



United States Department of Agriculture

# Pioneer Mothers Memorial Forest



## Location specific information

Use type: hiking

Length of trail: 1.3 miles

Facilities: a trailhead with parking on Ind. 37, additional parking lot on U.S. 150

Special features: 88 acre Research Natural Area featuring the last old growth forest of its size in Indiana; National Register of Historic Places eligible archaeological site

## Directions

GPS coordinates (trailhead on Ind. 37):

38° 32' 3.372"N, 86° 27' 28.576"W

From Paoli, go south on Ind. 37 to the parking lot on the left.

GPS coordinates (trailhead on U.S. 150):

38° 32' 51.378"N, 86° 26' 56.929"W

From Paoli, go south on U.S. 150 about 1 mile to the parking lot on the right (across from S. Triangle Road).

## Safety

In case of emergency call 911

Nearest hospital: Paoli, Ind.

Orange County Central Dispatch: 812-723-2417

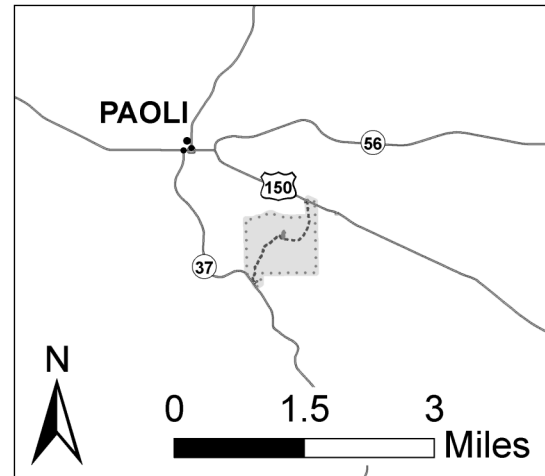
Indiana Conservation Officer Dispatch: 812-837-9536

## Etiquette and rules

No hunting, camping, horses, bikes, target-shooting or plant collecting are allowed in this Research Natural Area. Forest trails are closed to all motorized vehicles.

Follow Leave No Trace principles.

Private and public land ownership is scattered within



the forest boundary. Visitors must take care to stay on National Forest System lands and respect private property.

## History

This 88 acre old growth oak-hickory forest has been virtually undisturbed since before it was purchased by Joseph Cox in 1816. After being protected by the Cox family for 124 years, when a descendent died in 1940, the land was sold to a lumber company. It was prevented from being cut due to a community fundraising effort. The US Forest Service put up half the funds and the land was purchased back from the company with the agreement no trees would ever be cut. In 1944 the tract was designated a Research Natural Area by the Forest Service. Along with a 165-acre buffer, the area is managed to protect its unique qualities and is a National Natural Landmark. Along the trail there is a rock wall commemorating the Indiana Pioneer Mothers. In the bottomland area was a prehistoric Native American village site. Extensive excavations have been done to study this Oliver Phase Mississippian village which dates to A.D. 1380.

Archaeological sites are protected by federal and state law. Do not disturb or remove artifacts and notify the Forest Service if found.



Scan here to see a geo-referenced map.

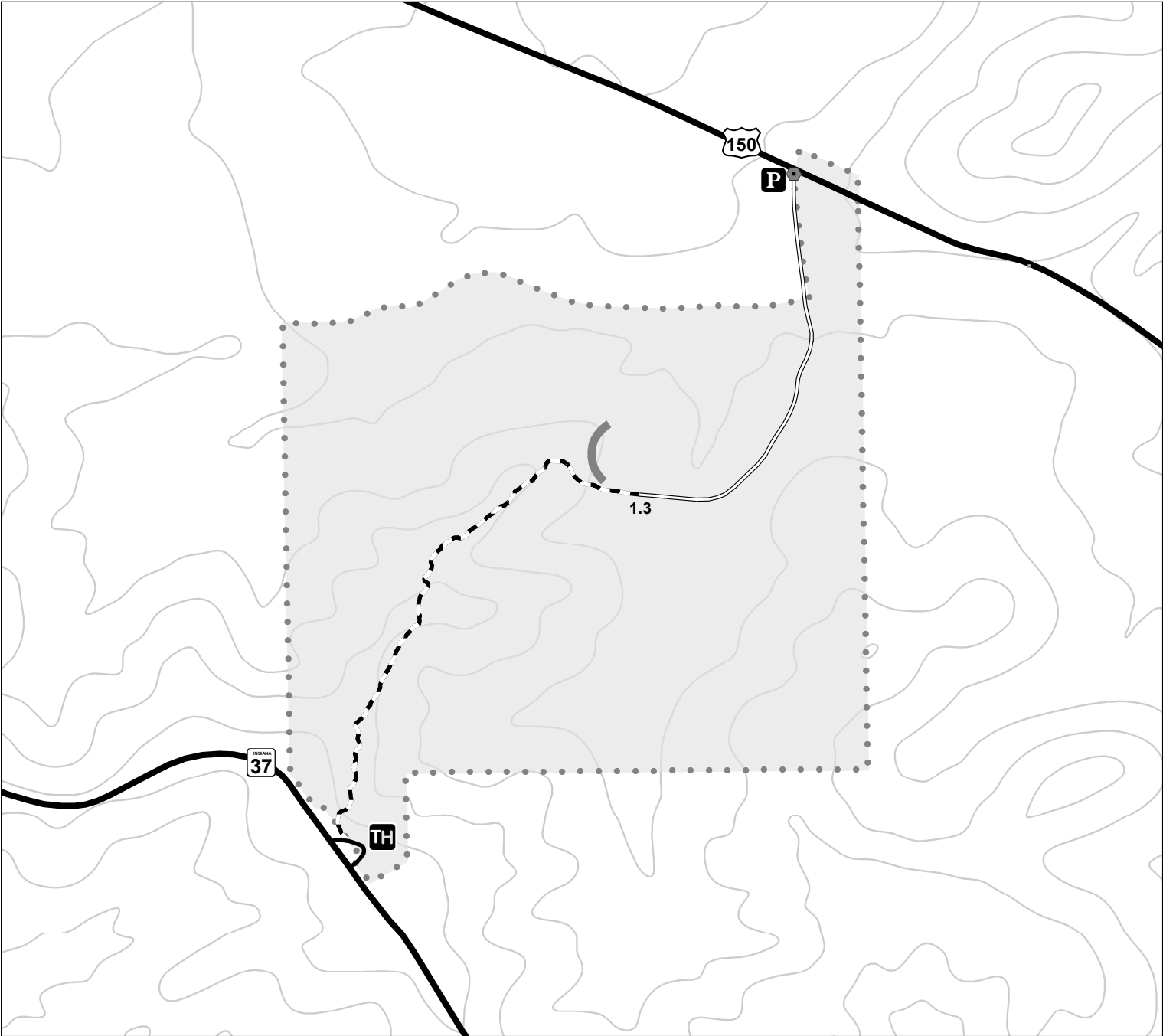


Forest  
Service

Hoosier National Forest  
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# Pioneer Mothers Memorial Forest Trail



Updated 2/20

## Legend

- |               |               |                        |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| MEMORIAL WALL | PAVED TRAIL   | 50 FT CONTOUR          |
| PARKING       | UNPAVED TRAIL | RESEARCH AREA BOUNDARY |
| GATE          | ROAD          | FOREST SERVICE LAND    |
| TRAILHEAD     | HIGHWAY       |                        |



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Original data compiled from multiple source data and may not meet National Mapping Accuracy Standards. For specific data source information contact the Hoosier National Forest. No warranty is made to the contents or accuracy of the data.