

GEORGIA SCENIC BYWAY BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 2011

OCMULGEE – PIEDMONT SCENIC BYWAY — DESIGNATED.

The Office of Planning at the Georgia Department of Transportation designated the Ocmulgee-Piedmont Scenic Byway.

The Ocmulgee-Piedmont Scenic Byway begins in downtown Gray on Highway 11.

The route continues north on Highway 11 for approximately nine miles, where it passes through the communities of Bradley, Wayside, and Round Oak. It next turns west on Round Oak – Juliette Road, proceeding for approximately 12 miles before ending at the Ocmulgee River in Juliette.

The Ocmulgee-Piedmont Scenic Byway traverses 200 years of Jones County history as well as the pre-historic and historic sites of the Creek Indians that lived there in the 17th and 18th centuries.

What is now SR 11 was formerly an Indian trail and a major north-south route between Hillsboro in Jasper County and Clinton, Jones County's 19th century county seat.

In 1864, during the Civil War, opposing forces met along this road at the Battle of Sunshine Church and later that year General Sherman followed this route through Jones County on his "March to the Sea".

The Round Oak-Juliette Road portion of the Byway was originally an Indian trail and now travels through the pristine pine forests of the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, which is inhabited by several species of endangered wildlife.

East Juliette, the endpoint of the byway, is a small late 19th/early 20th century mill village community located on the Ocmulgee River.

The town of Juliette, on the other side of the river, was the setting for the 1991 film Fried Green Tomatoes.

The scenic 21-mile route in central Georgia, in Jones County:

- On SR-11, from the Gray city depot, through the cities of Bradley, Wayside, & Round Oak, to Round Oak-Juliette Road; then
- On Round Oak-Juliette Road, to the Jones-Monroe County line (the Ocmulgee River).