The Boone’s Lick Road was Missouri’s first main road to the west. From St. Charles, Bryan and Morrison’s Trading Post sold the precious commodity mined at the salt lick, which gave the Boone’s Lick community its name. Thousands of travelers used the road to reach the Santa Fe Trail, as it passed through St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery, Callaway, Boone, and Howard counties.

The Boone’s Lick Road Challenge is sponsored by the Boone’s Lick Road Association. The mission of the Association is twofold: to preserve and tell the fascinating stories of the first major road into the heart of Missouri and to secure federal recognition of the road as a National Historic Trail. The Association aims to be the world’s most comprehensive and authoritative source for information and research on the historic trail.

Boone’s Lick Road Challenge … Visit at least 1 site in each county, listed here moving from east to west. Remember: Missouri Explorers must be registered in the program, and they are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites. Upload your verification photographs using the online submission form at https://missouri2021.org/missouri-explorers/ to receive your merit badge button.

Remember, Missouri Explorers, you are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites before arriving.

Saint Charles County

Boone’s Lick Road Marker
101 N. Second Street
St. Charles, Missouri

At the northwest corner of the intersection of Jefferson and Second Street in the City of St. Charles is the first in a series of markers placed in 1913 by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). In 1913, this was in front of the new 1906 St. Charles County Courthouse. Snap your photograph in front of the marker.

Daniel Boone Monument
724 S. Main Street
St. Charles, Missouri

In 1799, trailblazer Daniel Boone arrived in the Spanish Territory that would later become Missouri. With him came several members of his family and close friends, at the invitation of the Spanish government. The Boone settlement was in southern St. Charles County, near the Missouri River. His son Nathan surveyed portions of St. Charles and lead William Clark westward with the Corps of Engineers to build Fort Osage further upriver. In March 1816, the citizens of St. Charles petitioned the Courts to establish a road westward, creating the Boone’s Lick Road. Snap your photograph with the Daniel Boone statue.

First State Capitol State Historic Site
200 S. Main Street
St. Charles, Missouri
636-940-3322

On Nov. 25, 1820, Gov. Alexander McNair signed a bill making St. Charles the first capital of Missouri. The state's first legislators met in St. Charles for the first time on June 4, 1821. Heated debates over state's rights and slavery filled the rooms of the new temporary Capitol. The meeting place provided by the citizens of St. Charles was on the second floor of two newly constructed adjoining Federal-style brick buildings. The second floor of the building was divided and used as Senate and House chambers, an office for the governor, and a small committee room. Four Missouri governors ran the state's affairs from the Capitol in St.
Charles until the new Capitol in Jefferson City was ready in 1826. Snap your photograph in front of the building.


Site of Bryan and Morrison Trading Company / Berthold Square Park
221 S. Main Street
St. Charles, Missouri
573-526-6149

By 1821, unfolding events brought Nathan and Daniel Morgan Boone into the salt industry with Philadelphia’s Bryan and Morrison Trading Company, the most influential American firm in Missouri’s trans-Mississippi West. Boone’s Lick salt became crucial in the Osage Indian trade, Missouri River commerce, and for support of federal and Missouri militia troops in the War of 1812. James Morrison purchased this block to establish his trading post in 1804. The region known as the Boone’s Lick gave its name to the road that led to it. The salt manufactured at the salt lick was floated down the Missouri River on flatboats and sold at this site. In 1821, the Boone’s Lick Road left here and headed west over earlier Indian traces. Morrison's Trading Post furnished Zebulon Pike’s famous Expedition to the southwest in 1806-07. Snap your photograph in front of the Berthold Square Park sign.

http://www.stcharlesparks.com/park/berthold-square-park/

Warren County

Camp Branch Cemetery
248 Preserve Park Place
Warrenton, Missouri

Many of the earliest families that lived in Warren County and traveled the Boone’s Lick Road lie here. Snap your photograph in front of the Camp Branch Cemetery sign.

Sander’s Tavern Marker
101 West Booneslick Road
Warrenton, Missouri

Warren County was formed in 1833 and named the county seat in 1837, with the first courthouse erected in 1838. In 1849, across the street from the courthouse, Harold Sanders operated the Warrenton Post Office and a popular tavern. In 1913, the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a monument marking the location of Sanders Tavern. Across the street from Sanders Tavern – today’s Eisenstein building – is the former mercantile of Ford and Munson, where the first town lots were sold. Across from the Eisenstein Building is Schowengerdt Mercantile. Snap your photograph with the DAR marker.

Warren County Historical Society and Museum
102 Walton
Warrenton, Missouri
636-456-320

Warrenton’s Main Street is on the Boone’s Lick Road. Several buildings that line the street were there in the 1800’s. The Schowengerdt home, built in 1865, is located several blocks to the east of the courthouse. A sign is placed in the yard adjacent to Boone’s Lick Road. The Warren County Historical Society has several exhibits that share the history of Warren County. The cupola was on top of the Warren County Courthouse built in 1870, which faced Boone’s Lick Road. The courthouse was listed National Historic Sites in 1972. Snap your photograph in front of the cupola located at the west side of the building in the parking lot.

http://www.warrencountymohistory.com/

Montgomery County

Jonesburg Historical Society
104 East Booneslick Road
Jonesburg, Missouri

Wright Smith’s daughter married Dr. Charles Morehead Johnson and moved to her new home in St. Charles County, the former of home of Nathan Boone, son of Daniel Boone. Smith was a tobacco farmer from Virginia that brought his family and enslaved Blacks to Missouri in 1837. Snap your photograph in front of the Wright
Smith slave cabin just east of the Jonesburg Historical Society building.

**Graham Cave State Park**
217 State Hwy TT
Danville, Missouri
573-564-3476

Artifacts uncovered in Graham Cave reveal that people occupied the cave 8,000 to 10,000 years ago. To walk through the park’s 386 scenic acres, which includes the diverse Graham Cave Glades Natural Area, is to walk in the footsteps of the hunter-gatherers who lived in the area’s caves during the ancient Dalton and Archaic periods. Visitors can go to the mouth of Graham Cave, and interpretive exhibits along Graham Cave Trail detail the life researchers believe early inhabitants lived. Additional interpretive exhibits throughout the park explain the cultural and natural significance of the site. Snap your photograph at any one of the interpretive panels.

https://mostateparks.com/park/graham-cave-state-park

**Danville Female Academy**
327 Booneslick Road
Montgomery City, Missouri

On October 11, 1864, at Boonville, Missouri, Confederate General Sterling Price met with “Bloody Bill” Anderson Price instructed Anderson to take a party east to disrupt and destroy the North Missouri Railroad. Anderson’s men traveled east on the Boone’s Lick Road, passing through Franklin and skirting Columbia, then continuing to Danville. After the attack on Danville, the raiders moved on. The raiders ended their eastward dash well before reaching their objective, a bridge at the St. Charles County line. Snap your photograph in front of the sole surviving building of the Academy in Danville.

**Boone County**

**David Gordon Cabin and Mansion Site**
2001 E. Broadway
Columbia, Missouri
573-874-7460

David Gordon’s cabin and fine mansion were landmarks on the Boone’s Lick Road as travelers approached the new town of Columbia from the east. While no longer here, the site is preserved now as Columbia’s Stephens Lake Park. Snap your photograph with the Stephens Lake Park entrance sign.

https://www.como.gov/parksandrec/park/stephens-lake-park/

**Callaway County**

**Grant’s Stage Stand Marker**
Intersection of County Roads 161 and 142 (both gravel roads)
Nine Mile Prairie, Missouri

The marker commemorates the location of a small settlement on the (beta) Boone’s Lick Road named after Captain Billy Grant. Grant’s house was the first in the county with glass windows. A post office was also located here around 1830-32. The marker was placed on a later section of the Boone’s Lick Road after other communities and settlements began to be established. Snap your photograph next to the DAR marker.

**Old Auxvasse Presbyterian Church and Cemetery**
County Road 156 and St. Charles Road
Auxvasse, Missouri

The Old Auxvasse Presbyterian Church was founded in 1828; it was on the (beta) Boone’s Lick Road. An interpretive sign placed by the Civil War Heritage Foundation shows an aerial view of the area and the “trace of the Boone’s Lick trail” immediately east of the cemetery. Snap your photograph with the interpretive sign placed by the Civil War Heritage Foundation.

**Van Horn Tavern Site**
5821 W. Van Horn Tavern Road
Columbia, Missouri

After Columbia’s formation in 1821, the new course of the Boone’s Lick Road was extended westward and new taverns and stage stops were added. Early stages stopped here, and a famous
tavern, later known as the Van Horn tavern, was erected on this site in 1830. Snap your photograph with the DAR marker just east of the house.

Thrall’s Tavern and Lexington Post Office Site
6267 N. Route J
Rocheport, Missouri

The earliest route of the Boone’s Lick Road traversed later Boone County east and west about six miles north of present Columbia. It crossed later Rt. J at about Lathrop School Road. Just west of Route J was Thrall’s Tavern and the first post office in Boone County, named Lexington. Snap your photograph with the DAR marker on the west side of Rt. J near the intersection with W. Lathrop School Road.

Howard County

Boone’s Lick State Historic Site
711 Route 187
Boonesboro, Missouri
660-837-3330

The remains of the Salt Works are clearly displayed in this historic site. They showcase the essential role of salt in early frontier life, its harvesting, and the role of Nathan Boone and others in its development. The entire area was named in general after this essential saline, often a “must” stop for those heading west and those shipping salt downriver to markets. Snap your photograph in front of the Salt Works sign.

https://www.mostateparks.com/park/boones-lick-state-historic-site

South Howard County Historical Society Museum
110 East Broadway Street
New Franklin, Missouri
573-673-3157

New Franklin boasts the dual marker of the terminus of the Boone’s Lick Road and the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail. The marker, called “The Rock,” stands in the middle of Main Street, just adjacent to the South Howard County Museum. Just down the hill south on Highway 5 is the Pioneer monument, right beside the KATY Trail. Across the street is the new display house for a replica of a Conestoga Wagon. Continuing south on Highway 5, then turning right before the bridge onto Highway 87 and continuing half of a mile, the markers for Old Franklin, the Boone’s Lick Road and Santa Fe Trail are all located on the north side of the road in a pocket park close to the KATY Trail. Snap your photograph in front of “The Rock” DAR marker.

https://shchs.wordpress.com/