

Tennessee Historical Commission Grants Announced

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and the Tennessee Historical Commission announced 28 Historic Preservation Fund grants were awarded to community organizations for programs and activities that support the preservation of historic and archaeological sites, districts, and structures.

“Protecting Tennessee’s historic places is vital to the preservation of our state’s heritage,” Haslam said. “Today’s announcement represents more than \$600,000 in assistance to communities across the state, ensuring that Tennessee’s rich history will continue to be shared with future generations.”

The grants awarded come from federal funds allocated by the Department of Interior under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act. The programs authorized by this Act are administered by the Tennessee Historical Commission. The grants pay for up to 60 percent of the costs of approved project work and the grant recipient must provide the remaining 40 percent of the costs as matching funds.

“These grants help facilitate the protection and revitalization of Tennessee’s treasured historic buildings, sites and neighborhoods – places that make our state unique,” said Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission and the State Historic Preservation Officer. “Heritage tourism is one of our state’s biggest industries, and restoring historic buildings creates construction jobs and is key to helping create a sustainable environment.”

This year’s selection process emphasized projects conducting architectural, archaeological and historic site surveys. Such projects are designed to identify and to record historic districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects built before 1960 that are significant

to Tennessee’s history. Surveys could be for a specific geographic area or for sites associated with themes or events significant in the state’s history. Priorities for funding survey projects included areas experiencing rapid growth and development, other threats to cultural resources, areas where there are serious gaps in knowledge regarding cultural resources, and thematic surveys based upon existing historic study units produced by the State Historic Preservation Office. Another important category of awarded grants are those for the repair and restoration of some of the state’s historic buildings. Properties that use these grants must be listed in the National Register.

Assistance also was made available for other types of historic preservation projects, including preservation planning studies for towns, neighborhoods and historic districts and the preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

The grant recipients and/or sites of the projects include:

Anderson County:

Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc. - \$9,000 for restoration and painting of the Briceville Community Church.

Carter County:

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area – \$24,000 to test the grounds of Sabine Hill for the locations of outbuildings and other possible features on the 4.28 acres site.

Claiborne County:

Claiborne County Historical Society - \$16,740 for brick and stone work restoration and repairs to shutters and windows for the historic Claiborne County Jail.

Fentress County:

Sgt. York Patriotic Foundation - \$45,708 for the continued rehabilitation of the north addition of the York Agricultural Institute building.

Haywood County:

City of Brownsville - \$18,000 a historic survey of the commercial and residential historic districts in the city.

Montgomery County:

City of Clarksville - \$15,000 to update the city’s existing historic district guidelines, including revising and expanding the standards with more detail and graphics.

City of Clarksville - \$20,000 for a restoration plan for the Smith-Trahern Mansion.

Putnam County:

Silver Point Community Association - \$7,788 to repair and replace

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<http://www.tn.gov/environment/hist/courier/>

2012 Commission Meeting Dates

For Final Schedules check online at:

<http://www.tn.gov/environment/sunshine/#thc>

**Friday, June 15, 2012, Collierville, 9 AM,
Morton Museum of Collierville History
196 N. Main St.**

**Friday, October 19, Knoxville, 9 AM
TBD**



2012 Merit Awards Presented

The Tennessee Historical Commission presented its annual Certificate of Merit Awards during a ceremony at its offices on May 30. This year, eleven projects were recognized. The awards program, begun by the Commission in 1975, recognizes individuals or groups throughout the state that have worked to conserve or highlight Tennessee's cultural heritage during the past year. The awards are given in three categories: Historic Preservation; Books or Public Programming; and the Commissioners' Special Commendation. The Special Commendation awards recognize significant achievements in historic preservation or history that do not fit into the other categories. This year's recipients in the Historic Preservation category include the Lakeway Civil War Preservation Association, recognized for the restoration of Confederate Gen. Longstreet Headquarters for a museum in Russellville. Architect Jim Thompson of Centric Architecture was recognized for his exceptional work in leading the restoration project for Wynnewood State Historic Site in Castalian Springs. The Tennessee Preservation Trust received an award for the Durham's Chapel Rosenwald School Stabilization and Conservation Project in Durham's Chapel in Sumner County. Franklin-based Rock City Construction and architect Bea Thompson of Moody/Nolan Architecture were recognized for the restoration of the John Wesley Work House at Fisk University in Nashville. In the Books/Public Programming category, the African-American Heritage Alliance of Knoxville received an award for their conference "An Untold Story: Celebrating African-American Heritage in East Tennessee." The Commissioners' Special Commendation category recognized six recipients. The 13th US Colored Troops Living History Association received an award for their long track record of providing living history portraying the contributions of African-American soldiers during the Civil War. Local historian Chad Fred Bailey of Jonesborough was given a certificate in recognition of multiple achievements, including co-founding the Friends of Archives of Washington County, and leading the Washington County Obituary Project. Mr. Bailey is accomplishing this work at 20 years old. The Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County received an award for the restoration of the Franklin Theatre. One of the biggest preservation success stories in Tennessee in recent years, this project to restore the 1937 downtown theater included 8 million dollars in private funding raised to accomplish this project. Dr. Hugh M. Turner of UT-Martin was recognized for his monograph entitled "A History of Field Parasitology Studies Originating from the Reelfoot Lake Region of Tennessee and Kentucky." Historian Rick Warwick also received a Special Commendation for his long record of producing books on the history of Williamson County, Tennessee. Finally, Claudia Johnson-Nichols was recognized for her leadership in saving the Alvin York Institute Building in Jamestown.

New Commission Member

Allen F. Carter of Athens was appointed to the Commission by Gov. Haslam in January. Mr. Carter is the owner of Athens Insurance Agency. He currently serves on the United Way Board, the Athens-McMinn YMCA Board, Athens Federal Foundation, and the Living Heritage Museum Board. The Living Heritage Museum displays the history of the lives and events of McMinn county and East Tennessee. Allen and his wife, Tara, reside on the family farm.



Allen F. Carter of Athens

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 2012 Fiscal Year (9/30/2012-10/1/2013). 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, 2013, and may be addressed to Claudette Stager, Assistant Director for National Register Programs, Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442.



Margaret "Peggy" Nickell Joins the Tennessee Historical Commission as New National Register Staff Person with the State Historic Preservation Office

Peggy Nickell began work in the National Register Program in February. Her interest and love of history started at an early age while visiting her grandfather at his 1700s home in New Jersey. Her mother, an avid history buff, continued to fuel the fire of interest by encouraging her to read all things historic. After a short stint in the medical profession, Peggy attended Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU). She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1999 with a minor in Geography and continued on into the Master of Arts in History with an emphasis in Historic Preservation program. Peggy was awarded a graduate teaching assistant position with the Department of History and a graduate research assistant position with the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU and later took a position with the historic preservation firm of Thomason and Associates in Nashville, Tennessee. Under the mentorship of Phil Thomason, Peggy conducted and assisted with numerous architectural surveys and cultural resource reports nationwide such as a survey of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways in Missouri for the National Park Service, a survey for the proposed Interstate 69 in Shelby, Tipton,



Lauderdale and Dyer Counties of Tennessee for TDOT and multiple projects for the Oak Ridge Nuclear Laboratories in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. She also assisted in the survey, report preparation, graphics and layouts and research for numerous National Register nominations, Design Review Guidelines and Historic Preservation Plans across the southeast.

After working for more than five years at Thomason and Associates, Peggy took an Architectural Historian position with the URS Corporation in Maryland working on projects for governmental entities such as NASA; FEMA, where she was worked for post-Katrina recovery in New Orleans, Louisiana and a seismic refit for a library in Salt Lake City, Utah; and for the Veteran's Administration for the new hospital location in New Orleans.

Peggy came back to the state and took a position at the Hotel Halbrook/Clement Railroad Hotel in Dickson, Tennessee as the Executive Director during its recent rehabilitation and then as its Facility Manager. In recent years, she managed and conducted architectural surveys in Indiana and in Tennessee.

Federal Preservation Grants Available

The Tennessee Historical Commission is accepting grant applications for historic preservation projects for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. These grants, which are federally funded, will be available after October 1, 2012. The precise amount of funds which will be available in Tennessee for such grants will not be known until Congress has passed the FY 2012-2013 budget; however, it is expected to be in the range of \$400,000. After review, applications will be rated and ranked. Decisions on those to be funded will be made when the exact amount of the allocation is known. This may be as late as next spring depending on when the Congress completes work on the Budget. As in the past, the selection process will emphasize projects for the conducting of architectural, archaeological, and historic site surveys. Such projects are designed to identify and record historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant to Tennessee's history and built before 1960. Surveys may be for a specific geographic area or for sites associated with themes or events significant in the state's history, such as the development of railroads in the nineteenth century, or the development of motor tourism in the twentieth century. Priorities for funding survey projects will include areas which are experiencing rapid growth and development or other threats to cultural resources, areas where there are serious gaps in knowledge regarding cultural resources, and thematic surveys based upon existing historic study units produced by the SHPO. In addition to historic

surveys, assistance is available for other types of historic preservation projects. These may include preservation planning studies for towns, neighborhoods, and historic districts, the preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, planning or predevelopment work necessary to undertake restoration of an historic property, and restoration of historic properties (for restoration or restoration pre-planning, properties must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places). Unless appropriations are significantly increased, funds for restoration projects will be limited; however, THC always encourages quality applications of this type. Applications for projects to prepare nominations to the National Register of Historic Places are a priority and are also encouraged.

The grants are matching grants and will pay for up to 60% of the costs of approved project work. The remaining 40% must be provided by the grantee as matching funds. Applications for grants are available from the Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442. For further information or for an application, contact the Tennessee Historical Commission at (615) 532-1550. Applications may also be downloaded from the Tennessee Historical Commission Website, www.tdec.net/hist/federal/presgrnt.shtml. Completed applications must be submitted by SEPTEMBER 1, 2012.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NEWS

By Jaime L. Destefano

National Teacher's Normal & Business College Administration Building ("Old Main")



Completed in 1908, the National Teacher's Normal & Business College Administration Building, most commonly known as Old Main, is located near the center of the town of Henderson in Chester County. The school's oldest building, Old Main is a prominent edifice on the Freed-Hardeman University Campus; reflecting early-20th century Italian Renaissance Revival and Italianate elements.

Tennessee architect Hubert Thomas McGee (1864-1946) was contracted by the National Teacher's Normal & Business College to design a building that would inspire the higher ideals of education and achievement. A native of Jacks Creek, TN, McGee received his architectural education in Jackson, Tennessee and is perhaps best remembered for his work on Clarence Saunders' Pink Palace in Memphis, also a National Register-listed property.

McGee combined elements of early-20th century Italian Renaissance Revival and Italianate in his design for Old Main. Character-defining elements of the building's exterior include an elaborate centered, two-story portico with brick arches and Ionic columns; buff-colored brick; corbelled brick water table; domed piers; and an ornamental cupola with bell. Notable interior features of the building include bead board ceilings, and interior paneled doors with transoms, a prominent dog-leg staircase in the lobby, and the large "Chapel Hall." A three-story brick annex with flat roof was added in 1953 at the building's east end.

The National Teacher's Normal & Business College was initially established in 1907 with the help of two regionally prominent educators and ministers, A.G. Freed and Nicholas Brodie Hardeman and is considered to be the first college in West Tennessee to introduce co-education during the early- 20th century. Both Freed and Hardeman were followers of the Henderson Church of Christ formed in 1903. As such, the establishment of the National Teacher's Normal & Business College was seen by many as a victory for the Henderson Church of Christ. While not owned by a religious organization, the

school was affiliated with the Churches of Christ through ties of religious fellowship. Daily devotional services were held in Old Main's Chapel Hall between 1908 and 1975. In addition, Old Main hosted the Henderson Church of Christ from 1933 until 1949. A brick baptistry was constructed south of the building during this period and the site of the former baptistry is considered a contributing resource to the property. Since 1937, Old Main has also hosted an Annual Bible Lectureship and its classrooms have been used to train several generations of preachers.

Among the many individuals associated with Old Main, N.B. Hardeman is perhaps the most notable. An expert in animal husbandry, educator, and minister, Hardeman is most remembered for his thundering Tabernacle Sermons, delivered at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium in 1922, 1923, and 1928. These sermons were conceived and developed in his office in Old Main, and were "practiced" on the Bible class students he taught in Old Chapel Hall daily.

In 1919, the college was renamed Freed and Hardeman College, acknowledging the contributions of its early founders. Shortly thereafter, Hardeman was named President and remained so until resigning his post in 1950. Throughout the latter half of the 20th century, the success of the college resulted in the addition of the 1953 annex, as well as the construction of new dormitories. Its continued growth was solidified in 1990 when the college became a university and the name was changed to reflect its new status - Freed-Hardeman University.



Hopecote

Completed in 1924, Hopecote is located on Melrose Avenue in the vestiges of what once was a residential neighborhood in Old West Knoxville. The area is now part of the University of Tennessee's Knoxville campus. Hopecote is an excellent example

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**National Register of Historic Places News...continued**

of residential construction from the Country House movement (1910s through 1940) when upscale suburban residences in the United States favored historic period designs that were eclectic in nature. It is one of two extant examples of homes in Knoxville, Tennessee designed by Country House architect, John F. Staub (1892-1981), and is one of the most important examples of early-20th century domestic architecture in Knoxville.

Hopecote was built for Albert Guinn Hope and his wife, Emma Fanz Hope. Albert and his brother, James, ran the family business on Gay Street which specialized in sterling silver flatware and hollowware. The brothers developed a reputation for producing intricate engraving done freehand and over the years, the "Hope Bros." stamp on silver, china, and crystal became synonymous with quality in the Knoxville area.

Between 1916 and 1921, Emma and Albert Hope acquired parts of lots 11 and 12 in the Melrose Park Addition, located about six blocks west of the University of Tennessee campus in a developing residential area, popular among prominent businessmen. Emma contacted her nephew, novice Country House architect, John Fanz Staub, and asked him if he would design a "little humble cottage-type, such is as you see around Broadway in England."

In keeping with the cottage architecture of rural England, the house and original landscape complemented one another and were linked by Staub's choice of materials used on the exterior. Staub combined elements of traditional styles in innovative ways to produce elegant homes that reflected the discerning tastes of wealthy clients. As such, Hopecote embodies characteristics of medieval influences in an English Cottage Revival style such as thick exterior walls, a steeply sloping roof, small windows, low ceiling height, wooden floors, and walls of timber and plaster.

Hopecote won an award for *The House Beautiful's* first design competition in February 1925 and was later featured in *The Architect* (June 1925) and in *Southern Architect and Builder* (October 1924) magazines. In 1977, the East Tennessee Chapter of the American Institute of Architects gave its annual award to Emma Hope on behalf of Hopecote.

In 1932, the Hope brothers lost their business and Albert nearly lost Hopecote; mortgaging his house several times between 1932 and 1938. The business was purchased and continued briefly under the name "Hope Bros." A short time later, the name was changed to "Kimball's." Albert and James reopened Hope Bros. at 613 Market Street during the early 1940s where they continued their tradition of quality until their deaths. Following Albert's death in 1955, Emma's two unmarried sisters, Ella and Adah, and her brother, Leo, moved in with Emma at Hopecote. Emma Hope sold the property to the University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) in 1976 under the condition she be allowed to reside at Hopecote until her death. She died at the age of 97 in 1977.

Once UTK took possession of Hopecote, the Hopecote Advisory Committee was formed to oversee the renovations and to solicit donations of funds and antique furnishings. Members included the original architect, John F. Staub, prominent

members of the Knoxville community, and University faculty and staff. The Committee also worked with representatives from the Knoxville Garden Club and UTK horticulturalists to design gardens and establish plantings appropriate for the house. The project was a finalist in the 1979-80 competition for the "Founder's Fund" award of the Garden Club of America.

Following the 1970s renovations, Hopecote opened as a guest house for official visitors and as a teaching laboratory for students in interior design, architecture, and ornamental horticulture. The property also includes a rectangular concrete pond at the rear of the garden, a surviving feature of Staub's



original landscape design. Hopecote presently has a live-in caretaker who maintains the house and garden in addition to taking care of overnight guests.

Nolensville School

The Nolensville School is located approximately twenty miles south of Nashville in Nolensville, Williamson County. Since its 1937 construction, the school has served as the educational and social center of the rural Nolensville community. The building is Nolensville's first modern educational facility and is, to date, the only well-documented example in Tennessee of a schoolhouse employing a Rosenwald plan and used by the white community.

Julius Rosenwald, of Sears, Roebuck and Company, started the Rosenwald Fund around 1912 to provide start-up funding for African-American schools throughout the South. Standardized plans for various-sized schoolhouses were employed through the program which ceased its funding in 1932. The Rosenwald school plans were seen as an improved, low cost model of modern design for rural school houses. Despite the loss of Rosenwald funds, the standardized schoolhouse plans remained available for use, and design pamphlets and blueprints were shared with state departments of education and local school boards.

The idea of the Nolensville School was first conceived in the early 1930s by the members of the community and the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) out of concern for their students aging

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National Register of Historic Places News...continued

wooden school's deterioration and the possible consolidation of smaller, nearby one-room schoolhouses. Williamson County and the community quickly began to secure the funds necessary for the acquisition of land and cost of construction of the schoolhouse.

The Williamson County Board of Education awarded a contract for the erection of a four-room Rosenwald plan school building to H.J. Potts and Harville Hughes of Franklin, Tennessee. The cost of the schoolhouse was \$5,100. Completed in 1937, the Nolensville School employed the modest four-room, three-teacher, Rosenwald plan No. 30. Modifications to the plan were made in order to meet the needs of the local community.

The one-story frame schoolhouse features a brick veneer and sits on a concrete block foundation. The facade is characterized by a central, pedimented portico with recessed entry. Flanking the main entry are banks of five, nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash windows, now covered with vinyl siding and plywood for protection. The school's interior retains a substantial degree of architectural integrity including its wood walls, ceilings, and floors; historic black boards; and paneled wood doors. The interior of the school, accessed through the west entry, is axial and leads into a foyer connected to four class rooms and a hallway that leads to a 1948 gymnasium addition. Walls feature horizontal bead board and a vertical board wainscoting with molded chair rail. Ceilings are bead board and floors oiled oak. Five paneled wooden doors lead into the classrooms.

In 1948, a large concrete block gymnasium with brick veneer was added to the north end of the original building. A transitional hallway running east and west joins the two buildings. Original wood bleachers and flooring of the gymnasium survive.

Due to the continued growth of the school, the gymnasium was divided into four separate classrooms in 1966, and two restrooms added at the east end. In 1972, a larger school was opened adjacent to the nominated property and the old school then became the first Nolensville Community Recreation Center. Between 1985 and 1995, the 1937 schoolhouse served as the County library. The schoolhouse is currently leased by the Nolensville Historical Society.

Tennessee Historic Commission Grants...continued

missing and broken windows in the West End Church of Christ in Silver Point.

Rhea County:

Friends of Cumberland Trail - \$12,000 to prepare a multiple property submission and nominations for historic resources associated with the Dayton Coal and iron Company.

Rhea County - \$15,000 for the restoration and repair of windows and doors on the Rhea County Courthouse.

Roane County:

City of Harriman - \$25,000 to for the structural repair and stabilization of the Temperance Building.

Sullivan County:

Sullivan County Government - \$10,200 to survey and update the National Register nomination for the Blountville Historic District. The revised nomination will include the Battle of Blountville Civil War information.

Sumner County:

Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Technology (Murfreesboro, MTSU) - \$15,842.00 to use airborne remote sensing technology to survey the topography of the Castalian Springs area to locate prehistoric and historic sites in the vicinity and compare the data with previous ground observations.

Multi-County Grants:

Tennessee Preservation Trust - \$15,000 to fund the 2013 Statewide Historic Preservation Conference.

Tennessee History for Kids - \$8,000 to fund posters for Tennessee schools and libraries, highlighting historic preservation in Tennessee.

Middle Tennessee State University - \$35,000 to digitize data for historic / architectural survey files and for survey data entry for computerization of survey files.

East Tennessee State University - \$11,500 to survey rock shelter selection by prehistoric inhabitants of the Upper Cumberland Plateau by the use of GIS technology.

University of Tennessee - \$21,896 for a prehistoric site survey of the South Cumberland Plateau. The project with a cooperative effort by UT and Sewanee: The University of the South

Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University - \$9,470 to prepare a multiple property submission and two National Register nominations for properties associated with the East Tennessee marble industry.

Upper Cumberland Institute / Tennessee Technological Institute - \$15,000 to fund survey data entry for computerization of historic / architectural survey files.

South Central Tennessee Development District - \$50,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the South Central Tennessee Development District.

East Tennessee Development District - \$32,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the East Tennessee Development District.

First Tennessee Development District - \$25,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the First Tennessee Development District.

Greater Nashville Regional Council - \$25,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Greater Nashville Regional Council.

Southeast Tennessee Development District - \$52,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Southeast Tennessee Development District.

Southwest Tennessee Development District - \$54,028 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Southwest Tennessee Development District.

Upper Cumberland Development District - \$50,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Upper Cumberland Development District.

Tennessee Division of Archaeology - \$35,009 for a survey of Rosenwald Schools and sites in the state.

For more information about the Tennessee Historical Commission, please visit the Web site at:
www.tn.gov/environment/hist.



THE MYSTERIOUS LOST STATE OF FRANKLIN

By Debra Dylan

Debuts on PBS July 1, 2012

The State of Franklin existed from 1784-1788. It would have become our 14th state. Two men led a remote Appalachian region to the brink of civil war, changing the Constitution forever!

The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin, a half-hour documentary created by Nolicucky Pictures, LLC, a creative cinematic media company based in Knoxville, Tennessee, chronicles the creation and demise of the State of Franklin, a pivotal yet oft forgotten Revolutionary era rebellion that occurred in Western North Carolina/Northeast Tennessee. In the past year, the film has been broadcast on East Tennessee PBS and The Tennessee Channel. The film will debut on national PBS on July 1, 2012, at 10:30 p.m.

A Brief State of Franklin History

Due to tax burdens after the Revolutionary War, in 1784, the state of North Carolina ceded its western land to the U.S. Government. Feeling abandoned, some citizens of this territory formed their own government and called themselves the State of Franklin, naming themselves after the esteemed statesman Benjamin Franklin. By 1786, eight counties comprised the State of Franklin (today Northeast Tennessee): Sullivan; Wayne (now Johnson and Carter); Spencer (now Hawkins); Washington (with Unicoi); Caswell (now Jefferson and Hamblen); Greene (with Cocke County); Sevier; and Blount County. Its capital was located in Greenville. After North Carolina rescinded this cession of land, the State of Franklin continued to struggle for existence until it fell two votes short of becoming ratified by Congress.

Two ambitious men fueled this conflict. John Sevier, a controversial Revolutionary hero and land speculator, was initially against the Franklin movement, yet he eventually became its Governor. Colonel John Tipton, a patriot and landowner, initially supported the Franklin movement and later turned against it. According to one historian: "It is all too often assumed that those who lived through the Revolutionary era were committed to a clear understanding of what it meant to be American. People like John Sevier and John Tipton...had no such sense of identity or loyalty..."

Eventually, the area once known as



John Sevier

the State of Franklin would become part of Upper East Tennessee, with John Sevier returning triumphantly, in 1796, as the first governor of Tennessee.

This fascinating documentary is driven by scholarly interviews and painstakingly researched re-enactments set to a backdrop of lush Tennessee scenery. The result is a landmark work that has set a new standard in the visual restoration of Tennessee's grand historical oral tradition.

Historic Interpretation and Preservation

Gordon Belt, President of the Society of Tennessee Archivists says the *The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin* "emphasizes the importance of civic education by highlighting how governments work and how the State of Franklin influenced the U.S. Constitution. Article IV, Section III of the U.S. Constitution specifically addresses the formation of new states from territories claimed by existing states. It was the State of Franklin rebellion that led to the inclusion of this clause in the U.S. Constitution."

Dr. Kristofer Ray says *The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin* "provides a narrative general enough to capture the attention and imagination of a historically minded audience that lacks background knowledge of the subject. On the other hand, the documentary employs enough detail and innovative scholarship to engage a more academic audience. I think this latter point has to do with the fact that the contributors are highly respected historians with extensive backgrounds in research and publication."

The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin includes interviews with and materials from the following scholars:

Kevin Barksdale, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of American History at Marshall University. He is the author of *The Lost State of Franklin: American's First Secession*.

John R. Finger, Ph.D., is an Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Tennessee. He is the author of *Tennessee Frontiers – Three Regions in Transition*.

James B. Jones, Jr., D.A., Public Historian with the Tennessee Historical Commission, "The Lost State of Franklin: Sevier, Secession and Statehood," *The Courier*, October 1999, February 2000.

Michael Toomey, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of History at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee. He is a specialist in frontier life, especially post-American Revolution.

Stephen Brumwell, Ph.D., is the author of several books about British military history and he is an expert on Colonial and Revolutionary America; 18th century Britain; and military



Tipton-Haynes
State Historic Site

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The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin...continued

history c. 1400-1850.

Penny McLaughlin, Ed.D., is the Executive Director of the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City, Tennessee. She is a specialist regarding Colonel John Tipton.

Making the Film

Formed in 2006, Nolichucky Pictures, LLC, specializes in creating compelling documentaries and other visual products. Nolichucky Pictures is led by writer/director Buck Kahler and Executive Producer Chris Albrecht. Nolichucky Pictures entered into Fiscal Sponsorship Agreements with The Southern Documentary Fund and East Tennessee PBS to create *The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin*. Additional support for this film was also made possible by a grant from Humanities Tennessee, an independent affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Underwriting for the July 1st national PBS broadcast is provided by Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation. *The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin* is winner of The East Tennessee Historical Society 2012 Award of Excellent for History in Media and was voted Best Documentary at the 2011 Secret City Film Festival.

In addition to the documentary's scholarly achievements, this production is also exemplary due to the participation of over 120 volunteer re-enactors, including members of the Regiment of Knox County Tennessee Militia and the Washington



Battle of King's Mountain.



The Confrontation.

County Regiment of the North Carolina Militia. Several area museums and State historic sites including, Blount Mansion, Ramsey House, Marble Springs, East Tennessee History Center, Fort Loudoun, Sycamore Shoals, and the Tipton-Haynes House, donated space and historic expertise to this project. Through the film's companion webpage the scholarly transcripts were shared with the

general public for research and educational purposes. *The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin* DVD is presently available for sale at CreateSpace.com and will become available for purchase through PBS beginning July 1, 2012. Tax-Exempt organizations may purchase the DVD at a wholesale price through Nolichucky Pictures. For more information contact Nolichucky Pictures at info@nolpix.com.

- Debra Dylan



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P U B L I C A T I O N S T O N O T E

By Linda T. Wynn, Assistant Director for State Programs and Publications Editor

Publications of Northwestern University Press, 629 Noyes Street, Evanston, Illinois 60208 include:

You Need a Schoolhouse: Booker T. Washington, Julius Rosenwald, and the Building of Schools for the Segregated South by Stephanie Deutsch relates the partnership and collaboration between two men that led to the building of approximately 5,000 schoolhouses the rural South between 1912 and the 1930s. At the time of their meeting, Rosenwald, headed Sears and Roebuck and Company, one of America's largest business, and Washington was perhaps the most respected Black man in America. When Rosenwald decided to start giving his money away, he started within the Jewish community — funding schools and hospitals. However, a 1908 race riot in his hometown of Springfield, Illinois, made him think twice about the treatment of American blacks in the United States. Washington rose to national stature in 1895 after the death of Frederick Douglass and his Atlanta Compromise speech. Six years later, he dined with President Theodore Roosevelt and had shared tea earlier with Queen Victoria. Notwithstanding Washington's rise and his association with world leaders, he had also experienced victimization in the streets of New York City. He was disheartened by the knowledge that despite his optimism and the considerable success of members of his race, conditions for blacks in America were not improving as he had envisioned. After they met, Washington suggested to Rosenwald the idea of constructing the new schools. Although Washington and Rosenwald came from two different worlds, they worked together and their collaboration led to enhancing the educational opportunities for black children across South. In 1917, Rosenwald established Julius Rosenwald Fund, a Chicago-based philanthropic foundation. Three years later the Rosenwald Fund established an independent office for the school building program in Nashville, Tennessee. Deutsch's *You Need a Schoolhouse* offers a fascinating look into the partnership that brought thousands of schoolhouses to

African American communities in the rural South. Today, the extant Rosewald schools built with the assistance of the Rosenwald and community funds are being restored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Those that managed to weather the passage of time are being assigned new roles as museums or community centers. **Cloth, 24.95.**

Publications of The University of North Carolina Press, 116 South. Boundary Street, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-3808 include:

The Peninsula Campaign and the Necessity of Emancipation: African Americans and the Fight for Freedom by Glenn David Brasher draws on the voices of Northern soldiers, civilians, politicians, and abolitionists as well as Southern soldiers, slaveholders, and the enslaved. He focuses on the enslaved themselves, whose actions showed that they understood from the beginning that the Civil War was about their liberation. In the spring 1862 Peninsula Campaign, General George B. McClellan was unsuccessful in his plot to capture the Confederate capital and bring a quick resolution to the conflict. However, the campaign witnessed something new in the war—the participation of blacks in ways that were critical to the Union offensive. Their active participation influenced Lincoln's decision to issue the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. This narrative history investigates the participation of blacks in this pivotal military event. Brasher, an instructor of history at the University of Alabama, demonstrates that they contributed essential labor and provided intelligence that shaped the campaign's military tactics and strategy. Because of their activities, many Northerners became convinced that emancipation was a military necessity. The author demonstrates that the Peninsula Campaign was more important in affecting the decision for emancipation than the Battle of Antietam. **Cloth, \$39.95.**

Andre M. Fleche's *The Revolution of 1861: The American Civil War in the Age of Nationalist Conflict* is another work

published by the University of North Carolina Press. Contemporaries described the nineteenth century as the "age of nationalities." New nation-states emerged around the world during this era, many of which were formed by and through warfare. Therefore, in that respect the United States' experience of violent national consolidation during its Civil War were not unique. Grounding the causes and philosophies of the Civil War in a global or transnational context, Fleche examines how questions of national self-determination, race, class, and labor across the world influenced American interpretations of the strains on the Union and growing differences between North and South. Unionists emphasized the role of the state in balancing order and liberty in a revolutionary age, while Confederates contended that European nationalist movements offered models for their efforts to establish a new nation-state. Fleche, an assistant professor of history at Castleton State College, brings to the reader's attention and awareness the issues surrounding nationalism in the nineteenth century. Professor Fleche maintains that the fight over the future of republic government in America was also a battle over the meaning of revolution in the Atlantic world and, as such, the American Civil War can be fully understood only as a part of the global-historical context in which it was fought. **Cloth, \$39.95.**

HISTORICAL MARKERS

At its meeting on February 17, 2012, the Tennessee Historical Commission approved two historical markers: *Chattanooga Central High School*, Hamilton County, and *Christian Brothers High School/Christian Brothers Band* in Shelby County. Those interested in submitting proposed texts for markers should contact Linda T. Wynn at the Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442, or call (615) 532-1550.



Tennessee Wars Commission Report of Activities

Fred M. Prouty, Director of Program

The rare chance to experience an early Tennessee muster day will occur during *Muster Day on the Natchez Trace-Prelude to the War of 1812*. On May 26 and 27, the Tennessee War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee will join with the National Park Service, the 7th U.S. Infantry Living History Association and the Natchez Trace Parkway Association to recreate a muster day and other events on the eve the War of 1812.

Muster days were once common in towns across Tennessee. Men met in the morning to drill, and the day normally ended in a festival atmosphere as women brought pies and cakes, and men settled old scores in shooting matches, wrestling matches and fights. (The later customs will not be recreated.)

The atmosphere of the period will be recreated: A play from 1812 will be performed to reflect the growing anti-British sentiment stemming from impressment of American sailors on the high seas. Sutlers will sell period wares. Interpreters portraying the Gordon family will illustrate the daily activities surrounding the operation of the Gordon Ferry and explain the important role the ferry played during the War of 1812.

During the course of the day, as in May 1812, a Natchez Trace post rider will bring news of the Creek Indian attack on the Crawley family, an incident which contributed to the call for war. A political debate will ensue among the politicians of the day as to whether the country should go to war, and an interpreter representing Chickasaw Chief George Colbert will repeat the speech he gave to Tennessee settlers in May 1812, vowing peace between the Chickasaw and the United States. On Sunday morning, a period camp meeting will be recreated to reflect the influence of the 2nd Great Awakening on the area. A brief ceremony honoring John Gordon will conclude the event on Sunday.

Scholars will add to the historical context of the living history programs. Dr.

Tom Kanon of the Tennessee State Library and Archives will speak on the Martha Crawley incident and its effect on the movement to go to war. Clay Williams and Mike Bunn, who have written about the Creek Wars, will provide a perspective of the conditions in the Mississippi Territory on the eve of war. Jim Parker, of the Alabama Historical Commission, will speak about the Gulf Coast area and the Federal Road. An important goal is to give visitors an understanding of the events that led the decision to go to war in 1812.

The event will take place at the home of John Gordon, Captain of Andrew Jackson's Company of Spies. Gordon, the



1812-era Federal Soldier Reenactors.

first postmaster of Nashville, was an early military hero in the area who had defended the area against Indian attack. He entered into a partnership with Chickasaw Chief William Colbert to operate an inn, ferry and trading post at the Duck River crossing of the Natchez Trace. As war appeared imminent in 1812, Gordon moved to the ferry site.

John Gordon and his wife Dolly built the extant two-story federal style brick house in 1818 when Gordon was fighting in the Seminole Wars. He sent a letter detailing instructions for the location of certain doors and windows, but left the remainder of the design to Dolly's discretion.

The Gordon Ferry transported about 5,000 Tennessee and Kentucky soldiers across the Duck River during the war. Many returning soldiers camped nearby.

The Natchez Trace fulfilled its role as a military highway during the war, providing a means to transport large numbers of troops, supplies and communications from the settlements in Tennessee to the Gulf Coast. President Thomas Jefferson authorized its construction in 1801 to provide an important link between the settled areas of Tennessee and the Mississippi River transportation ports at Natchez. Jefferson first ordered Tennessee militia units down the Trace in 1803, to assure that Spain would not interfere with the transfer of lands as part of the Louisiana Purchase.

Andrew Jackson earned the name "Old Hickory" on the Natchez Trace during in 1813. Jackson's troops were dismissed near Natchez, Mississippi without any provisions for their return. Jackson refused to abandon his men until he had returned them safely back to Tennessee. A soldier commented that Jackson was "as firm as an old hickory", and the name became a term of respect the men showed to Jackson. He used it to his advantage during his presidential campaign.

Almost a century after the war, Mississippi DAR state regent Elizabeth Jones said that the south was in danger of losing all signs of the "once famous military road." Much of the road had become part of county road systems and small portions were abandoned. She began an effort to place markers along the old Trace. In Tennessee, the Daughters of the War of 1812 followed suit and placed bronze markers along the route. The marker ceremonies encouraged Lucille Mayfield to help form the Natchez Trace Parkway Association and suggest that the old road be paved to distinguish it. Mississippi senator Pat Harrison then convinced President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to build a federal parkway along the old route to honor Andrew Jackson and the role of the old Trace in the War of 1812. Harrison reported that every argument he asserted failed until he

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THE EXECUTION AND CONFESSIONS OF CHAMP FERGUSON

Champ Ferguson was either a hero Confederate partisan fighter or a murdering rebel guerrilla leader, depending on one's point of view. There is little room for equivocation in this primary historical record, as found in the *Nashville Dispatch*, October 21, 1865. It covered his execution and confession.

- Transcription by Dr. James B. Jones, Jr.

*“He met death
in a brave spirit
and unflinching
determination to
die game.”*

The daughter, as we have before mentioned, is a lovely and beautiful girl of sixteen, with large, expressive, black eyes, and a sweet countenance. As she approached her father for the last time on this side of the grave, he opened his wide arms to receive her, and her head fell on his bosom. No words were uttered by either of them for about one minute. The few persons turned from the scene with tears in their eyes. The last bitter word of command was give, and the lovely maiden shrieked, “farewell, my poor, poor papa!” The mother and daughter then retired to a brick building adjoining the prison.

Execution of Champ Ferguson.
Scene at the Scaffold.

HIS FULL CONFESSION.

Champ Ferguson was executed in the yard of the State Penitentiary yesterday forenoon. About three hundred passes were issued by the authorities, and fully that number surrounded the scaffold. At 10 o'clock precisely, we entered a hack, with several reporters of the city press, drove to the State Prison, having been informed by the Provost Marshal that the execution would take place in the forenoon. We found a large concourse of people at the outer wall, who were eager to pass the guards, but they were kept back by a strong military force. On reaching the gate of the prison we were met by Col. Shafter, the Post Commandant, and Capt. Dykeman, Provost Marshal. On entering the yard, we beheld the scaffold, which was formed by two perpendicular beams, with a cross bar at the top, and a floor about five feet from the ground. The trap door was about three feet square, and fastened by a rope which was tied over the edge of the flooring, so that on chopping it with a sharp hatchet, the trap would fall. Nearly an hour was consumed after we arrived, in the arranging the rope and other fixtures around the scaffold.

LAST INTERVIEW WITH CHAMP.

By request of the reporters, Colonel Shafter conducted them to the cell in the prison, in order to get his last words. We found him in communion with his wife and daughter. Colonel Shafter asked Champ if he had anything to say to the reporters of the city press. He replied that he only desired to have a private interview with the reporter if the *Dispatch*, to whom he had made his confession. We entered the cell in accompany with Lieutenant A.M. Coddington. He stated that he had no desire to alter any of his confession made to us on Wednesday, but had a few more words to add to it. We noted them down, and give them in connection, which follows the report of the execution.

THE PARTING SCENE WITH HIS FAMILY.

On emerging from his cell, Colonel Shafter politely requested Mrs. Ferguson and her daughter to take their final leave of the husband and father. The only persons present were the three officers, Chaplain Coddington and myself. It was a painful scene, and brought tears to the eyes of all who witnessed it. The wife grasped his hand firmly, and gave him a loving, farewell look. They did not embrace. She turned and surrendered herself to the terrible anguish of her heart.

CHAMP FERGUSON ON THE SCAFFOLD.

On bidding his final adieu to his little family, Champ turned to the executioner who had the ropes, and asked, “must I be tied?” He was informed that it was customary. He then calmly folded his hands behind his back and was tied at the elbows and wrists. He was asked if the rope was too tight, or painful, to which he replied, after moving himself, that he was very comfortable. He remarked that he need ought also to be tied, to which the executioner informed him that it would be done on the scaffold. The guards then formed on either side of him, and with a firm step, he advanced through the hall of the prison, and entered the yard by the side gate, the chaplain being in front of him and the Post Commandant and Provost Marshal on either side. The walls of the prison were guarded by colored soldiers, and a hollow square was formed around the scaffold by the 16th Infantry. On entering the yard of the prison, Champ held his head up, and deliberately surveyed the audience. When he approached the scaffold, he cast his eyes upward, as if to see what it was like, and then mounted the stairs with a firm step, and turned to the spectators. He recognized several familiar faces in the throng and politely bowed to each of them. He appeared like a man who was about to make a speech on some leading topic, and simply paused to refresh his memory. He scanned the spectators closely, and not a muscle or nerve contracted. He was in excellent health and looks as well, perhaps, as he ever did in his life. A fine suit of black broadcloth added greatly to his *personal* [sic], and he appeared very neatly dressed.

CHARGES AND SENTENCE.

The commandant of the Post, Colonel Shafter, proceeded to read the charges and specifications together with the sentence of the Court. As the different charges were read he either bowed in acknowledgement or shook his head in denial of them. He emphatically denied the killing of the twelve soldiers at Saltsville [sic]. He turned indifferently at the mention of Stover, and when the name of Elam Huddleston was read, he shook his head, and remarked that he could tell it better than that. He bowed his head at the mention of several names, acknowledging that he killed them. The Colonel then said; “In accordance with the sentence I have read, Champ Ferguson, I am going to execute you.” He never evinced a single emotion, and with an iron nerve, and countenance firm and determined, replied, “I am

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**Execution Confessions of Champ Ferguson...continued**

ready to die.”

At the conclusion, the Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Bunting, offered up a beautiful prayer, invoking the blessing of Almighty God on the doomed man. It was quite evident that Ferguson was deeply affected by the touching words of the minister, and several large tears glistened in his eyes. He turned to Col. Shafter at the conclusion of the prayer, and asked him to take his handkerchief from his side pocket and wipe his face. The Colonel complied with the request at the same time conversing with him in an undertone. They were words of cheer, for his countenance lit up in radiance. The Colonel then asked him if he had any feelings toward the officers or any other who were performing the painful duty. He replied: “None in the world, I thank you for your kindness to me.”

The coffin was placed directly in front of the gallows, and in full view, it was a neat raised cherry coffin, lined and trimmed in good style.

HIS LAST WORDS.

The Colonel asked him if he had any remarks to make. He replied that he had plenty to say if he only knew how to say it. He requested that his remains be placed in “that box,” nodding at the coffin, and turned over to his wife to be taken to White county, Tennessee. “I do not want to be buried in such soil as this.”

THE FINAL DROP.

The white cap was drawn over his face, and Col. Shafter again repeated the question, “Have you anything further to say?” He replied that he had not. The Colonel then gave the motion to the executioner to take his post. Champ exclaimed in a clear and loud voice, “Good Lord have mercy on my soul!” As these words fell upon his lips, the executioner chipped the rope, and the trap fell, landing Champ Ferguson into eternity. The reporters were assigned a position on the right, and close to any scaffold. The fall did not break his neck, but it killed him instantly, so far as the pain was concerned. The distance was two feet, and as Ferguson was a man that would weight one hundred and eighty pounds, it was not strange that the fall produced instant death, or rather rendered him insensible to suffering. We observed a mere contraction of the hands after he fell, but not a struggle was made by him.

After he had hung about five minutes, we notice two or three contractions of the shoulders, but they were scarcely noticed. The trap dropped at 20 minutes to 12 o'clock. The Surgeons, three of them, stated that his pulse was perceptible seventeen minutes after the fall, but it was more fluttering of the last spark of life. A few drops of blood gushed from his nose and was noticed on the white cap. After the body had hung for thirty minutes, life was pronounced extinct, and it was cut down and after removing the cords from his arms and legs, placed in the coffin. A neat hearse was waiting at the gate, and the remains placed in it, and turned over to his family. We visited the wife and daughter immediately after the event, and found them calm and reconciled to their terrible misfortune. They both possessed the great nerve and determination that characterized Champ, and have helped up under their multiplied troubles in a wonderful manner. They left last evening in company with some of their friends, taking the remains to their home in White county, near Sparta, where they will

be interred, in accordance with his dying request.

The horrors of a lengthy strangulation, or slow torture, were, thank God, averted on this occasion, and we cannot close without commanding the dignified, polite and efficient manner in which the officer performed their duty. The best order prevailed, and no awkward blunders of mistake were made by any one of them. It was entirely relieved of all sensation, and the spectators could scarcely realize that a human being had been launched into eternity. When we arrived from the prison, after the execution, we found a rumor in circulation that Champ had been pardoned or had his sentence commuted at the last moment. Many persons believed it, and it was the general impression that he would not be hung, but have his sentence changed to imprisonment for life. Every effort was made to save him. A courier was sent to Washington, and hopes were entertained to a very late hour, but Champ Ferguson was doomed to die. He met death in a brave spirit and unflinching determination to die game. We have witnessed some sixteen executions, but never saw a man such nerve to the last.

“CHAMP FERGUSON’S FULL CONFESSION.”

It will be remembered by our readers that during the trial of Ferguson, we were granted the privilege of holding interviews with him, and published a lengthy statement on one occasion. We withheld many developments at that time which we knew would be prejudicial to his trial. It was Champ Ferguson’s expressed desire that the Local Editor of the DISPATCH should receive his confession, and he frequently said to us during the progress of his trial if it went adverse to him, he would “tell us all” to use his own words.

On Wednesday afternoon, we visited the Penitentiary in company with Lieutenant A. M. Coddington. On entering the prison through the massive iron doors, we found Champ sitting by the stove in the hall or chamber which surrounds the cells. He was permitted to go out of the dungeon with a ball and chain. Champ met us in a very pleasant manner, and after conversing a few moments on important matters, we retired with him to his cell. He appeared very anxious about his family, and had some fears of their not getting here in time to see him. He was expecting them hourly.

We opened the subject of his confession to him, and he told us that it might not be discreet in him too make a confession until the last day. However, he proposed to give it to us, with the understanding that it should not be published or mentioned in the paper until after his execution. He commenced with

THE KILLING OF REUBEN WOOD.

The testimony in this case was, with very few exceptions, false. Reuben Wood and we were always good friends, before the war, but after that he was connected with the same company in which my brother Jim was operating. I knew that he intended killing me if he ever got a chance. They both hunted me down, and drove me fairly to desperation. On that day that he was killed, we met him in the road, and he commenced on me, using the most abusive language. I knew his disposition toward me and believed he intended to shoot me. The touching story about his piteous appeals to me – that he had nursed me when a babe, and tossed me on his knee – are false, and were gotten up expressly to create sympathy, and set me forth as a heartless

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**Execution Confessions of Champ Ferguson...continued**

wretch. If I had not shot Reuben Wood, I would not likely been here, for he would have shot me. I never expressed a regret for committing the act, and never will. He was in open war against me.

THE KILLING OF FROGG.

The case of Frogg is another in which I am falsely placed. The circumstances are well known to many in that neighborhood. He was with the Home Guards, and instigated my arrest by while I was peacefully pursuing my avocations as a farmer. Not satisfied with this, he laid in wait on the highways to kill me. He even went so far as to make his threats to the neighbors that he intended to kill me. On the day that I passed down the road to Frogg's house, Mrs. Pleasant Beatty called to me, and warned me that Frogg was watching for an opportunity to kill me. I had been cautioned by a number of persons. There were two men with me at the time. Mrs. Beatty spoke to us, and I told the boys I would settle the matter by going direct to Frogg's house and killing him. His wife was at the door peeling apples. I dismounted and went in. He was lying in bed, and on seeing me, pulled the cover over his face. I then shot him twice. His wife ran away, and as I passed out I met Miss Russell, who lives near there. She asked me what was the matter? I told her that Frogg was killed, and that she had better go in and look after him. No words were passed whatever between me and Frogg and myself. I consider myself justified in killing him.

THE SALTSVILLE [sic] MASSACRE.

As it has been termed, was no work of mine. I was not in the fight, and did not kill any negroes as charged. I acknowledge, however, that I killed Lieut. Smith in Emory and Henry hospital. I had a motive in committing the act. He captured a number of my men, at different times and always killed the last one of them. I was instigated to kill him, but will not say by whom, as I do not wish to criminate my friends. Smith belonged to the 13th Kentucky, and operated around Burkeville. I will say this much – he never insulted my wife or daughter as reported. He was a relative of my first wife, and always treated my family with respect. He is the only one I killed at or near Saltsville [sic], and I am not sorry for killing him.

ESQUIRE ZACHERY.

I suppose that I am responsible for the killing of esquire Zachery, but I was not the man who shot him. I shot at him, but one of my men fired the ball that killed him. He was in command of a company of bushwhackers, and was seeking my life. We went to his house for the purpose of killing, in order to save my own life. He was a clever man before the war, but got over it but got over it soon after the war broke out, and arrayed himself in deadly hostility to his old friends and neighbors.

KILLING OF DR. MCGLOSSON.

I am entirely ignorant of such a man as a Dr. McGlosson, and never heard of him until the charges were read to me. He was in no doubt in a fight way up the river, in which several were killed on both sides. I recollect of chasing a man to the verge of a bluff, and he ran

down the bank to a fence. As he was getting over it, I shot him. He might have been Dr. McGlosson, but I hardly think so, for they say that the Doctor was killed several miles from the creek. I know that he was never captured by me or any of my men. The story of my taking him out and telling to run for his life and then shooting his a lie manufactured of whole cloth. He never fell into my hand, and I am innocent if he was killed in the fight, as he no doubt was. I am charged with killing many persons, who fell in battle, and a good many of other commands are laid at my door

FOUNT ZACHERY.

I confess that I shot the lad, Fount Zachery, and stabbed him after he fell to the ground. We were out on a scout, and expected a fight that night. Jim McHenry was in command, and had given us orders to shoot down any person who might be seen with guns. As we neared the creed, the lad emerged from a thicket with a gun on his shoulder. I shot him on sight in obedience to orders.

THE SLAUGHTER OF TWELVE SOLDIERS.

I am charged with killing twelve soldiers at Saltsville [sic]. I am innocent of the charge. I know they were killed by Hughes¹ and Bledsoe's commands, and they were fairly killed in battle. There were thirty instead of twelve that fell on that day, and it was a regular fight.

JOSEPH STOVER AND OTHERS.

I killed Joseph Stover after he had shot at me twice. He was taking a third aim when I shot him in the mouth, and Fount Frost shot him in the side at the same time. William Johnson was run over a cliff and one of the boys shot him. I shot and killed Pierce, as he was running, with a double barreled shot gun. They were all Home Guards and seeking our lives.

ALEXANDER HOUGH.

I am innocent of killing Alexander Hough. He was a cousin to my mother, and I always liked him. I protested against his being killed, and guarded him myself, in the rear, until he broke and run [sic] when one of Bledsoe's men shot and killed him.

ELISHA KROGER.

I killed Elisha Kroger, and done [sic] a good trick when I did it. He watched my house day and night and [waited until?] he was nearly frozen, to get to kill me. He was a treacherous dog, and richly merited his fate. A number of very affecting stories are told in connection with his death.

ELAM HUDDDELSTON.

I did not kill Elam. I was along, however, I think Ab. Hildreth shot him. I know that Elam shot at me, and the ball grazed my clothes.

PETER ZACHERY AND OTHERS.

I killed Peter Zachery after one of the most desperate struggles that I ever had in my life. We fell to the floor, and he kept shooting, while I finally got out my knife, and stabbed him a few times, killing him. There were several in the house and we had ordered them to surrender. Allen Zachery was killed by one of the boys. John

¹Major John Hugh, 25th Tennessee Infantry, C.S.A.

**Execution Confessions of Champ Ferguson...continued**

Williams was shot by Ben Barton, and David Delk was shot by another of the boys, all at the same time.

JOHN CRABTREE.

I killed John Crabtree I went to Piles' house in the night and stabbed him, and did another good job when I killed him. He was a murderous [sic] villain, and had went to men's houses and shot them to get their money.

AFFEY WILLIAMS.

I killed Affey Williams and a negro man in the mountains. I shot and stabbed them. The[y] were scouting after my command, and they found the head of it.

BOSWELL TABER.

I killed Boswell Taber as a bushwhacker. He had killed three of my men a few days previous. He was in front of his house when I shot him. He ought to have been killed sooner.

DUVAL AND HURT.

I shot at Duval and Hurt, but did not kill either of them. I don't know who did kill them. Hurt shot through y coat and into my saddle.

I say before my God that the statements I have made comprises [sic] all the killings in which I have figured, and I have told [sic] the whole truth in every case. I give them freely and without reservation.

I told my lawyers, and you will recollect of my telling you, that the Court was bound to convict me. I was not fooled on that. I think that the Judge Advocate run [sic] things entirely too far. My counsel did well, but it was useless, for every point of law in my favor was overruled, and they intimidated [witnesses]. But I am about as well reconciled to my fate as any man could possibly be.

CHAMP ON DR. HALE.

I wish to say for Dr. Hale that he is a mean, low flung dog, and he only prosecuted me to speculate on my blood by publishing pamphlets worked up in lies from beginning to end. I never gave him any reason in the world to seek my life. I hope however that God will forgive him for the wrongs he has done me. I could well imagine how Dr. McGlosson wanted me prosecuted, for he honestly believed that I killed his brother.

I am in good health and spirits. My sleep is undisturbed by dreams, and I have just concluded to give myself up to these good friends of mine around here, and if they are determined to hang me, it is all right. I would like to live for my family, for they have lost all. I leave them penniless. I am not worth a dollar. I do not fear death, but I love my family, and am grieved to leave them on the world without means. I have a firm belief in God and the future. A minister of the Presbyterian Church was here to-day. I am pleased to meet and talk with him. I was not surprised when the sentence of death was read to me. I was expecting it daily. If my family had plenty I could die without a murmur.

Champ was furnished with some brandy. He requested the lieutenant to get him a bottle of pure brandy to take on the morning he was to be hung. He also requested that a raised cherry coffin be

furnished him. In answer to a question, he remarked that he was considered one of the best marksmen in his part of the country, and rarely aimed at anything but Tinker Dave but which he brought down.

We had a second interview with Champ on Thursday. He appeared lively and talked finely. He resumed by stating he believed he ought to have had a trial in civil courts. That he had no desire to criminate any of friends or he might say a great deal. He remarked that his wife and daughter had arrived, and the he had a very pleasant interview with them. He told us that his remains would be given to his wife and that she would take them to the pure soil of White county, two miles above Sparta. He said in answer to a question that "if he lived" until the 29th of November he would be 44 years of age. He remarked that he had no choice of the manner of his death; it all amounts to the same thing in the end. His health was never better, he told us, at the time.

He requested the Lieutenant to ascertain from General Thomas that his horse, and equipments, now in the hands of Col. Blackburn, will be turned over to his wife. He thinks that they are his property and his wife should have them.

We were exclusively admitted to see Champ in his cell yesterday, by his own request, and made the following statement in addition to what he had previously given us, swearing before God that every word is true.

I surrendered to Gen. Thomas, on the letter or order sent to all armed bands, me with the rest. I did not think they would treat me as they have done I am the same man I was before the war, and my intentions are the same, and will be till the last minute of my life. I don't know what men in high office can think of in sending out such men as Col Blackburn and others for the purpose of inducing me to come in for the sake of hanging me. He told me I was no worse than the rest, and that I should be protected, and he was glad to see me.

I was a Southern man at the start. I am yet, and will die a rebel. I believe I was right in all that I did. I don't think I done [sic] anything wrong at any time. I committed my deeds in a cool and deliberate manner. I killed a good many men of course, I don't deny that, but never killed a man I whom I did not know was seeking my life. It is false that I never took any prisoners. I have taken a great many, and after keeping them for awhile paroled them. I tried to prove this during my trial, but they would not give me time to do it.

I don't think I had a fair or just trial. I wish to thank Mrs. Blackman for her kindness to me during my trial. One of the witnesses against me (Louis Duval) told the truth in every particular. Also Miss Dowdy, except in one or two words. I had always heard that the Federals would not take me prisoner, but would shoot me down where ever found. That is what made me kill more than I should have done. They never got a man that belonged to my company or Bledsoe's company, but that they killed, and of course they might expect that I would not miss doing the same with their men.

Except the Dowdys and Louis Duval, of the witnesses against me, I have little faith in them or anything they would swear to. I will repeat that I die a Rebel out and out, and my last request is that my body be removed to White county, Tenn., and be buried in good Rebel soil. My own witnesses were true to me.

- Nashville Dispatch, October 21, 1865.



Tennessee War Commission Report of Activities...continued

mentioned Jackson. Roosevelt finally said he would build the parkway to honor Jackson. The parkway motor road was completed in 2005.

The Tennessee War of 1812 Committee is also one of the sponsors of the May event. The committee, chaired by Myers Brown of the Tennessee State Museum, has met on an ad hoc basis for over three years to plan symposia, exhibits and events to commemorate the era when Tennessee became the Volunteer State. An exhibit on the war at the state museum opened February 16 and it will run through June 24, before traveling across the state.

The 7th U.S. Living History Association includes history scholars, curators, educators, and active military personnel from across the country. Their attention to historical accuracy was recognized by the active 7th U.S. Infantry in 1997 by being awarded the right to carry the official standards for the company.

The Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps of St. Charles, Missouri will join with the musicians from the 7th U.S. for a noon concert on Saturday. The military used fifes and drums to communicate orders to troops on the battlefield. On muster days,

the musicians also performed stirring patriotic pieces to build public support and to gain new recruits. The musicians typically ranged in age from 10 to 18 years old.

The Tennessee Society of the Daughters of the War of 1812 will follow the Muster Day with the placement of a marker to honor all the War of 1812 soldiers buried along the old Trace as well as those who marched along the historic road. Many men died on the strenuous marches and those soldiers were buried in graves, now unmarked, along the old Natchez Trace.

With the event in May, the Natchez Trace Parkway begins a new effort to interpret the story of the Natchez Trace during the war. Terry Wildy has been appointed as the first Interpretive Specialist for the parkway. A partnership has been formed among the National Park Service, the 7th U.S. Living History Association and the Natchez Trace Parkway Association to interpret the story through living history events in all three states through which the parkway passes.

The Natchez Trace Parkway is the largest national park to interpret the War of 1812. Through its new emphasis on interpretation, the important role settlers along the Trace played in the nation's battle for independence will be told during the bicentennial years and beyond. That will be one lasting product of the bicentennial.

National Register News

Since the last issue of *The Courier* there have been eight entries to the National Register of Historic Places from Tennessee. The properties are: Memphis Landing, Shelby County; Russell House, Robertson County; Park-Elkins Historic District, Davidson County; Whitaker-Motlow House, Lincoln County; Johnson City County Club, Washington County; Fort Anderson on Militia Hill, Anderson County; Piney Flats Historic District, Sullivan County; and War Memorial Building, Anderson County.

The Chucky Depot in Greene County was moved and, therefore, automatically removed from the National Register.

There are now 2,076 entries in the National Register from Tennessee including 271 districts for a total of 41,796 resources now listed.

Preservation Month

Preservation Month was celebrated in May with numerous activities across the state. The theme for 2012 was "Discover American's Hidden Gems." The Tennessee Historical Commission joined with other groups to commemorate the month, including the Tennessee Main Street Program, the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, the Tennessee Preservation Trust, the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, Cornerstones, Inc. of Chattanooga, Memphis Heritage, Inc. Historic Nashville, Inc., the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County, Knox Heritage, the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance, the Heritage Alliance of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



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