



THE COURIER



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TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

SUMMER 2017

CIVIL WAR FUND AND WARS COMMISSION GRANTS AWARDED

\$251,000 in funding from the Tennessee Historical Commission to the Civil War Trust is helping preserve two significant tracts of property in Stewart County in the core area of the Ft. Donelson Battlefield. The funding was approved at the February meeting of the Tennessee Historical Commission and comes from the Civil War Sites Preservation Fund, established in 2013. The funding helps match American Battlefield Protection Program monies. \$51,750 in state funding will help acquire the Beard Tract in Dover. This 4.25 acre property on the western edge of the battlefield was where troop movements occurred during the battle, from February 11-16, 1862. A \$200,000 grant will be made to help purchase the Watson tract, two parcels totaling 38.97 acres. This tract is located on the southeast portion of the battlefield. “We are proud to play a key role in helping protect these important lands at Ft. Donelson,” said Commission Executive Director Patrick McIntyre. “This exceptional grant program is helping save important places that are part of Tennessee’s most significant Civil War battlefields for the benefit of future generations.” While the Civil War Trust will retain ownership of the new acquisitions, the Tennessee Historical Commission will hold conservation easements in perpetuity on the properties.

The Tennessee Wars Commission has also chosen recipients for worthy grant projects this year. Wars Commission Program Director Tim Hyder noted “Wars Commission grants will continue to help study the remains of American soldiers who died in the Mexican War, help interpret battlefield properties in Franklin and Parker’s Crossroads, and help save an important artifact that will eventually be on display to the public. Franklin’s Charge will receive \$40,000 for the acquisition and placement of replica cannons at the Carter Cotton Gin Site in Franklin, located

across the street from the THC’s Carter House State Historic Site. Friends of Shiloh National Military Park will receive \$20,000 to help acquire the frockcoat of Col. Francis Whitfield, who was wounded at the Battle of Shiloh in 1862. Parkers Crossroads Battlefield Association received \$18,000 in funding for a ground penetrating radar survey of the western portion of the battlefield, critical in the attempt to find Confederate soldiers possibly buried in the area. Old Stone Fort Archaeological State

Park received funding to ascertain the location of a former Confederate gunpowder mill within the park.” Middle Tennessee State University received \$48,000 in 2015-16 to study and attempt to identify remains of Mexican War soldiers disinterred from Monterey, Mexico. Preliminary evidence indicated the remains may be of Tennessee soldiers who were killed during the 1846 battle. This Wars Commission grant continues to support this extensive and ongoing project.

2017 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDS

Each May, as part of National Preservation Month, the THC recognizes Certificate of Merit winners. The awards program was established in 1975 and honors those who have made significant contributions in the prior year to historic preservation in Tennessee and/or to advancing Tennessee history. The appointed Commission votes on recipients at the February meeting. Recognitions are made in the categories of Historic Preservation; Book/Public Programming; and Special Commendations.

In the Historic Preservation category, nine awards were presented. Dana and Shon Lin were recognized for saving and adaptively reusing the threatened, c. 1907 National Register-listed Rowland Darnell House in Memphis for a new restaurant. The Lins used the Federal Rehabilitation tax credit and worked with THC and the National Park Service to accomplish the project. JHD, LLC and McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects of Knoxville were recognized for the restoration of the historic John H. Daniel Building in Knoxville. The

building developers also used the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit. The Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County in Franklin received an award for the restoration of the long vacant c. 1942 Old, Old Jail in Franklin as the adaptively reused offices of the Foundation. Metro Water Services of Nashville, Davidson County received a certificate for the exterior restoration of the Boiler House, Pumping Station, Water Intake, #1, and the Storage Building at Omohundro Water Works. Phil Thomason and Pat Ezell were recognized for the National Register Multiple Property Document for TVA Hydroelectric System, 1933-1979, and for 16 individual National Register nominations they authored for TVA hydroelectric projects. Robbie Jones and Carolyn Brackett of Nashville received certificates for their ongoing Music Row Preservation Efforts, including the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form “Historic Music Industry Resources in Nashville.” Ken and Rowena Smith of Morristown won

Awards, continued on page 5



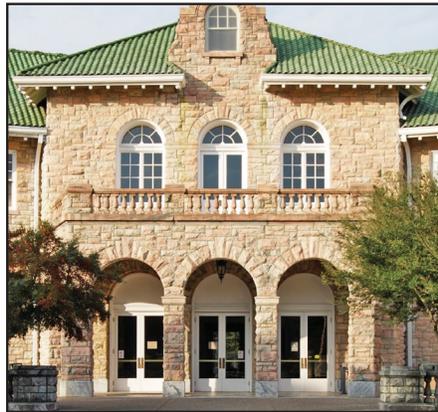
SAH ARCHIPEDIA

By Claudette Stager, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

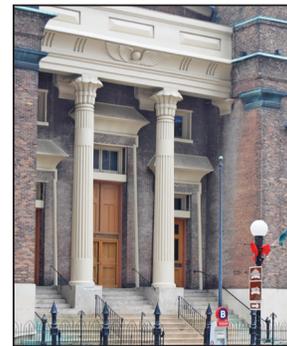
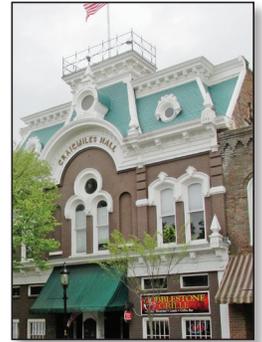
SAH Archipedia: Classic Buildings is the Society for Architectural Historians' online database that will eventually contain information on the 100 most important buildings from every state. The buildings chosen by the project editors represent the architectural history of the US. The first fifty buildings in Tennessee are now online at <http://sah-archipedia.org/essays/TN-01>. They range from the 1989-1991 Pyramid in Memphis to the 1845-1859 Tennessee State Capitol in Nashville to the circa 1780 Carter House in Elizabethton. The buildings in Archipedia from Tennessee span the three Grand Divisions, many architectural styles, and a timeframe from the establishment of the state to the late twentieth century.

Archipedia is an outgrowth of the Society for Architectural Historians award-winning book series called Buildings of America. Nineteen states are included in this series and more, including Tennessee, may be completed in the future. All entries in Archipedia are peer-reviewed before they are placed online. Gavin

Townsend of the University of Tennessee Chattanooga was the program coordinator for Tennessee. Along with Townsend, Robbie Jones of New South Associates in Nashville, and Claudette Stager of the Tennessee Historical Commission were the principal authors for Tennessee's buildings. Gray Stothart of the First Tennessee Development District assisted by writing on several East Tennessee properties.



Craigsmiles Hall 1877-1878. Second Empire style commercial building located in Cleveland, Bradley County. National Register listed in 1980



Downtown Presbyterian Church 1849-1851. Egyptian Revival building located in Nashville, Davidson County. Listed as a National Historic Landmark in 1992

Pink Palace Museum 1922. Romanesque Revival building located in Memphis, Shelby County. Listed in the National Register in 1980

NEW STAFF MEMBER

NEW COMMISSION MEMBER

On March 28, 2017 Gov. Haslam appointed David Ray Smith of Oak Ridge to the Tennessee Historical Commission. Mr. Smith replaced Mrs. Tobie Bledsoe of Jonesborough, who served from 2006 to 2017. Mr. Smith serves as the Y-12 National Security Complex Historian. In this role, Smith serves as an ambassador for Y-12 and tells the story of complex to the community and across the country. Mr. Smith also serves as the Historian for the City of Oak Ridge.



David Ray Smith

Mr. Smith joined the Y-12 staff in 1970, as an electronics technician. Later he served as associate director of Facilities Management Organization, and then in Infrastructure Reduction. The Department of Energy recognized Smith with its Award of Excellence in 1998. The East Tennessee Historical Society recognized Mr. Smith in 2013 with a Professional Achievement

and Community History Award. Smith testified before the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks in conjunction with the bill that established the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. Since the Park's creation, he has been very involved, including serving as Consolidated Nuclear Security's lead for implementing the park at Y-12. He writes a weekly

newspaper column on Oak Ridge history that he compiles into hardback volumes. Smith is also an avid photographer who has published six books on East Tennessee nature scenes. Mr. Smith graduated from the United States Air Force electronics technical school and attended the University of Tennessee. He holds a certificate from the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. He also served in Vietnam.



Ashlee Pierce

Ashlee Pierce began on May 8, 2017 as the Administrative Secretary for the Commission. Ms. Pierce is a native of Florida, and has a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies from Tennessee State University. Prior to joining the Commission, she served as an Administrative Assistant at the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance. Her prior experience includes working at the Hermitage Hotel. Pierce has a strong interest in historic preservation and in art, antiques, and travel. She is enjoying working in the State Historic Preservation Office.



PUBLICATIONS TO NOTE

By Linda T. Wynn

Assistant Director for State Programs & Publications Editor

Publications of LSU Press, 338 Johnston Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803 include:

Remembering Reconstruction: Carole Emberton and Bruce E. Baker *edited Struggles Over the Meaning of America's Most Turbulent Era.* Emberton, an associate professor of history at SUNY-Buffalo, is the author of *Beyond Redemption: Race, Violence, and the American South after the Civil War.* Co-editor, Bruce E. Baker is a lecturer in United States history at Newcastle University and is the author of *What Reconstruction Meant: Historical Memory in the American South.* Their work is one of the broadest studies of the memory of post-Civil War Reconstruction. A compilation of essays by eleven younger academics of Reconstruction, including the editors, illustrates how Americans have comprehended the historical narrative of Reconstruction and used it for their own purposes. While studies of the Civil War and historical memory burgeon, ensuring a greater understanding of how the war's meaning has shifted over time and the implications of those changes for concepts of race, citizenship, and nationhood, the Reconstruction era has yet to receive similar attention from historians and scholars. Generally, many consider the period from 1863, commencing with the Emancipation Proclamation to 1877, when the last federal troops were withdrawn from the South, an "unfinished revolution" for civil rights, racial-identity formation, and social reform. Divided throughout four chapters, the ten essays broadens the perceptions of the complex revisions in America's collective memory. For anyone wanting to understand how the period between 1861 and 1877 shaped American history, ***Remembering Reconstruction*** is important, as it positions memory at the core of historical analysis. **Cloth, \$45.00.**

Publications of Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Road, Cary, North Carolina 27513 include:

Joan Quigley's *Just Another*

Southern Town: Mary Church Terrell and the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Nation's Capital. Quigley, an attorney, and former business reporter for the *Miami Herald*, presents more than just another biography of Mary Church Terrell, who began her life in Memphis, Tennessee, as the daughter of Robert R. and Louisa Ayers Church, Sr., both of whom were formerly enslaved. Terrell's life spanned the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation through the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. One of the first Black American women to earn a college degree (Oberlin College 1884 and a master's degree in 1888), she was one of the most prominent women in the Civil Rights Movement for over fifty years. A militant feminist, a founder of the National Association of Colored Women in 1896, in 1904, she gave remarks in English, German and French at the International Congress of Women in Berlin. Five years later, she was a founding member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). After the Second World War, she was an early leader of the campaign against racial segregation in public accommodations. In this tome, the first trade book on *District of Columbia v. John R. Thompson Company, Inc.*, Quigley recounts an unfamiliar chapter of the Civil Rights Movement: an epic fight that ultimately flatten the walls of racial segregation in Washington, D. C., the symbolic home of American democracy. On January 27, 1950, 86-year-old Mary Church Terrell and several of her friends walked into Thompson's Restaurant, a cafeteria located a few blocks from the White House, requested service, which management denied. At the book's core is the fearsome Mary Church Terrell and the test case she mounted seeking to enforce Reconstruction-era laws prohibiting segregation in D.C. restaurants. Just four years earlier, the United States Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision for Civil Rights in its *Irene Morgan v. Commonwealth of Virginia* decision when the court agreed that racial

segregation violated the Constitution's protection of interstate commerce. Through the prism of Terrell's story, Quigley reassesses Washington's relationship to civil rights history by bringing to the forefront a pivotal fight for equality that flared up five years prior to Rosa Parks's refusal to move to the back of Montgomery's Cleveland Street bus and a decade before the student sit-in movement stunned segregated lunch counters across the South. Three years after Mary Church Terrell launched her campaign against racial segregation in Washington, D. C.'s eating establishments, the United States Supreme Court, in an unanimous decision, invalidated restaurant segregation in the nation's capital, upholding the Reconstruction-era prohibition against racial discrimination. As with other well-established findings, Terrell's lifetime of activism from her coming of age in the 1890s to her July 24, 1954 death illustrates that African Americans continually fought for full freedom and that black women were key leaders in the struggle. **Cloth, \$29.95**

Publications of the Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St, Nashville, TN 37219 include:

Nashville's World War II Veterans by **James B. Jones, Jr.** A three-volume work that includes the "Great Depression, Basic and Higher Training, and the American Theater"; "The African Theater and European Theater"; and "China, Burma, and India and the Pacific Theater". Made possible by the United State Congress, when it created the Veterans History Project, which then-President William Jefferson Clinton signed into law on October 20, 2000. As established by the Congress, the Veterans Project included veterans from World War I through the Persian Gulf War. After the terrorists' attacks of September 11, 2001, the Library of Congress subsequently expanded the scope of its project to include veterans in Afghanistan and Iraq and the Global War on Terrorism. The Special Collections Division of the Nashville Public

Publications, continued on page 11



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NEWS

By Caroline Eller

Three Individual Buildings Added to the National Register of Historic Places



Northeast oblique of Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18

Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18

Located along Gallatin Avenue in East Nashville, the (former) Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18 is a one-and-one-half story brick Tudor Revival-style building with Art Deco influences that was constructed in 1930 to serve the areas of northeast Davidson County annexed by the city in the 1920s. The station is locally significant for community planning and development and architecture from 1930-1966.

The Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18 is a significant architectural example from the Nashville Fire Department's period of residential fire hall design that lasted from 1910 to 1945. This phase saw the inclusion of motor vehicles to the fire department's fleet, the first occurrence on November 21, 1910 when Chief A.A. Rozetta obtained a new Marathon car that had been built in Nashville by the Southern Motor Works. By 1912, the department has placed its first motorized fire engine into service, a significant historical event that affected the design utilized for area fire stations.

Fire hall design in Nashville during this time also accounted for trends in architecture that were specific to the geographically-defined stylistic context where the stations were located. While there could be vastly different designs based on location, residential-size scale was widely utilized and suburban examples mirrored the residential architecture in the surrounding neighborhoods, as in the case of the Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18.

Both the press and the fire department referred to many of these stations as "residential" or bungalow" fire halls, typologies that were further exemplified by landscaping features added in order to blend the station into the fabric of the local environs and provide a sense of comfort to the staff.

In 2006, the Metropolitan Nashville Council designated the Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18 as a Local Historic Landmark Overlay District. Staff members from the Tennessee Historical Commission and the National Park Service have been working with the current owner to rehabilitate the building in a preservation-sensitive manner, retaining as much historic material as possible. The new owner plans to occupy the building with an interior design business and recognizes the importance of the old fire hall (now named "The Station") to Nashville's collective history.

The National Register nomination for the Fire Hall for Engine Company No. 18 was prepared by Scarlett Miles with the Metropolitan Historical Commission.

Marion Post No. 62

The American Legion Clubhouse, historically known as Marion Post No. 62, is located at 300 Elm Avenue, South Pittsburg, Marion County and was nominated to the National Register for its local significance in architecture and social history. Constructed in 1926, the one-story building is masonry with a stucco façade and depicts an uncommon combination of Egyptian Revival, Neoclassical and Craftsman stylistic influences. The period

of significance is defined as 1926-1967, spanning from the date of construction through several decades of historic use as a community space for social groups and activities.

Marion Post No. 62 was built during a time when "Egyptomania" influenced architecture in the United States and, while a simplified iteration, displays many elements similar to other built products of the movement, including a smooth stucco finish, parapet roofline and central recessed entry with flanking columns. Designed by Chattanooga architect W.H. Sears, the building is architecturally unique within Sears' body of work as well as within the East Tennessee region.

World War I veterans applied for and received the charter for Marion Post No. 62 on December 22, 1919. Sears began drawing up plans for the membership and presented them by December 1923. The building originally cost \$15,000 to construct, and was built to honor Marion County's fallen soldiers. The membership held a banquet on November 11, 1926 in the newly-erected building, the formal dedication ceremony held about two months later. Various groups have used the building over the years for meetings, offices and events, including the South Pittsburg Public Library, South Pittsburg Public School, Twin Cities Garden Club, Methodist Episcopal Church, Works Progress Administration, Boy Scout Troop 63, and the Girl Reserves of South Pittsburg High School.

The National Register nomination for the Marion Post No. 62 was prepared by Melissa Mortimer with the Southeast Tennessee Development District.

Shults Grove Methodist Church

Shults Grove Methodist Church is located in a rural residential area southwest of the community of Cosby, Sevier County. The building is a good local example of a rural church design that was influenced by the widely-popular Gothic Revival style. Clad in weatherboard siding with an uncut stone foundation, the one-story 1914 Gothic Revival church sits atop a small hill surrounded by trees, with a set of freestanding wood steps that meander up the slope to the main entrance. A



East façade of Marion Post No. 62.

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honors for the restoration of the c. 1857 Greek Revival style Watkins-Witt House (Arrow Hill) in Morristown.

In the category of Book/Public Programming, four certificates were awarded. Dr. Joseph Garrison of Murfreesboro received an award for his book *Section 106 and Game Theory*. Dr. Garrison served as the Review and Compliance Coordinator for the Tennessee Historical Commission from 1984 to 2016, and he reviewed some 71,341 projects. His work postulates that Section 106 consultation process tracks along predictive models that conform to Game Theory.

The Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture was recognized for their ongoing conference highlighting African-American history. Since 1981, thousands of attendees have benefited from this educational and entertaining forum that takes place in February and features lectures, presentations, and music. TVA's Norris Dam 80th Celebration Team received honors for the July 29 and 30, 2016, celebration of the 80th anniversary of the dam. History booths and exhibits at the dam allowed visitors to experience the stories associated with this resource, and to mark the occasion. Franklin historian Thelma Battle received a certificate for *Natchez Street Revisited*. This book features photographs of churches, businesses, schools, and people associated with the Natchez Street area of Franklin.

Two Special Commendation awards were bestowed this year. Lindsay Crockett of Alcoa is the preservation planner for the East Tennessee Development District. The position is funded in part by a Federal Historic Preservation Fund grant from the THC. Crockett received an award for writing National Register nominations and for her ongoing outreach work. Robert Hicks of Leiper's Fork received a certificate for his book *Orphan Mother*. This work of historical fiction has helped heritage tourism efforts in Williamson County through increased visitors to the sites mentioned in this and in his other works.

National Register, continued from page 4

circa-1960, shed-roof outhouse is located just northeast of the church and retains original board siding with a simple flush board door.

The façade (southeast elevation) contains a single five-panel wood door, providing the only means for access to the sanctuary. Just above the entry is a Gothic-arch transom with y-tracery and three lights with stained glass. A stone panel intersects the apex of the arch, inscribed with the church name and construction date. Also visible on this elevation is the church bell tower, a tall, narrow feature with copper spire that is inset just slightly from the gable. A row of three, single-hung, Gothic-arch wood windows punctuates each of the side walls; these display etched glass with a swirling pattern, the uppermost diamond-shaped center lights retain stained glass identical to that found in the southeast wall transom. The one-room interior displays original features that are almost exclusively wood, including floors, walls, wainscoting, chair rail and vaulted ceiling.

As stated in the nomination, the Gothic Revival style originated in Tennessee in the 1830s with Episcopal churches that were built under Bishop James

Harvey Otley, initial examples of which were constructed in Nashville, Franklin and Columbia. As the style gained popularity statewide, detailing such as spires and elaborate stained glass were often incorporated into ecclesiastic architecture, but Shults Grove Methodist stands as a fine, intact example of a vernacular adaptation built for one of the "crossroads communities" of the late-19th and early-20th century. The well-preserved modest church retains simple detailing and original materials that reflect solid workmanship and contribute to the integrity of this sacred space.

The National Register nomination for Shults Grove Methodist Church was prepared by Lindsay Crockett with the East Tennessee Development District.

Shults Grove Methodist Church.



RECENT NATIONAL REGISTER LISTINGS

Since the last issue of *The Courier* there have been six new entries to the National Register of Historic Places from Tennessee. The properties are the following:

- U.S. Post Office and Court House, Madison County - 1
- William M. McMurry House County, Robertson County - 1
- The Science Building, Putnam County - 1
- Rock of Ages Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Shelby County - 1
- Kern's Bakery, Knox County - 1
- Charles Davis House, Shelby County - 2

The following three properties were removed from the National Register due to demolition.

- H. C. Shiflett Barn, Meigs County - 1
- Pearson Brick House, Sullivan County - 1
- Bowers--Kirkpatrick Farmstead, Washington County - 5

There are now **2,159** entries in the National Register from Tennessee including **287** districts for a total of **43,926** resources now listed.



“Once More Into the Breach...”

TENNESSEE AND THE U.S. ENTRY INTO WORLD WAR I - PART 1

By Michael E. Birdwell, Ph.D., Chair, Tennessee Great War Commission

One hundred years ago on April 6, President Woodrow Wilson declared war on the Central Powers in the Great War. While he had won re-election on the slogan “He Kept Us Out of War,” in 1916, and gone to such great lengths as firing his Secretary of War Lindley Miller Garrison, replacing him with a Quaker, Newton Baker, events conspired against President Wilson forcing him to reconsider. He asked for a war declaration on the 2nd of April, and congress debated for three days; the Tennessee delegation stood unanimous in its support of war. Tennesseans in Scott County had been champing at the bit for war as early as the fall of 1916 when German U-Boats sank the merchant ship *The City of Memphis*. The Scott County Commission went so far as to declare war on the Central Powers before the President asked for intervention. So, in the spring of 2017, Tennesseans prepared for war.¹

Making the transition from peace-time to war proved problematic. Allied commanders informed Wilson that he needed to raise an army of at least four million men, to fight in a war in Belgium and France that might last as long as 1920 or beyond. The U.S. standing army represented only a fraction of that. The logistics appeared insurmountable, but those duties fell into the capable hands of Brigadier General Percy Beardsley of Black Oak Ridge, Tennessee. It was his job to determine locations for training camps across the U.S. and make civilians into fighting machines. A brief window existed for men who wanted enlist before the draft went into effect, and a few like Albert Perrine Smith of Cookeville, felt compelled to enlist because his father Major Rutledge Smith was placed in charge of conscription for the southeastern region of the U.S. and later much of New England. Most Tennesseans who served came from the National Guard or answered the call of the

draft. Many were inducted at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia just south of Chattanooga before heading to their training camps.²

Tennesseans from the 30th Division, a National Guard unit, had just returned home from their frustrating foray into Mexico in search of Pancho Villa, and quickly found themselves in service again. Tennesseans, no matter their division, headed into the wilderness to build their camps from scratch. The 30th turned the piney woods near Greeneville, South Carolina into the sprawling facility Camp Sevier while the men of the 82nd dug into the red clay near Atlanta, to carve Camp Gordon out of the wilderness. Flavious Merrow of Summertown, Tennessee, described the conditions at Camp Sevier his mother after many of the trees had been cut: “We sure are in the wilderness. . . we have to dig stumps; there is not anything but pine trees here and the ground is so poor that a rabbit has to carry a lunch with him.”³ A regiment from the 118th Infantry cleared so much land that soldiers “facetiously referred to it as ‘The South Carolina Land and Development Company.’”⁴

Ernest Patrick West of Chattanooga remembered, “Finally, we got around to breakfast or something. . . The boiled eggs were from some pre-war storage and in many cases, when broken, showed signs of advanced pregnancy or something.”⁵ On December 8, 1917, the mess hall at Camp Sevier went up in flames due to faulty electrical wiring. Few soldiers complained about the loss of the facility, some may have even cheered.

As training advanced into the spring of 1918, some soldiers found themselves assigned to Officer Training at established forts across the U.S. with good barracks, and other more humane amenities. Others continued to drill, but without the luxury of weapons. Soldiers hurled rocks in imitation of

hand grenades; skidded telephones about on limbers pretending they were artillery pieces and shouted bang bang at each other as they pointed wooden blanks of rifles toward an imagined enemy—all because the U.S. lacked proper and sufficient weapons.

Meanwhile as soldiers grew more hardened and accustomed to a life outside in the elements, people back home observed “Meatless Mondays, Wheatless Wednesdays and Heatless Saturdays. They bought War Bonds, listened to the propaganda of the Four Minute Men and made Comfort Kits for their friends and relatives in the camps. Some civilians of German extraction felt the growing ant-German sentiment and feared for their lives. Citizens of Germantown in Shelby County changed the name of the town to “Nashoba,” in reference to Frances “Fanny” Wright and her experiment that should have worked if not for the duplicity of Andrew Jackson. Bruno Gernt, a first generation German living in Fentress County, so feared for the lives of his children that he took them to Harriman and put them on a train for Cincinnati, home to the largest German population in America. En route, he gagged them, lest they say something in their native tongue and risk abuse or worse.

The stage was being set for Tennessee’s role in the Great War. Six Tennesseans earned the Medal of Honor, but the only story most people know is that of the vaunted Sergeant Alvin Cullum York. The other six served in the 30th Division and fought under British command, not under General John J. Pershing and the American Expeditionary Force. They, along with York, earned their medals in a ten day period between September 29-October 8, 1918. Their story will be revisited in the next installment of this saga.

¹ Stanley J. Folmsbee, Robert E. Corlew and Enoch L. Mitchell, *History of Tennessee*, Vol. II (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1960), 287; Esther Sharp Sanderson, *Scott County: A Gem of the Cumberlands* (Oneida, Tennessee: Self Published, 1974): 186. This was not unusual behavior on the part of Scott County citizens. When Tennessee seceded from the Union in 1861, Scott County seceded from Tennessee.

² Percy Bishop, “Unpublished Memoir” (Knoxville: Center for the Study of War and Society, University of Tennessee, MS 38), 36-70; The Council of National Defense was organized in August 1916 to coordinate planning for mobilization and cooperation with industry; see William J. Breen, *Uncle Sam At Home: Civilian Mobilization, Wartime Federalism and the Council of National Defense* (West Port, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1984). For the draft see John Whiteclay Chambers, *To Raise an Army: The Draft Comes to Modern America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986).

³ Flavious Merrow to Josephine G. Merrow, September 12, 1917 (Nashville: TSLA, Gold Star Mothers Records, RG 53).

⁴ Elmer A. Murphy and Robert S. Thomas, *The Thirtieth Division in the World War* (Lepanto, Arkansas: Old Hickory Publishing Company, 1936) 33.

⁵ Ernest Patrick West, *History of Battery B, 114th Field Artillery, 55th Brigade, 30th Division: With Some Trials and Tribulations of its Personnel* (Chattanooga, Tennessee: Self-published, 1967), 25.



Review and Compliance In Action: Elkmont in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park

By David Calase, 106 Coordinator

Elkmont began as a logging community in 1901 but efforts to preserve the Smoky Mountains and establish a National Park eventually led to the cabins remaining as summer cottages for the owners. By the mid-1990s, the last of the lifetime leases had expired and Elkmont was fully incorporated into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. With the structures in NPS hands, debate raged over various options for the treatment of the area. The NPS fulfilled their duties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act by considering historic properties during their planning process. While multiple alternatives were presented and debated, the core issue was whether the National Register-listed historic district should remain or be removed to allow for the natural environment to repopulate the area. After successful consultation through the Section 106 process between the National Park Service (NPS), the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (TN-SHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, various interested parties, and the public, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed in 2009. Although Elkmont is not being preserved in its entirety, preservationists were successful in saving one full community and three individual buildings that will continue to represent the Elkmont community.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park recently began the demolition of multiple structures in the Elkmont Historic District. The MOA outlined the future of Elkmont and stipulated which buildings within the historic district were to be preserved, restored, or demolished. The Elkmont Historic District consists of four smaller communities: Daisy Town, Millionaire's Row, Society Hill, and the Wonderland Club. Daisy Town is the site of the largest collection of remaining Elkmont structures. Alternatives were proposed to utilize the cabins as overnight



Young Cabin Site. Photo by Dianne Flaugh, GSMNP



Spence Cabin Site, Elkmont, GSMNP

accommodations for park visitors, but resistance led to the cabins being preserved for visitation by day visitors. A collection of cabins nestled closely together, Daisy Town is being preserved and interpreted so future generations will know of the community that once was nestled within the National Park. As stipulated in the MOA, the NPS has already completed a historic structure report on each remaining structure and is currently in the process of stabilization efforts. The Chapman Cabin, located within Society Hill, is receiving the same preservation treatment as the Daisy Town cabins.

The greatest preservation success in Elkmont is the restorations of the Appalachian Clubhouse, located in Daisy Town, and the Spence Cabin, part of Millionaire's Row. Through consultation with the TN-SHPO, both buildings feature restored exteriors and rehabilitated interiors which allow for contemporary use. Events such as family reunions and annual meetings by various organizations have been held at each, and the Spence Cabin, with its riverside patio, has been the site of multiple wedding ceremonies and receptions.

Although the park will deconstruct all of the cabins in Millionaire's Row, Society Hill and the Wonderland Club, remnants from each Elkmont community will remain. Contributing cultural landscape features such as stone chimneys, front steps, rock walls, and flower beds will serve as a reminder of the community that once existed in what will eventually revegetate to a natural landscape. Residing within a National Park that has both environmental and cultural resources missions, Elkmont is an example of Section 106 consultation where parties with conflicting views and goals were able to agree to a treatment of historic properties that allowed for these differing goals to be achieved.



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State Programs and Publications Editor

Public Comment Solicited

The Tennessee Historical Commission is again soliciting public comment and advice on its administration of the National Historic Preservation Act. Especially, we are seeking input on such matters as geographic areas or classes of properties which should be a priority for survey and/or registration efforts, criteria and priorities which should be established for restoration grants, and ways and means through which local efforts at preservation of historic properties can be most effectively assisted. Comments and advice on other areas and issues of a more general nature are also encouraged. Activities carried out by the Commission under the mandate of the Act include efforts to survey and inventory potentially-historic properties across the state and to nominate the most significant to the National Register of Historic Places. Other activities involve programs to protect and preserve properties once they are identified by reviewing Federal projects to determine if they will adversely affect historic properties and wish to earn the investment tax credits which are available; awarding and administering grants for the restoration of National Register properties; and providing technical assistance and advice to local governments which are attempting to establish local programs and ordinances to protect historic properties. Besides the restoration grants program, some of these activities are carried out in part by the provision of grant support to local groups and agencies. These grant funds are federal funds which are appropriated under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act to assist states in carrying out the purposes of the Act. The comments received will be used to structure the annual application to the National Park Service for these funds. The Tennessee Historical Commission expects to solicit applications for grants-in-aid in June of this year for the 2017 Fiscal Year (10/01/2016-9/30/2017). The public input and advice which we are soliciting now will help to set both general office objectives and to establish priorities and criteria for the review of grant applications. Comments are requested by April 15, 2017, and may be addressed to Claudette Stager, Assistant Director for National Register Programs, Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214.

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“Ward was flush with money and was in a hilarious mood.”

THE AUGUSTUS KENNETH WARD FORGERY SCANDAL IN MEMPHIS, 1895-1902.

By James B. Jones, Jr., Public Historian

In mid-October, 1895, news of the forgeries, embezzlement, and flight of Augustus Kenneth (A. K.) Ward, General Manager, Secretary and Treasurer of the Memphis Board & Heading Company, was beyond belief. Soon after he secretly left Memphis, it was known beyond a doubt that he secured at least \$200,000 on forged paper before his departure, \$170,000 from Memphis, from local and out-of-state and local banks, brokers, and moneylenders. The remaining \$30,000 came from widows, orphans and personal friends.

Ward's methods of operation varied. Sometimes he forged only one name and at other times as many as three or four. One of his schemes was to go to one of the men who had been endorsing for him with a joint note, got his them to sign it and tell him that the other endorsers would do the same thing. Then he would forge the other names. The next not to be forged would be drawn up in the same way and taken to another, his signature obtained and the signatures of others would be forged. By the time Ward had gone around the circle, he would have a large sum of money and each endorser would have knowledge by part of his borrowings. On each note to this kind Ward would take it to the bank, where the genuine endorser did business and the bankers seeing this signature was all right, would naturally assume there was no trouble about the rest of the signatures.

The sudden death of S. A. Williamson, the largest stockholder of the successful Memphis Barrel & Heading Company, and a moneyed businessman, caused the exposure and Ward's abrupt flight from Memphis. When Williamson died those who held notes with his forged name began to clamor for another endorser, and finding he could get none, Ward fled. Face to face with disgrace, he went to his wife, confessed his forgeries, and told her he would have to leave the country. She agreed to share his fate and together they left for New Orleans carrying great sums of cash.

The comparison of notes by various interested parties showed that there was

about \$100,000 of forged paper in Memphis, the remainder being from other cities. Ward, as general manager of the Memphis Barrel & Heading Company, had authority such as managers have for legitimate uses. To what extent the firm was bound by Ward's forgeries was a question that remained to be answered.

It was learned that the Mechanics' National Bank, of New York, held \$30,000 of the paper made by Ward, with forged endorsements of reputable Memphis businessmen. Two other New York banks held \$10,000 worth of his fabricated debt, each. Additionally, two Chicago banks were in it for a total of \$20,000 while private parties in Cincinnati, St. Louis, and New Orleans held the bogus paper for in sums from \$3,000 to \$8,000. His victims made their appearance in court early upon learning of his absconding with so much cash, and by that evening every piece of property in which he had an interest had been bound over and was in the hands of the Sheriff.

A.K. Ward was a native of Nashville and came to Memphis with several years prior, and began work as an attorney. Yet, he was not successful in that endeavor and turned his attention to business. In that capacity, he was described as “energetic and nervous.” As an entrepreneur, he made friends in the highest social and business circles of Memphis; their confidence in him was full throttle. Ward settled in Memphis earlier in the 1880s, led a double life faultlessly. He maintained a palatial mansion on the outskirts of the Bluff City on the Hernando road. For all appearances, he was attentive to his wife. He was the superintendent of a Sunday school, and was renowned as the loudest singer in the congregation. He gave freely to charity and was regarded as a model Christian man. At the same time Ward, it was stated, “secretly maintained another residence in the city which has been the scene of many orgies.” (There was no elaboration on this last aside.)

Ward was a “veritable heavyweight in business, though light physically,” having various irons in a number of fires. Before the scandal he had a stellar reputation as an up and



coming businessman, except, ironically, among a select circle of bankers, who did not “care to handle his personal paper, even with a pair of tongs.” Aside from being the superintendent of a Sunday school, he registered in society through his marriage to Grace Toof, the daughter of S. H. Toof, wealthy Memphis publisher. The wedding was judged to be “a great social event, large sums of money being spent in making it eclipse any other wedding in point of splendor that has occurred in Memphis in a long time.” Mrs. Ward was a “pretty blonde” and was one of “the leaders of the local four hundred.” Through such contacts, he became general manager of the barrel and heading company. He also managed cotton plantations near Memphis and in Mississippi.

After the elaborate wedding, Mr. Toof displayed great interest in his son-in-law, and furnished him with money to start in business. It was soon apparent, however, that Ward was no manager and he soon “ran through with the old man's shekels.” Toof endorsed Ward's paper debt until it reached \$15,000 when he

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cut Ward off and refused to put up any more cash. This circumstance caused Ward to begin his forgery, which did not stop until he was discovered and forced to flee.

Ward was described as being about “35 years old, five feet, eight inches tall, with small, piercing brown eyes, dark complexion; heavy brown mustache, light weight, and wears a round hat.”

As General Manager of the Memphis Barrell & Heading Company, he easily secured the interest of several of the richest men in the city to invest in that concern, which grew to an even higher profitability. He managed plantations near Memphis and in Mississippi. After absconding with his loot and in New Orleans the couple headed for Port Cortez, Belize (then British Honduras). “Ward,” ran one report, “was flush with money and was in a hilarious mood.”¹

The amount of money the fugitive forger and embezzler made off with varied in estimates from \$125,000 to not less than \$300,000, both incredibly large sums of money in 1895. When the sensational news broke and the full measure of his crimes were exposed the city became aroused. There was “not a shadow of a doubt that if the angry populace could lay hands on Ward he would be hanged to the nearest telephone pole. This feeling of indignation among the people was caused by the heartlessness and cold bloodiness, with which he deliberately robbed widows and orphans.” He made a habit of watching the obituaries for the deaths of men who had their lives insured. His eagerness to get possession of the little legacies prompted him to begin plans soon after the funeral to “secure the widows’ and orphans’ money.”

His standing in the church, the high rates of interest he offered and the gilt-edged forged endorsements enabled him to speedily gain the confidence of the “widows and the money was promptly forthcoming....he...swindled eighteen widows in this manner in eight months.” The Memphis *Commercial Appeal* opined that

There is certainly no doubt as to Ward’s immorality with respect to women, for there are responsible witnesses to his conduct....In this he was about as conscienceless for widowed women and other poor people who had reserved some of their saving for future maintenance.²

His career of theft and forgery was conducted with little thought of the impacts his dealings would entail, typical behavior for sociopaths. “The world was his ‘oyster,’ and victims were so many instruments” for his fraudulent accumulation of so much money. One widow was conned into lending Ward \$2,500 “in one lump of counterfeit notes.”³ An editorial in the Memphis *Commercial Appeal* held that:

The villainy of the man Ward is inexpressible. He is one of the unique scoundrels of the century. He did thing no other rascal had ever attempted or even thought of. He did not rob the banks as the ordinary forger does, but he robbed and abused his friends. It had remained for his brain to conceive the idea of a combination of genuine and forged indorsements of his paper. The is no scoundrel now doing time in the penitentiaries who will not regard Ward as easily the chief of robbers....It is hard to understand why he should have undertaken his swindle the like of which is not known in criminal history. But he now stands conspicuous as the adroitest thief of whom there is any record. The motive is not yet apparent. Persons sometimes become insane but still retain their cunning....To him the widow and the orphan were fair game, and those loved and had every reason to trust him were his natural prey....⁴

Meanwhile, in Memphis, the Chancery Court was awash with petitions to force the

Memphis Barrell & Heading Company to make good the sham, which was a grim mesh. It was revealed that the books of the company contained a plethora of forged entries as well as a bogus resolution by the Board of Directors authorizing Ward to ostensibly borrow money for the business. Moreover, Ward had torn pages from the minute book containing the corporation’s by laws and either destroyed or carried them with him. The accounts were in a “hopeless tangle, and hand or tails could not be made of them.”⁵ While he and his spouse were sailing to Belize on their way to their final destination, Spanish Honduras,⁶ an effort was made to intercept the fugitive and bring him back to face charges in Memphis. Chief of Police Mosely was dispatched to Puerto Cortez, Belize, in an effort to intercept Ward and return him to Memphis. However, Mosely missed his opportunity while in Belize (British Honduras).

The only way in which Mosley could hope to apprehend Ward without the aid of an American Minister and Consuls was to “kidnap the rascal...and the chances would be about even that Ward would kidnap Mosely.”⁷ It looked as though he had premeditated his egress with great care and that he would elude authorities and prosecution for his felonies.⁸

The Chief’s efforts were to no avail. Consequently, the editor of the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* newspaper, who had loaned Ward \$900, petitioned Governor Peter Turney for assistance in apprehending the fugitive. Turney in turn contacted United States Secretary of State, Richard Olney, for his help in what was becoming an international affair.⁹

Upon landing in Puerto Cortez, Belize, the *Breakwaterer’s* master went ashore and was given a cable provided by the American consulate asking if Ward and his wife (using the alias Mr. & Mrs. August W. Kenneth) were still on board the ship. Yes, they were, but the ship was in port for just a few hours. While in port, the American Consul came aboard and provided the ship’s captain a cable from the Memphis *Appeal* that furnished a litany of

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¹ Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, October 18, 1895, (hereinafter: *MCA*); Nashville *American*, October 19, 1895, (hereinafter *NA*).

² *MCA*, October 20, 1895.

³ *MCA*, October 19, 1895; *NA*, October 20, 1895

⁴ *MCA*, October 20, 1895.

⁵ *NA*, October 20, 1895.

⁶ Belize was then a British colony; “Spanish Honduras,” referred to the Spanish speaking Republic of Honduras. The two are contiguous. Belize became an independent nation in 1961.

⁷ *NA*, October 27, 1895; *MCA* October 19, 20, 25, 28, 1895.

⁸ *MCA*, October 20, 1895; *NA*, October 25, 1895.

⁹ *NA*, October 27, 1895; *MCA*, October 25, 1895.

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Ward's transgressions, asking that he be kept aboard ship. The consular agent immediately American Consul General in Tegucigalpa, Spanish Honduras, for instructions, and received a reply that under the circumstances it would be impossible to arrest him. The telegram came from a newspaper, and was not an official United States Government Department of State notice. In the meantime, Mr. and Mrs. Ward left the vessel with their baggage making their way to Tegucigalpa by rail where they took up residence in a hotel.¹⁰ From that point Ward would have to travel by pack mule over a treacherous mountain pass to inspect the land he was granted by Honduran officials.¹¹

It was reported that he was to take possession of a large land grant given him, some several hundred manzanas (about 1.7 acres each) by the contiguous Republic of Honduras, land he was allowed to select himself. He intended to grow Sea Island cotton and establish a cotton mill within three years. If successful in his plans, he would be granted another tract of land of the same size. He was also given the exclusive right to manufacture cotton cloth by the Honduran government. But because there were no banks in Tegucigalpa, he was forced to keep the money in his own hands.¹²

Due to the efforts of Tennessee Governor Peter Turney and the U.S. Secretary of State, Ward was arrested by Honduran police and placed in a Tegucigalpa jail. He was detained in the company of his wife, who refused to leave and remained in Honduras until her husband's fate there could be settled. Opinion was expressed that because his effects, which were considered "princely," had been sequestered, that Ward could not bribe his way out of the prison. While it was popularly expected that

the forger would soon be sent back to Memphis there was an impediment. The U.S. had no treaty of extradition with Honduras, and while the authorities there conceded to the request to have him arrested, they would not extradite until the proper paper work had been filled out and filed. It was also necessary for the State of Tennessee to send a bona fide witness to Tegucigalpa to make a formal complaint. These matters would take about sixty days. Thus, Ward remained in prison awaiting a special extradition made at the behest of the State Department.¹³ Continued difficulties with the State Department sending the official papers led the Honduran government to question why Ward's extradition was delayed.¹⁴

The day after Ward was arrested a message was received through Minister Young in Guatemala from the State Department that the papers would be sent by an accredited officer on the next steamer, but when the vessel arrived there was no American agent on board. If the necessary papers were not received shortly, said a spokesman for the Honduran government, Ward would be set free.¹⁵ Ward was released from jail and he looked about for opportunities to begin a business in Honduras, San Salvador, and Guatemala.¹⁶

While matters simmered, Mrs. Ward left Tegucigalpa for Memphis. Her journey to New Orleans was eventful in the way of the ship having broken its propeller shaft in mid trip, which made her arrival overdue. A horde of newspaper reporters crowded around her as she was escorted off the ship by her attorney and sister and parents. She was "heavily wrapped and veiled and did not look up as she passed from the ship to the carriage." She made no comment to the press.¹⁷ (She would later sue for divorce two years later on the grounds of abandonment while in Honduras.)¹⁸

Ward was released from the Honduran jail as the authorities had not received the proper

diplomatic papers from Washington, D. C.¹⁹

He was finally apprehended aboard the ship *City of Dallas* and was taken to New Orleans and then to Memphis in the custody of Memphis Chief of Police and jailed temporarily in Livingston, Guatemala.²⁰ He claimed that he left Memphis because of the shame he felt over deceiving the Board of Directors of the Memphis Barrel and Heading Company. While free from incarceration, he explored other business opportunities in Central America, traveling anonymously with a "very successful disguise" to avoid arrest. His masquerade consisted of

a pair of blue jeans, overalls, a blue native coat, shaving off his mustache, tying a pebble over his left eye with a big handkerchief and pulling a large straw hat over his face, [he]...would not have been recognized by a Memphis bank teller.²¹

Ward was ultimately returned to Memphis by Chief of Police Mosely. He arrested Ward aboard the ship *City of Dallas* as it stopped in port in Guatemala to transfer him incognito to other ports in Central America. He was returned to Memphis, claiming he felt a deep sense of shame at having defrauded his victims.

As the train that carried him back to Memphis, and made stops along the way, curious crowds gathered to see the former forger fugitive. Arriving in Memphis at 10:20 P.M., "after forty days of fleeing in the jungles of Central America," he was promptly incarcerated in the city jail. A crowd of 300 gathered at the depot and lined the platform; another crowd assembled at the jail trying to get a glimpse of the famous prisoner.²²

His father-in-law agreed to make good some \$19,000 worth of Ward's worthless obligations

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¹⁰ MCA, October 19, 30, 1895; NA, October 30, 1895. According to MCA, October 19, 1895, the ex-Treasurer of Louisiana, E. A. Burke, "got away with several hundreds of thousands on a bond steal" and absconded to the Republic of Honduras (Spanish Honduras) and had taken refuge there, "and by all accounts is still there and a big man in the government." Speculation in Memphis betting circles gave odds that Ward would try to emulate Burke's example.

¹¹ MCA, October 30, 1895.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ NA, November 3, 1895.

¹⁴ MCA, October 27; November 9, 30, 1895; 1895; NA November 9, 1895.

¹⁵ MCA, November 9, 1895

¹⁶ NA, December 5, 1897.

¹⁷ Ibid, November 26, 1895.

¹⁸ Ibid, November 11, 1897

¹⁹ MCA, November 11, 27, 1895.

²⁰ NA, November 20, 21, 1895; MCA, December 3, 1895.

²¹ NA., December 5, 1895.

²² MCA, December 6, 1895

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Library became a “local partner” of the Veterans Project in 2001, making it the first public library in the country to take part in the project. Within a six-year period, the division conducted some 300 interview and collected numerous documentary materials from the participating veterans. Jones, a public historian with the Tennessee Historical Commission, the author of several books and numerous articles on Tennessee history, earned his doctorate from Middle Tennessee State University in historic preservation and history. In each volume, Jones captures the veterans’ experiences, the people with whom they came into contact, and the events they experienced in their own voices. These volumes gives the reader and those interested in the experiences of those who served the country with valor during the Second Global War a glimpse into what these courageous individuals faced and the sacrifices they made fighting for freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear, as articulated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. **Paper, 3-Volume Set, \$90.00.**

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after the forger made bail, but it was not enough to end the controversy. After a lengthy defense against ninety-seven indictments for fraud, the trial was completed in 1900. Ward was found guilty and was sentenced to three years in prison. Perhaps recognizing the seriousness of his transgressions, he volunteered to do his penance at the infamous Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary, where he arrived on June 20, 1900. Nevertheless, he was released after two and a half years, six months being shaved off his prison term for good behavior. He did not work in the coalmines, but in the penitentiary box factory and commissary. His “rich and influential relatives” were an important factor leading to his early discharge in December, 1902.²³ Thereafter, he apparently led an exemplary life, most likely settling in taking up residence in Nashville with his stepfather, Judge E. H. East.²⁴ Little is known about his life after his freedom from imprisonment was announced.

²³ NA, November 28, 1896; December 1, 1896; December 15, 1896; August 8, 1898; January 29, 1899; December 20, 1901; December 22, 1902; December 30, 1902; Nashville Tennessean, January 12, 1900.

²⁴ NA, December 30, 1902.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

At its meeting on February 19, 2017 the Tennessee Historical Commission approved nine historical markers: *One of Country Music’s Darkest Days*, Benton County; *Fisk Jubilee Singers*, Davidson County; *Saints Rest*, Franklin County; *Richland: Birthplace of Albert Miller Lea*, Grainger County; *Sarah Swann Hall*, Jefferson County; *Free Hill – A Forgotten Community*, McMinn County; *St. John Missionary Baptist Church*, Montgomery County; *Historic Benton Station*, Polk County; and *Durham’s Chapel Rosenwald School*, Sumner County. Those interested in submitting proposed texts for markers should contact Linda T. Wynn at the Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442, or call (615) 770-1093.

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY AND GIS PROGRAM UPDATE - MAY 2017

By Peggy Nickell, Survey and GIS Coordinator

We are getting good reports from consultants on the ease of use and access to the survey information in the survey room. Since the time of the last National Register State Review Board Meeting, 40 consultants have made appointments to research their project sites with most being related to cell towers but a few involving Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), United States Army Corp. of Engineers (USACE) and gas line projects. An additional 30 banker’s boxes of survey files have been condensed. Survey slides are now being archived in proper archival boxes for future reference or need. The MTSU GeoSpatial Laboratory is continuing to enter backlogged data and geo-reference surveyed counties and projects. We will be working with the State STS department to fine-tune the data available

on the Tennessee Historical Commission Viewer (Viewer) this month which will include a more efficient sequence of field data along with additional new data that will allow the consultants more information they need for their project reports. The compilation of the Historic Register numbers is complete but more quality control measures need to be completed. The Survey Form and Manual are still in the process of being updated. Once we get the field sequences and values finalized, a new Survey Manual will be created along with a digital version of the survey form that will allow for more efficient use and expedite inclusions of surveyed properties in database.

We are currently working on the data that will allow us to add new layers to the Viewer that will show the location and give information

on the National Register-listed properties and districts, National Historic Landmarks and Formal Determinations of Eligibility within Tennessee. We are also working on switching our in-house mapping of the local districts for our Certified Local Government program from Google Earth to ArcGIS On-line.

The 2016 Campbell County survey data has been geo-referenced and added to the database. This county will be added to the Viewer during the fine-tuning along with several counties that have been waiting to be uploaded.

The first reimbursement for the 2016 grant project for ETSU for the geophysical survey at the John Carter Mansion in Elizabethton has been submitted.