



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lyndon B. Johnson National
Historical Park

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Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park News Release

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National Park Service to Undertake Study of Waco Mammoth Site

Johnson City, TX - - The National Park Service (NPS) is undertaking a planning study to determine whether the Waco Mammoth Site is eligible to be included as a new unit of the National Park System.

On December 16, 2002, President Bush approved H.R. 1925, a bill that led to the establishment of Public Law 107- 341 whereby Congress directed the National Park Service, in consultation with the State of Texas, the city of Waco, and other appropriate organizations, to conduct a special resource study of the Waco Mammoth Site to assess the site's significance, suitability, and feasibility for possible inclusion in the National Park System.

Congressman Chet Edwards introduced the bill on May 21, 2001 authorizing the study in an effort to recognize the site's significance, provide for educational opportunities, and promote tourism in the Waco area.

The study of a potential new unit of the national park system requires three major determinations to establish eligibility for inclusion into the system. They are significance, suitability, and feasibility. Once a site is determined "eligible," potential management options are considered and evaluated. Based on eligibility, the best management options, and analysis of the environmental impacts, a recommendation is made to Congress as to whether the site should be included as a new unit of the National Park System.

The study is in the start- up or "scoping" phase of the project. The goal of this phase is to initiate public outreach as well as gather information on the resource and the socioeconomic environment. A public meeting has been scheduled at Baylor University's Mayborn Museum Complex SBC Theater on Thursday, October 27, starting at 6:30 pm. University and city

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representatives will present an overview of the discovery and investigations efforts of the site. The NPS will then introduce the study, explain the study process and inform the public and interested parties about how to participate in the study.

The Museum is located at 1300 South University Parks Drive in Waco, Texas. The museum entry fee will be waived for meeting attendees, so please consider visiting the museum prior to the public meeting to experience the fabulous interpretive exhibit of the Waco Mammoth Site.

Directions to Mayborn Museum Complex from the south on I- 35: Take exit #335A onto JH Kultgen Expressway toward 5th- 4th Streets and go 0.2 mile, turn right on Dutton Ave (Texas 434- spur) and go 0.3 mile, turn right on South University Parks Drive and go 0.6 mile, make a U- turn at Bagby Ave onto South University Parks Drive and go 0.2 mile to arrive at the museum entrance found on your right.

Directions to Mayborn Museum Complex from the north on I- 35: Take exit #335B onto JH Kultgen Expressway toward University Parks Drive/Fort Fisher and go 0.1 mile, turn left on South University Parks Drive and go 0.8 mile, make a U- turn at Bagby Ave onto South University Parks Drive and go 0.2 mile to arrive at the museum entrance found on your right.

If you would like to be included on the mailing list for future information on the progress of the study or share your ideas with the study team, you can contact us via email: WACO_SRS@nps.gov or by mail: National Park Service, WACO- SRS, DSC- P- D'Arcy, PO Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225- 0287.

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