

**Difficulty:** Moderate

• Trapper Lake Trail meanders through the forest of Davidsonville and partially runs along the banks of Trapper Lake. From beaver gnaw marks to deer tracks to raccoon scat, signs of wildlife are everywhere along this trail.

## Black River Trail\*

**Length:** 1 and 1/2-mile loop

**Trailhead:** Just off the west side of the Historic Townsite Trail

**Trail end:** Trail loops back to beginning point or junctions with Trapper Lake Trail.

**Difficulty:** Moderate

• You will enjoy both nature and history along this trail. Black River Trail winds its way through the forest of Davidsonville and alongside the Black River. Turtles and other river animals have been spotted from this trail. Black River Trail also takes you to the older of the two cemeteries in the park, the Phillips/Reeves Cemetery. It is believed that this cemetery was used during the heyday of Davidsonville.

\*This trail partially floods when Black River floods.

## Trail Regulations

To protect the environment and for your safety and others', it is unlawful to:

- Hike in designated restricted areas which are hazardous or protected
- Swim in the lake
- Possess alcoholic beverages on the trails
- Allow pets to run loose
- Litter
- Deface a natural or historical area
- Camp overnight on the trails
- Carry glass containers on the trails
- Stray off designated trails
- Ride bicycles or wheeled vehicles on the trails

- Ride horses on the trails
- Remove and/or harm any plant, animal or artifact in the park

VIOLATORS ARE SUBJECT TO BEING FINED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.

## Hiker Hints

**STAY ON MARKED TRAILS:** Remember, the trails are in natural areas. Stepping off the trails kills delicate plants, compacts the soil and destroys the natural beauty.

**WATCH WHERE YOU WALK:** The chief reason for accidents in the park is not watching where you are stepping. Do not become a victim of an avoidable accident.

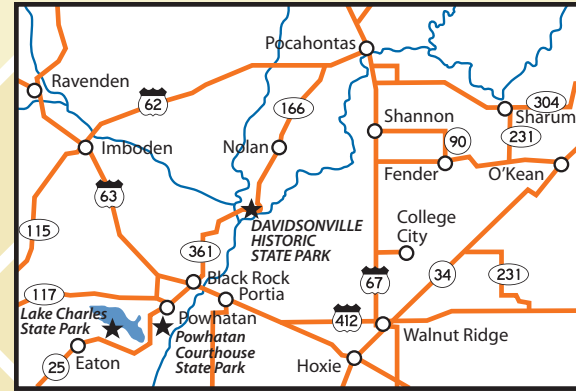
**WILDLIFE AND PLANTS:** Never harm any wildlife or plants. The park was created for their protection. Each flower picked is scores of seeds lost as food for wildlife and new plant growth.

**POISON IVY:** "Leaflets three, let it be" The best advice to avoid getting poison ivy is to stay on the trail where no plants grow. To avoid spreading rashes, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly after hiking and handling your hiking shoes.

**FINISH HIKING BY DUSK:** It is easy to become disoriented and lost in the fading light of sundown, so give yourself plenty of time to finish your hike in the full light of the sun.

**EMERGENCIES:** If you are injured or wish to report an injury or emergency, call 911 and notify park personnel by calling or going to the visitor center.

**LOCATION:** To reach Davidsonville Historic State Park from US Highway 63 at Black Rock, take State Highway 361 north 6 miles; from Pocahontas, take US Highway 62 west 2 miles, then State Highway 166 south 9 miles.



**CAMPING** is available at Davidsonville Historic State Park.

For further information on park services, campsites, tours and programs, contact:  
Davidsonville Historic State Park  
7953 Hwy 166 S  
Pocahontas, AR 72455  
870.892.4708  
[davidsonville@arkansas.com](mailto:davidsonville@arkansas.com)

For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:  
Arkansas State Parks  
One Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501.682.1191  
[www.ArkansasStateParks.com](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com)

Davidsonville is protected by state and federal laws. Excavating or searching for artifacts or other material on state park property is prohibited. Please protect this important historic site by leaving all archeological evidence above or below ground undisturbed.

**Notice:** To preserve scenic beauty and ecology, fences and warning signs have not been installed in some park locations. Caution and supervision of your children are required while visiting these areas.

Printed on recycled paper

5/2012

# Trails of Davidsonville

## DAVIDSONVILLE HISTORIC STATE PARK



Where nature shaped history;  
Where the past becomes  
the future



Arkansas State Parks  
One Capitol Mall • Little Rock, AR 72201  
Phone: (501) 682-1191  
[www.ArkansasStateParks.com](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com)

# WELCOME TO DAVIDSONVILLE

On the banks of the Black River between the Arkansas Delta and the Ozarks, Davidsonville Historic State Park holds one of Arkansas's treasures. From 1815 to 1830, this was the first seat of Lawrence County and had Arkansas's first post office, land office, brick courthouse, and was Arkansas's first planned community. The forest here, paired with its location near the the junction of the Black, Spring, and Eleven Point rivers, made this area a perfect place for settlement and commerce. By the end of the 1820's the movement of settlers, roads, politics, and other factors caused the county seat to be moved to Jackson and Davidsonville to fall into the pages of history. Today Arkansas State Parks preserves, protects, and interprets the story and artifacts of Davidsonville, as well as the natural surroundings that brought people here so long ago.

## The Trails

### Historic Townsite Trail

**Length:** 1/3 mile-loop

**Trailhead:** Pull off on the right just past the entrance to the pavilions.

**Trail end:** Trail loops back to beginning point.

**Difficulty:** Easy

- From 1815 to 1830, Davidsonville was a vibrant town with store-lined streets and people going about their daily lives on the frontier. Although no remnants of Davidsonville are visible above ground, stories are emerging from beneath the surface. This trail takes you around Davidsonville's once bustling town square. Exhibits on the trail explain more about this historic town and its historical significance to Arkansas. The panels also give you a glimpse of the people who once called Davidsonville home and the archeology that helped fill in the details about life at Davidsonville.

### Scott Cemetery Trail

**Length:** 1/2 mile

**Trailhead:** Pull off on the left just past the entrance to the pavilions.

**Trail end:** Campground or Townsite Trail

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate

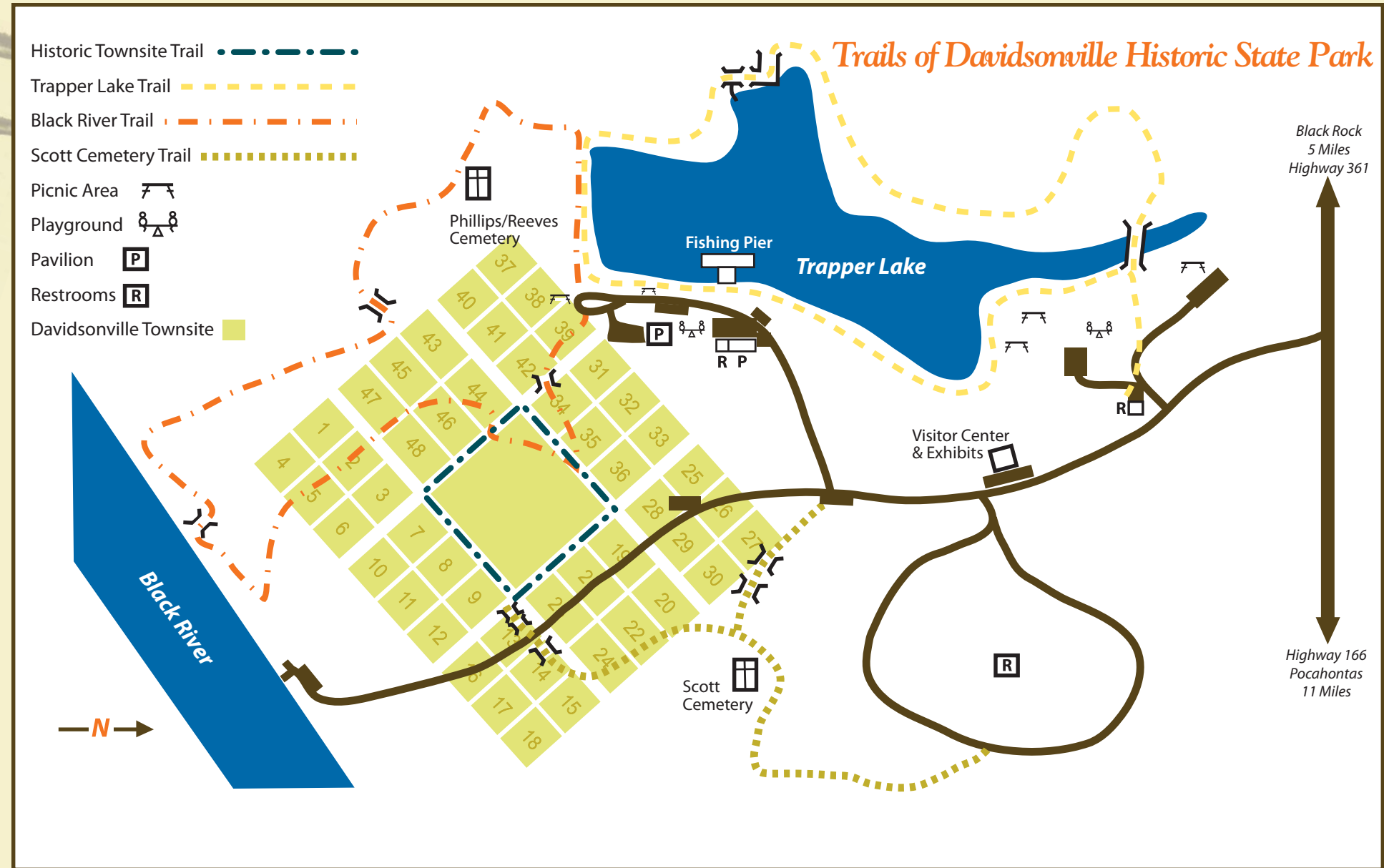
- Named for the family buried here, this is a short hike to a post-Civil War cemetery. The Scott family owned and ran the Black River ferry even after Davidsonville was just a ghost of the town it had been. Today, tombstones mark the graves of Mr. and Mrs. Scott and several of their children.

### Trapper Lake Trail

**Length:** 1-mile loop

**Trailhead:** Just north of the visitor center behind the playground

**Trail end:** Trail loops back to beginning point or junctions with Black River Trail.



## Trails of Davidsonville Historic State Park