

**EAST TENNESSEE WANDERERS  
FORT LOUDOUN STATE HISTORIC AREA WALK  
5K/10K**

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## **FORT LOUDOUN**

Fort Loudoun State Historic Park sits on 1,200-acres and is one of the earliest British fortifications on the western frontier. During the French and Indian War (1754-1763) the British Colony of South Carolina felt threatened by French activities in the Mississippi Valley. To counter this threat, in 1756 the Colony sent the Independent Company of South Carolina to construct and garrison what became Fort Loudoun.

The fort existed for four years until relations between South Carolina and the Cherokee Nation broke down. In August 1760, the Cherokee captured Fort Loudoun and its garrison. It was thought that the Cherokees destroyed the fort sometime shortly after the English marched away.

There was no public recognition of the Fort until 1917 when the Colonial Dames of America placed a commemorative marker at the site where the fort had stood. In 1933, the Tennessee General Assembly purchased the site and created an association to manage it. The fort was reconstructed during the Great Depression, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1965, and became a Tennessee State Park in 1977.

## **SEQUOYAH BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM**

*The 10 km walk goes through the museum building and uses the Maxwell D. Ramsey Shoreline Trail through the museum property. Individuals doing the 5 km walk are encouraged to drive the short distance further along Highway 360 to visit the museum.*

The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. They are closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day. Admission is \$5 with discounts for Seniors and Veterans.

This museum celebrates a fascinating piece of history of a man, Sequoyah (c. 1776-1843), father, soldier, silversmith, and statesman, who could neither read nor write, but who invented what became the written language of the Cherokee Nation.

## **STARTING POINT**

The starting point for both distances is the Fort Loudoun State Historic Area Visitor's Center, 338 Ft Loudoun Rd, Vonore, Tennessee 37885

**Directions:** 338 Ft Loudoun Rd, 37885 (423)884-6217.

FROM N, E & W: I-81/I-40, Exit 376 (I-140) to Maryville/Alcoa. Exit 11a (Hwy 129 S) merge with traffic. After passing airport, stay RIGHT at split, following Hwy 129 passing Foothills Mall until Hwy 129 merges with Hwy 411 S. Stay on Hwy 411 S approx 17 miles to Hwy 360 S and traffic light. Turn LEFT on Hwy 360 S, less than 1 mile, cross bridge, take next LEFT to State Historic Area. FROM S: I-75 to Exit 72 (Hwy 72 E), Hwy 411 N. Turn LEFT to Hwy 360 S and traffic light. Turn RIGHT to Hwy 360, less than 1 mile, cross bridge, next LEFT to State Historic Area.

**Latitude 35.596, Longitude -84.2054**

## **GENERAL WALK INFORMATION**

Walk during daylight hours. Park grounds are open from 8 a.m. to sunset. Restrooms are available in the Fort Loudoun Visitor Center, which is open 8 am-4 pm M-Sun. The park is closed Christmas Day. For the 10 km walkers, restrooms are also available in the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum.

This walk makes use of the Bobby Brewer Heritage Trail System within the Fort Loudoun State Historic Area and the Maxwell D. Ramsey Shoreline Trail on the grounds of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum. Please be careful and watch your footing. Watch for wildlife. Squirrels, deer, and snakes have all been seen on this walk. Please stay on the trail; poison ivy is very plentiful in this area. Hiking boots and sticks may be helpful. Use of insect repellent and sun screen may be appropriate depending on the season and the weather.

## **POINT OF CONTACT**

Guy Calkins (president @easttennesseewanderers.org) 585-727-6493  
If you have questions, comments, or recommendations with respect to this event, please do not hesitate to make contact.

## **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

The two Special Programs associated with this walk are A-Z (Vonore, TN), and 50 States (Tennessee).

## **OSB REMINDERS**

Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration.

## **OTHER EAST TENNESSEE WANDERERS' EVENTS**

While in the area, we would like to invite you to participate in our other Year-Round Events:

Clinton 12 Walk  
Maryville Historic City Walk  
Linda Nelson Memorial Walk  
Alcoa-Maryville Greenway Bike  
Alcoa-Maryville Extended Greenway  
Seven Islands State Birding Park  
Oak Ridge Secret City Walk  
Elkmont (Smoky Mountain National Park)

Knoxville Music, Moonshine and Art  
Knoxville UT  
North Knoxville/4<sup>th</sup> & Gill  
A.T. Through Tennessee  
Townsend (Peaceful Side of the Smokies)  
Gatlinburg (Trail Walk)  
Gatlinburg (Tourist Walk)

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## East Tennessee Wanderers

VONORE - FORT LOUDOUN STATE  
HISTORIC AREA WALK©  
Y2009 5/10 KM Rated 3C

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1. **Exit** the Visitor Center through the front door and **walk along the sidewalk** to go **around** the building **to your right**.
2. **Follow** this paved path until you **enter** through Fort Loudoun's Sally Port (gate).
3. Once inside the fort, take some time to look around.
4. **Walk** down the hill with Barracks to your right until you reach the Tuskegee Gate at the far wall of the fort.
5. **Pass** through that gate and walk out to see the Tuskegee Indian Village to your left.
6. **Reenter** the fort and **turn right** walking along the wall to the Blacksmith & Tinsmith Shops.
7. **Turn left** and walk up to the outdoor Bake Oven on your right.
8. **Turn left** and **walk across the center** of the fort back to the line of Barracks.
9. **Turn right** at the Barracks and walk up to the Sally Port (gate) you originally entered.
10. Once outside the fort, **follow the paved trail back** along the way you originally approached the fort.
11. Watch for the unmarked trail to your right (0.68 km) just beyond the fence line.
12. **Take this unmarked trail to your right** and walk through the woods toward the water.
13. As you exit the woods, you will walk into a meadow. **Walk through the meadow** along the shoreline toward the tree line at the other end of the meadow.
14. As you approach the tree line, with a pier to your right, **turn left** to walk away from the pier toward the park road/parking lot.
15. As you approach the park road you will see a blue storage container and an old roadbed on your right with a sign to Ridge Top Trail. **Take this roadbed to your right**.
16. **10K: Turn left** at the kiosk.  
[JUMP TO STEP 20]
17. **5K: Follow this roadbed until it ends at the water**.
18. **Turn around and walk back to the kiosk now on your RIGHT**.
19. **Turn RIGHT** at the kiosk
20. **5 & 10 km are now on the Ridgetop Loop Trail**.
21. Watch for steps up to your right. It looks like the trail might go straight, but you should **take the steps up to the right**.
22. Upon reaching a T-intersection
  - a. **5 km** continue on the Ridgetop Loop Trail to your **LEFT**. Carefully cross the park road and continue on Ridgetop Loop Trail  
[JUMP TO STEP 44]
  - b. **10 km** take the Meadow Loop Trail **to the right**
23. **Follow this trail until you reach the park road**.
24. **Cross** the park road and **turn right** to carefully walk along the shoulder until you reach the park gate.
25. **Exit** the park and **turn left** to carefully walk a short distance along the highway shoulder until you see a gate in the fence on the other side of the road.
26. **Carefully cross** the road and either go under this gate or walk along the fence a short distance to your left to a break in the fence that you can walk through..
27. After you pass through the fence line, **turn left** along the mulch/grass Maxwell D. Ramsey Shoreline trail.
28. When the mulch/grass trail ends at the entrance to the parking lot of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, **follow** the parking lot to the museum building.
29. Bathrooms and water are available in the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum. You can visit the gift shop for free, and you can visit the museum itself for a small admission fee (discounts for seniors and veterans). We encourage you to visit the museum as this is a fascinating piece of history of a man who could neither read nor write, but invented what became the written language of the Cherokee Nation.
30. **Exit** out the back doors of the Museum and **walk** toward the water on the gravel path.
31. **Bear to the right** along the path walking between two buildings and pole shelters with the parking lot up the hill to your right.

In case of emergency, call 9-1-1  
After emergency, call (585) 727-6493

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32. **Turn left** as you approach the fence line, and **walk toward** the Indian Burial Mound. This is the traditional burial method of the Cherokee people.
33. Staying off the Burial Mound, **walk around the left side** to the tree line.
34. **Turn right** past the tree line, and **walk along** the old roadbed. The roadbed will feed back onto a mulch trail. This is the Maxwell D. Ramsey Shoreline Trail.
35. **Continue along this mulch trail** as it parallels the shoreline, **crossing a 150 foot boardwalk and two bridges**.
36. **As you approach the road, the trail will curve to the right** (away from the water).
37. After a short distance up this trail section, you will be walking **parallel to the highway and back toward** the museum.
38. When you reach the gate or the break in the fence (where you originally entered), **cross through the fence line**.
39. **Turn left** to walk carefully along the shoulder of the highway until you reach the entrance to Fort Loudoun State Historic Area.
40. **Carefully cross** the road and walk along the shoulder on the left side of the park road.
41. **Cross the road to take the trail to the right** when you reach the intersection with Meadow Loop Trail. This is on the opposite side of the road where you earlier exited the woods.
42. **Follow this trail until you reach the Lost Shoe Loop Trail on your Right.**
43. **Follow the Lost Shoe Loop Trail until you again reach the Meadow Loop Trail where you go right,**
44. **Follow this trail** and watch for a trail sign which for the 10 km is on your left and for the 5 km is on your right.
45. At this trail sign, **10 km turns right and 5 km turns left to take the Ridgetop Loop Trail..** NOTE: For 10 k the sign identifying this trail is on the opposite side of the signpost.
46. **Follow this trail until you reach the sidewalk** with the picnic area to your right and kiosk on your left.
47. **Follow the sidewalk** back to the Visitor Center.

48. **Congratulations!** You have finished the East Tennessee Wanderers' 5 or 10 km Fort Loudoun Historic Area Walk. We hope you enjoyed it. Please let us know what you thought of the walk and how we might improve it.

**Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration. You can then print out your insert cards for this walk.**

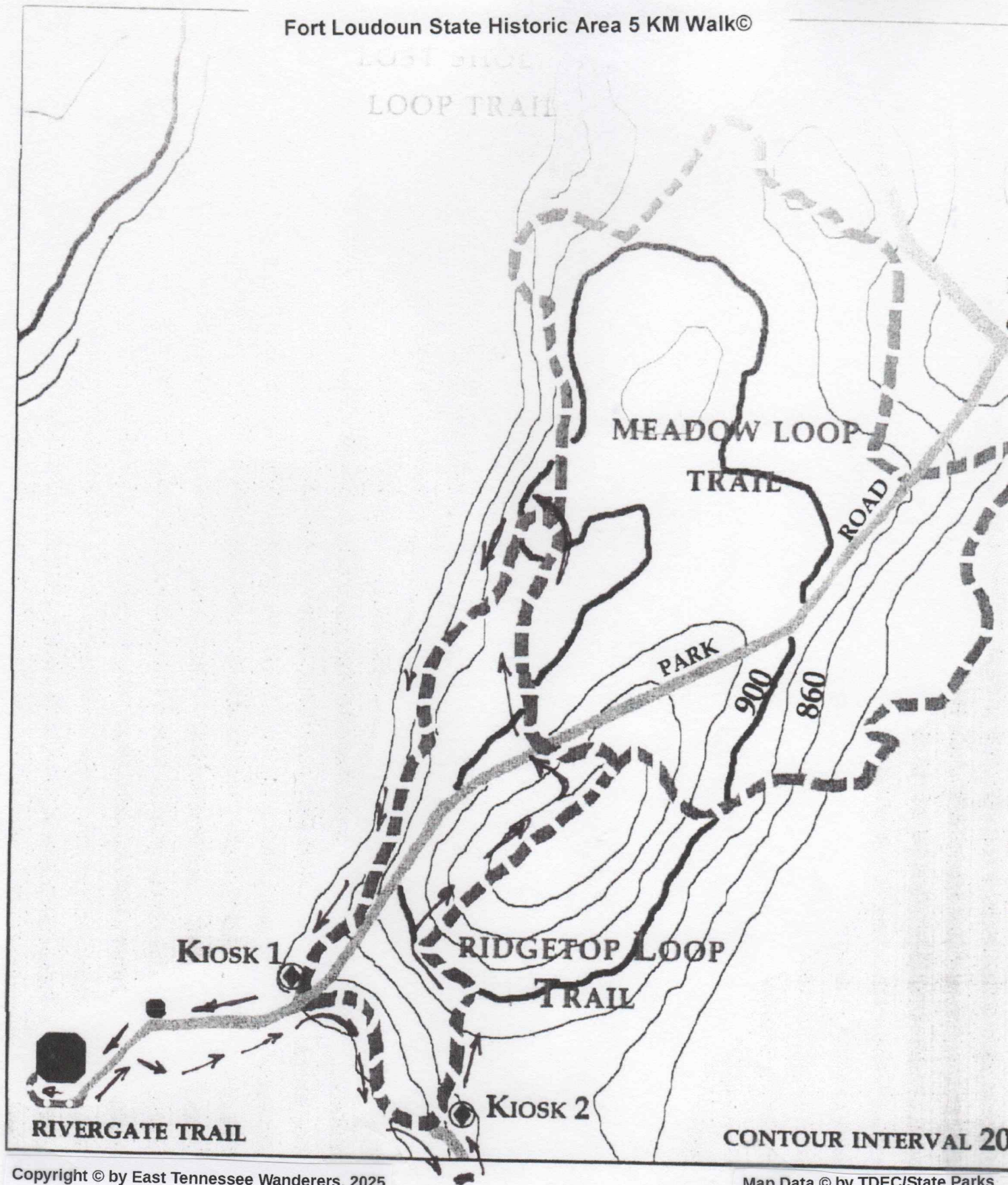
**POC: Guy Calkins (585)727-6493**

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Fort Loudoun State Historic Area 5 KM Walk©

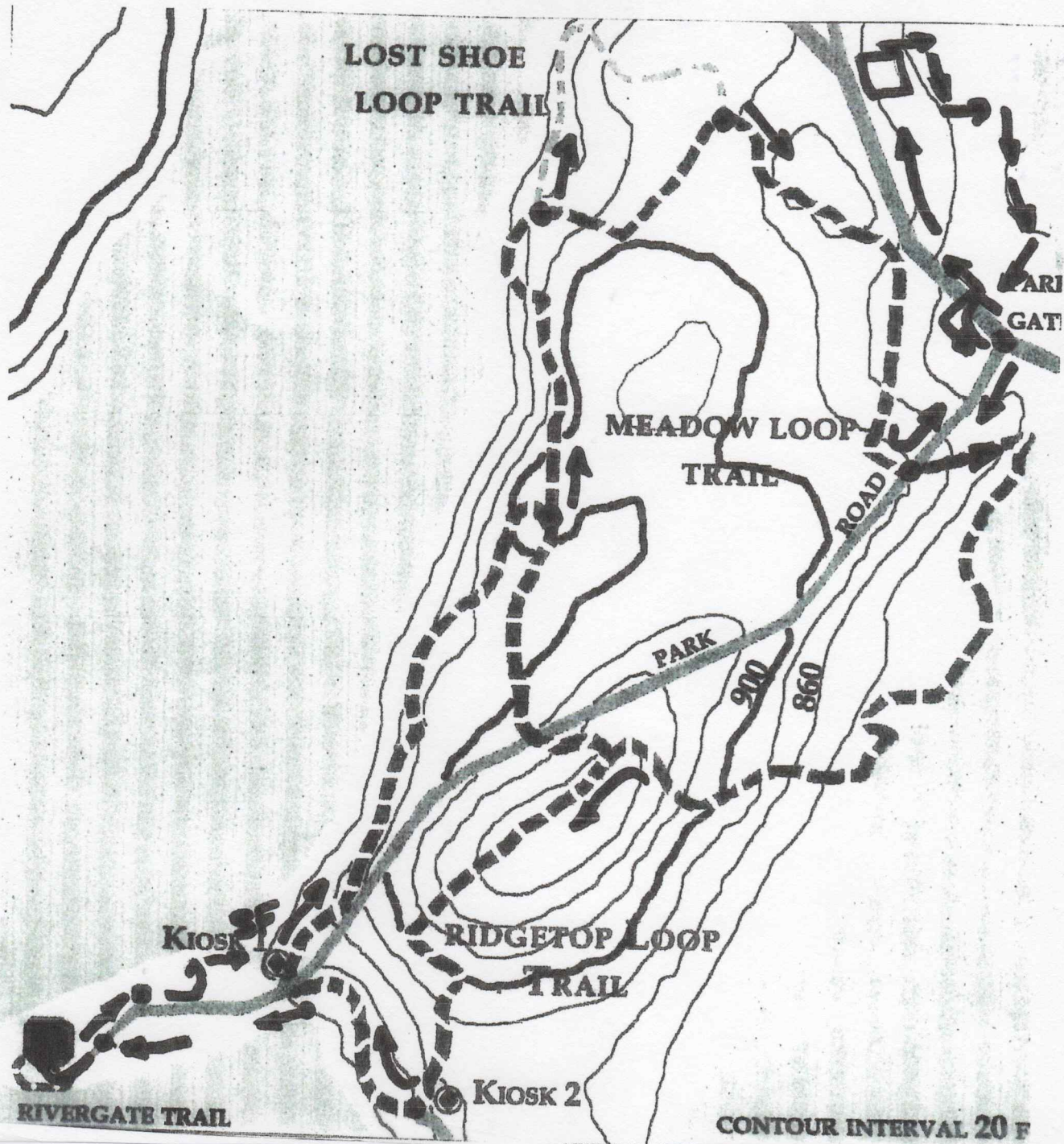


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# East Tennessee Wanderers FORT LOUDOUN STATE HISTORIC AREA WALK 10 KM



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Fort Loudoun State Historic Area 10 KM Walk©