtaining a nominated resources score is the same for both sites and segments. Take all of the resource's criteria scores and add them together. The total is the resource's final score.

It is important to note for the scoring process, each criteria is weighted evenly, although some criteria are split into two parts with the average being used as the criteria score. In addition, *every* aspect of the evaluation criteria is in reference to how the nominated

site or segment fits into the period of significance for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (hereafter referred to as "the Trail"). Finally, evaluation and scoring is to be done for the *current* conditions of the nominated resource.

Nominating a resource for high potential status requires more than just submitting the resource's score and corresponding Matrix document. The nomination package for the resource must also include supporting documentation, maps, photographs, and other items. A full list of what is needed in the package, and information about submitting it, is listed in the "Nomination Package" section of this guide (page 21).

At this time, proposed new High Potential Sites and Segments have priority. Review of existing High Potential Sites and Segments, listed in the Comprehensive Management Plan for the Trail, may be undertaken at a later date. For reference, this plan, and its list of High Potential Sites and Segments, can be found on the Trail's website on the "Planning" webpage.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR HIGH POTENTIAL SITES

Criteria #1 Confidence of Location

There are varying levels of documentation associated with the Trail and with its individual components (events, places, resources etc.). Because high potential resources are allocated significant amounts of time, money, and other resources it is important to gauge how well the location of the nominated resource will stand up to scrutiny. This criteria is not in reference to a site's proximity to the Trail or the accuracy of the mapping method, but rather in reference to the confidence that the purported event took place at the proposed location. This criteria's scoring is made relative to the amount of documentation available for the Trail and includes the nominator's assessment of the state of consensus (or lack thereof) within the community of people knowledgeable about the Trail. Documentation can be of any form including, but not limited to, oral history, written sources, and archaeological data. This criteria has five scoring options, select only ONE of the following:

Criteria #1 Question: How well documented is this site's historic location and what is the Trail community's confidence in this location?

1 – Minimal documentation and contested location
- Resources meriting this score are those with relatively little documentation *and* the location is contested within the Trail community

2 – Minimal documentation and uncontested location
- Resources that would net this score may have only relatively little documentation *but* the location is not contested in the Trail community

3 – Some documentation and uncontested location
- This score would be appropriate for those resources that have average to slightly less than average documentation *but* the Trail community does not contest its location

4 – Some documentation and generally accepted location
- This score would be appropriate for those resources that have average documentation *and* the Trail community agrees that the location is supported by the documentation

5 – Well documented and widely accepted location
- This score is reserved for those resources with greater than average documentation and the Trail community widely accepts that the location is supported by the documentation

Criteria #2 Historical Significance

Eligibility status for listing on the National Register of Historic Places is not a requirement for a site to be considered a High Potential Site. This criteria seeks to capture how influential or noteworthy the proposed site is in relation to the Trail. For your convenience, the periods of significance for the Trail are provided in Appendix A. This criteria has five scoring options, select only ONE of the following:

Criteria #2 Question: How noteworthy is the site in relation to the Trail?

1 – Not historically noteworthy
   ● In this instance the site may be historic or even historically significant in its own right, but has no significance that pertains to the trail during the Trail's period of significance.
2 – Historically present but not associated with the Trail
   ● This rating is appropriate for sites that were present during the trail's period of significance but played no functional role in the trail itself. Good examples are structures that would have been in the viewshed of the trail but were not actually (or rarely) visited or used by travelers on the trail.
3 – Historically associated with the Trail
   ● Sites in this category were clearly associated with the trail in some way but did not especially standout in the experience of the trail user.
4 – Critical location and/or location of critical events for some Trail users
   ● Critical is defined here as "of, relating to, or being a turning point or especially important juncture". Major water crossings, wayfinding features, milestones, and historical events are all examples of what would qualify as "critical" for this criteria. The term "some users" is also key for this score, as not every critical location or event affected the experience of all trail users.
5 – Critical location and/or location of critical events for majority of Trail users
   ● This criteria is the same as the previous but with the key difference lying with how many trail users were affected by the location or event.

Criteria #3 Opportunity to Interpret the Trail's Historic Significance

The Act states that High Potential Sites are those which provide an opportunity to interpret the historic significance of the trail during its period of major use (as defined in the Trail's planning document). An opportunity to interpret is based on the story to be told and the means of telling that story. This criteria seeks to evaluate how well the site speaks to the story(ies) of the Trail and the means (i.e. logistics and resources available) of telling that story. There are five scoring options for Part A and Part B, select ONE score for each part and enter the average for the final score for this criteria.

Criteria #3 Question- Part A: How well does the site convey administrator established, Trail-related themes?

1 - Site story(ies) do not convey Trail themes
2 - Site conveys Trail themes, but there is no specific site story
3 - One story that is specific to the site conveys one Trail theme
4 - Multiple specific-to-the-site stories convey one Trail theme or one specific-to-the-site story conveys multiple Trail themes
5 - Multiple specific-to-the-site stories that convey multiple Trail themes

Criteria #3 Question-Part B: What is the sites current means (ability) to present interpretive stories?

1 - Future potential to present an interpretive story
2 - Means to present an interpretive story identified
3 - Means to present an interpretive story in planning document
4 - Means to present an interpretive story in development
5 - Means to present an interpretive story already exists

Criteria #4 Visual Similarity to Historic Landscape

This criteria seeks to quantify how similar the visual setting of the site is today to the visual setting during the period of significance. Visual similarity to the historic landscape can be a key component in facilitating a vicarious experience, interpreting the history of the Trail, and contributes to a high quality recreational experience.

It is important to note that the *similarity* of the setting is being evaluated, not whether it is identical in every way. The landscape is always changing, but not all changes detract from the historical setting. For example, a farmhouse built last week has the potential to be evocative of a farmhouse that was present during the trail's period of significance. It is also important to note that the *degree* of similarity is also being evaluated, it is not a presence/absence criteria. The baseline for comparison in this criteria is a high level summary of the landscape, not a comparison to very specific details as one might find in a trail diary.

It's helpful to think in terms of percentages or dominance for this criteria. For example, a barb wire fence may extend from one end of the viewshed to the other, but it may not necessarily take up a large percentage or otherwise dominate your attention. If you are nominating a landmark please select the point that provides the best view of the landmark from the trail for use in this analysis. Use the illustrations below as general guidelines for this criteria's two analysis areas (Specific Location and Viewshed).

In order to provide a more accurate evaluation of visual similarity, this criteria is broken into two parts. Both parts (Part A and Part B) use the same five scoring options listed below. Select one scoring option for part A and one for part B; then, average of these two scores. This is the final, single score for this criteria.
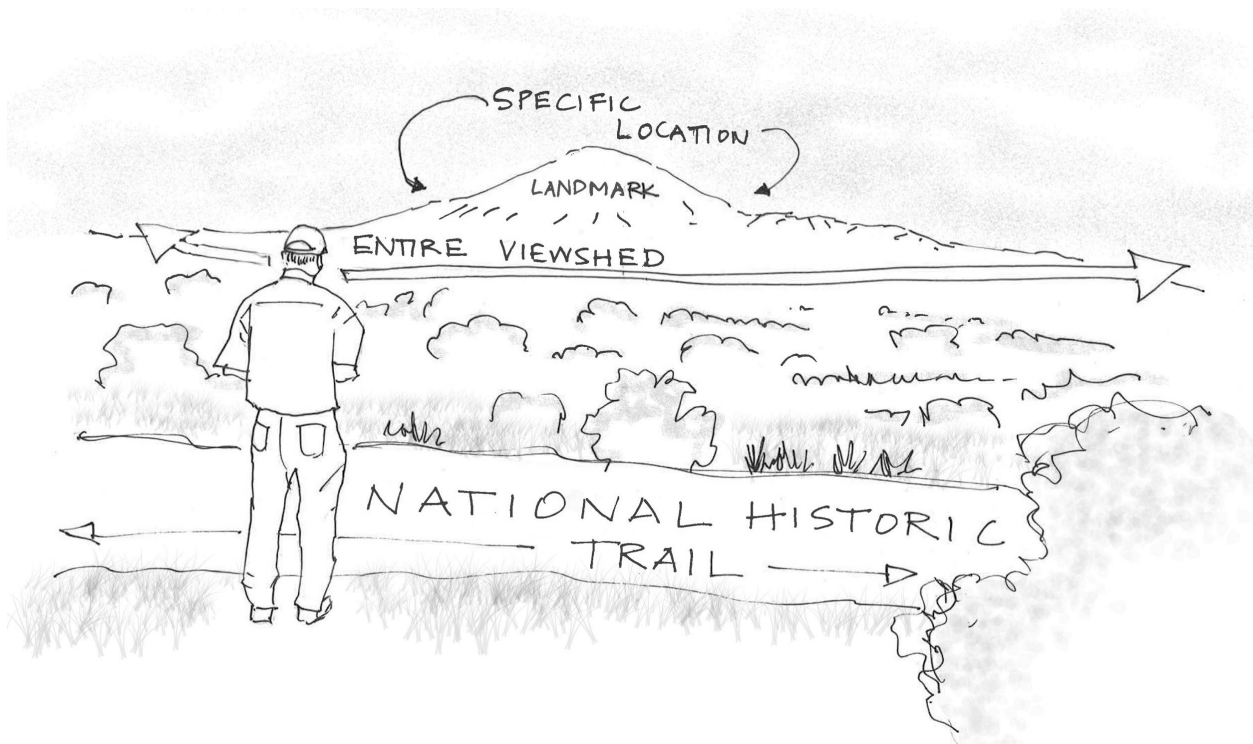
Criteria #4 Question- Part A: How visually similar is the site's *specific location* today to its appearance during the Trail's period of significance?

Please note that nominating party is responsible for designating and defining what constitutes the "specific location".
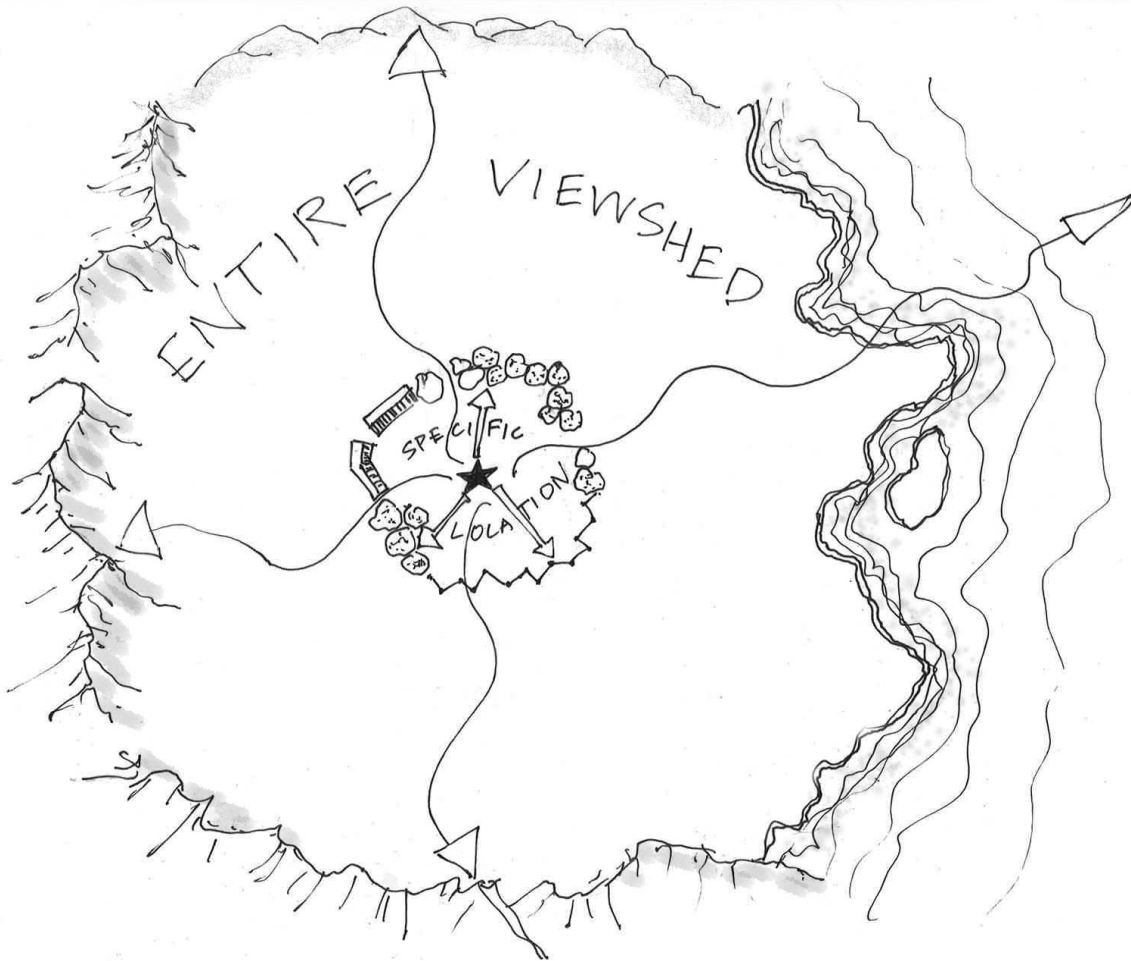
Criteria #4 Question- Part B: How visually similar is the site's entire viewshed today to its appearance during the Trail's period of significance?

Please note that the "viewshed" for 3B is defined here as everything that can be seen (360 degrees) from the perspective of the "specific location" *excluding* elements within 3A.

1 – No similarities to the period of significance
- There is nothing to be seen that is similar to the period of significance. Likely to apply only to very urban, heavily industrialized, and/or heavily developed settings.

2 – A few visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
- The casual observer can identify a few visual elements appropriate to the period of significance, but the view is otherwise overwhelmed by elements that are not appropriate.

3 – Roughly half of the visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
- There is a good mix of elements similar to period of significance and dissimilar to period of significance, with neither category being visually dominant.

4 – Most visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
- There may be a few elements that are not appropriate to the period of significance, but they are minor and not overly distracting.

5 – Visual elements are virtually indistinguishable from the period of significance
- The casual observer would not be able to tell the difference between setting during period of significance and setting today.

Figure 1. Landmark setting analysis areas

Figure 2. Site setting analysis areas

Criteria #5 Inappropriate Non-Visual Intrusions

What visitors hear, smell, and feel can affect the quality of their experience. This criteria seeks to round out the quantification of how closely the setting reflects that of the period of significance. Please note that *missing* non-visual elements from the period of significance do not lower the score. Do not include temporary intrusions (e.g. construction). If you are nominating a landmark please select the single best point on the trail for use in this analysis. This criteria has five scoring options, select only ONE score for each part and enter the average for the final score for this criteria.

Criteria #5 Question- Part A: How often are non-visual intrusions (such as sounds and smells) inappropriate to the period of significance experienced at the site?

1 – Continuous non-visual intrusions
2 – Frequent non-visual intrusions
3 – Periodic non-visual intrusions
4 – Rarely occurring non-visual intrusions
5 – No non-visual intrusions

Criteria #5 Question- Part B: How intense are the non-visual intrusions experienced at the site?

1 - Significantly distracting
2 - Distracting
3 - Somewhat distracting
4 - Not distracting
5 - Not present

Criteria #6 Visible Historic Remnants

Historic remnants can play an important role in facilitating a vicarious experience and are called out specifically as desirable attributes within the Act. While it is ideal that the historic remnants would be from the period of significance and in their original location (*in situ*) other historic remnants can serve the same function. It should be noted that remnants may be located within a display (indoors or outdoors) or "in the field". Remnants are defined as man-made items: "something that remains, or is left behind" and "a usually small part, member, or trace remaining". By this definition, landmarks (e.g. Pilot Peak, La Bajada, or South Pass) are not remnants but swales, ruts, inscriptions and artifacts are. Note: landmarks may be nominated as sites themselves, and also may factor into the Criteria 4 (visual similarity) for adjacent sites and/or segments. This criteria has five scoring options:

Criteria #6 Question: What kind of visible historic remnants are present at the site, if any?

1 – No visible historic remnants
- There are no historic remnants *visible*. There may be sub-surface historic remnants, but in order to score higher than a "1" the remnants must be visible

2 – Only non-Trail related or not from period of significance visible historic remnants
- There are remnants visible but they are either not from the period of significance or they are not related to the trail

3 – Possibly Trail related visible historic remnants
- There are visible historic remnants but it's unclear what the association with the trail or period of significance may be

4 – Trail related visible historic remnants
- There are trail related visible remnants from the period of significance

5 – *In situ*, Trail related visible historic remnants
- There are trail related visible historic remnants that are from the period of significance and they are in their original location (aka *in situ*; this would NOT include remnants that are in a display case or that have been arranged into a display)

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR HIGH POTENTIAL SEGMENTS

Criteria #1 Confidence of Location

There are varying levels of documentation associated with the Trail and with its individual components (events, places, resources etc.). Because high potential resources are allocated significant amounts of time, money, and other resources it is important to gauge how well the location of the nominated resource will stand up to scrutiny. This criteria is not in reference to a segment's proximity to the Trail or the accuracy of the mapping method, but rather in reference to the confidence that the purported event took place at the proposed location. This criteria's scoring is made relative to the amount of documentation available for the Trail and includes the nominator's assessment of the state of consensus (or lack thereof) within the community of people knowledgeable about the Trail. Documentation can be of any form including, but not limited to, oral history, written sources, and archaeological data. This criteria has five scoring options, select only ONE of the following:

Criteria #1 Question: How well documented is this segment's historic location and what is the Trail community's confidence in this location?

1 – Minimal documentation and contested location
- Resources meriting this score are those with relatively little documentation *and* the location is contested within the trail community.

2 – Minimal documentation and uncontested location
- Resources that would net this score may have only relatively little documentation *but* the location is not contested within the trail community.

3 – Some documentation and uncontested location
- This score would be appropriate for those resources that have average to slightly less than average documentation *but* the trail community does not contest its location

4 – Some documentation and generally accepted location
- This score would be appropriate for those resources that have average documentation *and* the trail community agrees that the location is supported by the documentation

5 – Well documented and widely accepted location
- This score is reserved for those resources with greater than average documentation and the trail community widely accepts that the location is supported by the documentation

Criteria #2 High Quality Recreation Experience

The Act describes High Potential Segments as "those segments of a historic trail which would afford a high quality recreation experience". Diversity and frequency of change in the landscape, natural features, and historic elements all contribute to motivating movement through a given trail segment, making for a high quality recreation experience. This criteria seeks to document these aspects of a high quality recreation experience in two parts: Part A addresses landscape and natural features, Part B addresses historic elements. As used here, historic elements may include, but are not limited to: archaeological artifacts and features (e.g. wagon parts, swales, ox shoes), interpretive features (e.g. wayside exhibits, trail markers), landmarks/locations of events, etc. Both parts have five scoring options, please select only ONE score for each part; enter the average of the two scores as the final score for this criteria.

Criteria #2 Question- Part A: What is the diversity of and frequency of change in landscape and natural features?

1 - Low diversity *and* low frequency of changing landscape and natural features
2 - Moderate diversity *or* moderate frequency of changing landscape and natural features
3 - Moderate diversity *and* moderate frequency of changing landscape and natural features
4 - High diversity *or* high frequency of changing landscape and natural features
5 - High diversity *and* high frequency of changing landscape and natural features

Criteria #2 Question- Part B: What is the diversity of and frequency of historic elements?

1 - Low diversity *and* low frequency of historic elements
2 - Moderate diversity *or* moderate frequency of historic elements
3 - Moderate diversity *and* moderate frequency of historic elements
4 - High diversity *or* high frequency of historic elements
5 - High diversity *and* high frequency of historic elements

Criteria #3 Opportunity for Vicarious Experiences

How many types of opportunities exist to have a vicarious experience of Trail travel related to this place or its story? How readily are those opportunities accessed by the public? While every site or segment could theoretically have endless opportunities for a vicarious experience, this criteria seeks to quantify the variety and *current* availability of those opportunities. Types of opportunities should be distinctly different from one another. For example, ten books constitutes one type of opportunity but a book, an on-site interpretive panel, a website, and a walking tour would constitute four types of opportunities.

Criteria #3 Question: How many types of opportunities for Trail related vicarious experiences are currently available for the segment and how easily are they accessed by the public?

1 – No opportunity for vicarious experience
 ● There are *currently* no opportunities to facilitate a vicarious experience
2 – Few types of opportunities but NOT easily/readily accessible to most
 ● There are a few types of opportunities but they are either difficult to arrange (e.g. on private land) or are difficult to find (e.g. journal articles in obscure sources, sources not available to the general public, etc.)
3 – Few types of opportunities easily/readily accessible to most
4 – Many types of opportunities but some NOT easily/readily accessible to most
5 – Many types of opportunities easily/readily accessible to most

Criteria #4 Visual Similarity to Historic Landscape

This criteria seeks to quantify how similar the visual setting of the segment is today to the visual setting during the period of significance. Visual similarity to the historic landscape can be a key component in facilitating a vicarious experience, interpreting the history of the Trail, and contributes to a high quality recreational experience.

It is important to note that the *similarity* of the setting is being evaluated, not whether it is identical in every way. The landscape is always changing, but not all changes detract from the historical setting. For example, a farmhouse built last week has the potential to be evocative of a farmhouse that was present during the Trail's period of significance. It is also important to note that the *degree* of similarity is also being evaluated, it is not a presence/absence criteria. The baseline for comparison in this criteria a high level summary of the landscape, not a comparison to very specific details as one might find in a trail diary.

It's helpful to think in terms of percentages or dominance for this criteria. For example, a barb wire fence may extend from one end of the viewshed to the other, but it may not necessarily take up a large percentage or otherwise dominate your attention. Use the illustrations below as general guidelines for this criteria's two analysis areas (Specific Location and Viewshed).

In order to provide a more accurate evaluation of visual similarity, this criteria is broken into two parts. Both parts (Part A and Part B) use the same five scoring options listed below. For every half mile along the segment, please select one option for part A and one for part B. Then, obtain a single Part A score by averaging all of the scoring options selected for Part A, and obtain a single Part B by averaging all of the scoring options selected for Part B. Lastly, average these two scores (single Part A score and the single Part B score). This is the final, single score for this criteria.
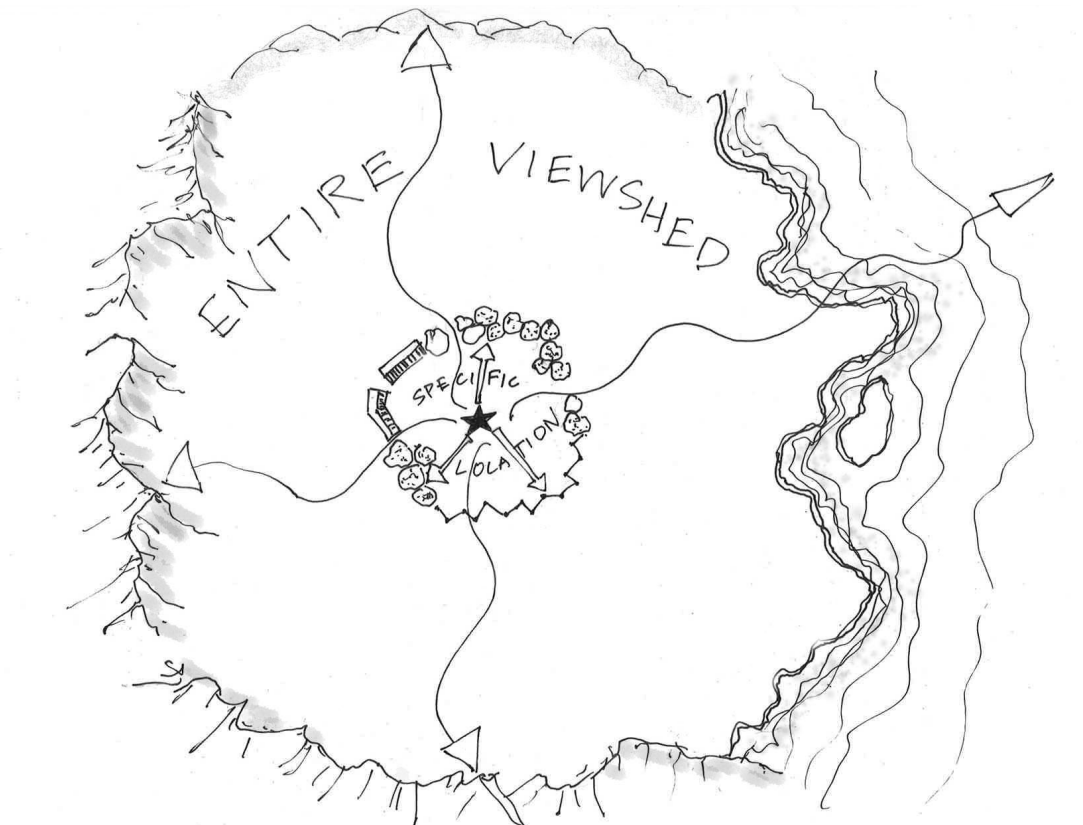
Criteria #4 Question- Part A: How visually similar is the segment's *specific location* today to its appearance during the Trail's period of significance?

Please note that nominating party is responsible for designating and defining what constitutes the "specific location".

Criteria #4 Question- Part B: How visually similar is the site's entire viewshed today to its appearance during the Trail's period of significance?

Please note that the "viewshed" is defined here as everything that can be seen (360 degrees) from a given point on the trail.

1 – No similarities to the period of significance
  - There is nothing to be seen that is similar to the period of significance. Likely to apply only to very urban, heavily industrialized, and/or heavily developed settings.

2 – A few visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
  - The casual observer can identify a few visual elements appropriate to the period of significance, but the view is otherwise overwhelmed by elements that are not appropriate.

3 – Roughly half of the visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
  - There is a good mix of elements similar to period of significance and dissimilar to period of significance, with neither category being visually dominant.

4 – Most visual elements are appropriate to the period of significance
  - There may be a few elements that are not appropriate to the period of significance, but they are minor and not overly distracting.

5 – Visual elements are virtually indistinguishable from the period of significance
  - The casual observer would not be able to tell the difference between setting during period of significance and setting today.

Figure 3. Segment setting analysis areas

Criteria #5 Inappropriate Non-Visual Intrusions

What visitors hear, smell, and feel can affect the quality of their experience. This criteria seeks to round out the quantification of how closely the setting reflects that of the period of significance. Please note that *missing* non-visual elements from the period of significance do not lower the score. Do not include temporary intrusions (e.g. construction). This criteria has five scoring options, select only ONE of the following for Part A and B for each half mile portion of your project; the average of all the half mile section scores is the final score for this criteria.

Criteria #5 Question- Part A: How often are non-visual intrusions (such as sounds and smells) inappropriate to the period of significance experienced along the segment?

1 – Continuous non-visual intrusions
2 – Frequent non-visual intrusions
3 – Periodic non-visual intrusions
4 – Rarely occurring non-visual intrusions
5 – No non-visual intrusions

Criteria #5 Question- Part B: How intense are the non-visual intrusions experienced along the segment?

1 - Significantly distracting
2 - Distracting
3 - Somewhat distracting
4 - Not distracting
5 - Not present

NOMINATION PACKAGE

Supporting documentation for each evaluation criteria is required. Incomplete or inadequate supporting documentation may result in a lower score or return of the nomination without review. While we urge you to be thorough in your submission, we also urge you to present information that is primarily directly relevant to each criteria. We encourage you to reach out to our office before official submission to ensure the package is complete and the information is clear. Nomination packages should be submitted digitally, when possible, and assembled as follows:

1. **Cover Sheet**
2. **Matrix Summary**
3. **Maps**
   a. Overview of the Site/Segment's Location- typically 1:24,000 scale
   b. Site/Segment Boundary
      This is the boundary that must be used when addressing sites criteria 1, 2, 4a, 5, and-6 and segments criteria 1, 2, 4a and 5.
   c. Site/Segment Viewshed Boundary (approximate)
      This is the boundary that must be used when addressing criteria 4b.
4. **Supporting Documentation**
   a. Documentation for Scoring
      i. Provide documentation that supports each criteria's selected score.
      ii. Each criteria should have a separate section in the nomination package that contains its documentation. For two-part criteria, documentation for the parts may be arranged separately or jointly.
   b. Cited Sources
      i. Sources should be clearly sited.
      ii. If sources are not readily available, please include a digital copy of the source material.
      iii. Oral histories are acceptable sources; please provide a transcript. If a transcript is not available, please provide the citation for the audio/video or a copy of your personal notes.
   c. Photographs
      Photographic evidence is required for site criteria 4a, 4b, and 6 and for segment criteria 4a and 4b.
5. **Bibliography**
6. ***Landmark Nominations***
   Please include GPS coordinates for the analysis point used in criteria 3 and 4.

APPENDIX A
Period of Significance for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Santa Fe –
- Period of Significance: 1821-1880
- Purpose/Historic Significance:
    - From CMP:
        - p. iii: "The Santa Fe Trail was the first of America's great trans-Mississippi routes. The trail, including the Mountain and Cimarron routes, crossed over 1,200 miles of the central and southwestern United States, from Franklin, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The trail played a critical role in the westward expansion of the United States, and for more than half a century (1821-1880) it was an important two-way avenue for commerce and cultural exchanges."
        - And from p. 30: "Topic: Purpose of the Trail and How it Differs from Other Trails", "The Santa Fe Trail was a significant link for trade and commerce in the trail network across the North American Continent in the 1800s."

APPENDIX B
Santa Fe NHT Trailwide Interpretive Topics, Subthemes, and Key Points

Topic

Pre-1821 - Informal Establishment of the Trail

Subtheme	Key Points

The Santa Fe Trail became a bridge for international trade and commerce between the United States and Spanish territory. Despite many earlier attempts to establish the bridge, the Spanish government effectively blocked trade.	1. Spanish
	   a. Exploration
	   b. Colonial trade policy
	   c. Trade with the Indians
	   d. Missionary efforts
	   e. American fur trade
	   f. Trade fairs
	   g. Mexican independence and removal of the trade barrier
	2. French
	   a. Exploration - attraction to Santa Fe
	   b. Smuggling
	3. American
	   a. Identification of the potential for overland trade by' Pike and others
	   b. Attempts by Americans to settle and establish trade in New Mexico
	4. Native American
	   a. Trade centers and trail routes
	   b. River valley rendezvous sites

Topic

Purpose of the Trail and How It Differs from Other Trails

Subtheme	Key Points
The Santa Fe Trail was a significant link for trade and commerce in the trail network across the North American continent in the 1800s.	1. Commerce – buying, selling, and exchanging of manufactured, native, and other goods 2. The trail was but one segment of a larger system of commerce between North America and Europe 3. Expansion of trade along the trail from 1821 until the coming of the railroad in 1880 4. Evolution of trade

Topic
Effect of the Trail

Subtheme	**Key Points**

Opening the trail had far-reaching effects on the United States, the provinces of northern Mexico, and American Indians.	1. United States
	   a. Economy
	   b. Politics
	   c. Expansion
	   d. Agriculture
	   e. Manufacturing
	   f. Knowledge of the west and techniques of overland travel; application of knowledge to other trails
	   g. Knowledge of Mexican control
	2. Mexico's northern provinces
	   a. Economy
	   b. Politics
	   c. Expansion
	   d. Agriculture
	   e. Manufacturing
	   f. Chihuahua Trail
	   g. Effect of colonial trade policy
	3. American Indians
	   a. Economy
	   b. Diseases
	   c. Demise of the buffalo
	   d. Loss of land
	   e. Conflicts
	4. Cultural, ethnic, and gender composition of participants, including interaction of cultures (Hispanic, American Indian, American, and others)

Topic
Relationship to Today

Subtheme	**Key Points**
Human needs and desires do not change, only the means by which they are achieved.	1. Relativity of time and distance 2. Dangers 3. Means of transportation 4. Travel and trade routes (railroads and highways closely parallel the trail) 5. Influence of each culture on the other 6. Trail mythology and popular culture

Topic

Natural Elements

Subtheme	Key Points

Survival depends on successful interaction with natural forces.	1. Biogeographic zones - the transition through the Central Lowland, Great Plains, Southern Rocky Mountain, and Basin and Range provinces
	    a. Weather and climate
	    b. Vegetation
	    c. Water
	    d. Physiographic features - the importance of landmarks
	2. Sustenance - food and water for both humans and livestock
	3. Environmental Change

Topic

Military Presence

Subtheme	Key Points

Conflict occurs when different peoples do not understand each other or have different goals.	1. Mexican and American military escorts of the caravans, protection, and self-sufficiency
	    a. Military posts
	    b. Military freighting
	2. Transition zones between cultures, cultural interaction at military posts
	3. Wars
	    a. Texas Revolution
	    b. Mexican War
	    c. Civil War
	    d. Indian Wars

APPENDIX C
Santa Fe NHT Interpretive Regions, Subthemes, and Key Points

Region

Old Franklin to Council Grove, including Fort Leavenworth

Subtheme	Key Points
Individual caravans formed throughout the region and traveled independently to Council Grove, where they organized into military-like formations that helped ensure the greatest chance of success and survival.	1. Becknell and Old Franklin 2. Arrow Rock 3. Lexington 4. Fort Osage 5. Independence 6. Fort Leavenworth 7. Council Grove 8. Cooperation and self-reliance 9. Central lowlands - woods, plentiful water, forage, climate 10. Missouri River

Region

Council Grove to Cimarron Route

Subtheme	Key Points
The transition from central lowlands to the plains required adaptation.	1. Water 2. Scarcity of wood 3. Buffalo and other wild game 4. Transition from long-grass to short-grass prairie 5. Semiarid climate, buffalo grass and cactus 6. Increased danger from Indians. 7. Arkansas River and trading ranches

Region

The Cimarron Route

Subtheme	Key Points

Despite the hazards of this route, it was favored from the early 1820s to the mid-1840s because it was 100 miles shorter to Santa Fe or Missouri and it was suitable for wagon traffic.	1. International territory
	2. Semiarid climate, sand and dry rivers
	3. Precious springs
	4. Severe storms (winter and summer)
	5. American Indians
	6. Escorts
	    a. Mexican
	    b. U.S. Army

Region

The Mountain Route

Subtheme	**Key Points**

The Mountain route, opened to wagon traffic in the mid-1840s, afforded greater safety and water, but it was longer and traversed difficult mountain terrain.	1. Change from plains to mountains, climate
	2. More secure, but more difficult for travelers
	3. Bent's Old Fort
	    a. Fur trade
	    b. Interaction of cultures
	4. Wars
	    a. Mexican War
	    b. Civil War
	5. Advent of the railroad
	6. American Indians

Region

Fort Union/Watrous (La Junta) to Santa Fe

Subtheme	**Key Points**

Merchants from Missouri entering this region got their first glimpse of non-Indian settlement since leaving; traders from Mexico left the mountains and entered the Great Plains.	1. First and last settlements
	    a. Watrous (La Junta) - Mexican caravans gather for strength; junction of Mountain and Cimarron routes
	    b. Las Vegas - declaration of U.S. occupation of New Mexico
	    c. San Miguel del Vado - crossing of the Pecos River
	    d. Santa Fe - destination/starting point; major trade center; stop from and to Chihuahua
	        (1) Center of international trade
	        (2) Center of domestic trade (after the Mexican War)
	2. Wars
	    a. Texas Revolution
	    b. Mexican War
	    c. Civil War
	    d. Indian Wars