

# THE COURIER



VOL. LX, NO. 3

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

OCTOBER 2012

## NEWEST THC SITES TO BE RESTORED

Two historic properties acquired by the Tennessee Historical Commission since 2007 have received \$2 million dollars in capital appropriations funding this year to restore them and open them to the public. Hawthorne Hill in Castalian Springs and Sabine Hill in Elizabethton were included in the Governor's Capital Budget for FY 2012-2013, and the projects were approved by the Tennessee General Assembly. Hawthorne Hill, a brick Federal Period I-house with a hall-and-parlor plan, dates to about 1805. It was the birthplace of Confederate General and Tennessee Governor William Bate. One of four historically-significant properties in the immediate area owned by the State of Tennessee, the property received \$900,000 will be operated by the Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association, which also administers Wynnewood. Hawthorne Hill retains early features, including period stenciling and original woodwork. "The house offers a unique opportunity to approach the work as much in terms of conservation as restoration" said THC executive director Patrick McIntyre. Sabine Hill dates to circa 1818 and is a frame Federal Period dwelling documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey in the 1930s and featured in James Patrick's book *Architecture in Tennessee, 1768-1897*. \$1.1 million in funding will allow it to be restored and opened as a unit of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park. The Park currently operates the nearby Carter Mansion as a unit of the main park. Sabine Hill and Hawthorne Hill have recently benefited from Historic Structures Reports undertaken and completed by the Center for the Study of Historic Preservation and Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area at MTSU. "The reports will aid greatly in developing both a scope of work for the properties and will help guide the interpretive plans," said Martha Akins, THC Historic Sites

Program director. Also included in this year's capital budget is \$300,000 for new shake roofs at Rocky Mount State Historic Site in Piney Flats. The Tennessee Historical Commission is grateful to the Governor and to the Tennessee General Assembly for their support of these sites, and we look forward to developing them to share them with the public.



Sabine Hill



Hawthorne Hill State Historic Site, Castalian Springs

### Find Us Online!

Not only is the Courier on the Internet prior to the distribution of the printed version, the online edition is in color and with expanded content. Bookmark us at:

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

2012 Commission Meeting Dates  
For Final Schedules check online at:

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

The Tennessee Historical Commission will meet at  
the East Tennessee History Center Auditorium,  
601 Gay Street, Knoxville, on  
Friday, October 19, 2012 at 9 AM.



## New Commission Member

In August, Gov. Haslam appointed Elizabeth (Beth) Campbell of Nashville to the Tennessee Historical Commission. A native Tennessean, Campbell has extensive historic preservation experience, including service as chair of the Northport, Alabama Historic Preservation Commission from 1998 to 2004. During that time the Commission renovated a 1920s depot and established the city's first municipal historic district. While living in Alabama, she restored her personal residence, the c. 1893 Queen Anne-style Maxwell-Campbell House in 1996 and also served as vice chairwoman of the Heritage Commission of Tuscaloosa County. A member of the Republican State Executive Committeewomen, Campbell also has extensive fundraising experience and is the owner of Rock Island Foods, a distributor for Frontier Soups. Married to Bill Campbell, she has three children and eight grandchildren. Mrs. Campbell replaces Dr. Robert Polk Thomson of Nashville, who served on the Commission since 2005. Also in August, Derita Coleman Williams of Memphis was re-appointed for a second term.



*Elizabeth (Beth) Campbell*

## THC Staff Recognized

In August, National Register Program staff member Jaime Destefano was named a recipient of the Southeast Society for Architectural Historians' (SESAH) Emerging Professional Scholarship for her paper, "Women's Clubhouses of Tennessee: A Comparative Analysis of Four National Register-Listed Women's Clubhouses." Her paper will be presented in Athens, GA at the annual SESAH conference on October 17-20.

The Tennessee Historical Commission was presented with a Preservation Award from the Maury County Historical Society at their annual luncheon on September 16. Historic Sites Program Director Martha Akins accepted the award, which recognized the recently completed exterior rehabilitation project at the James K. Polk Ancestral Home and the adjacent Sister's House, all part of the State Historic Site.

**6!** Since the last issue of The Courier there have been six entries to the National Register of Historic Places from Tennessee. The properties are: RCA Studio B, Davidson County; American Legion Bohannon Post #4, Overton County; Neel Glenn House, Robertson County; Ayers Hall, Knox County; General Lawrence D. Tyson House, Knox County; National Cotton Council Building, Shelby County.

Removed from the National Register were the Mt Zion Church in Benton County and the Jesse Alison House in Sullivan County because they no longer exist.

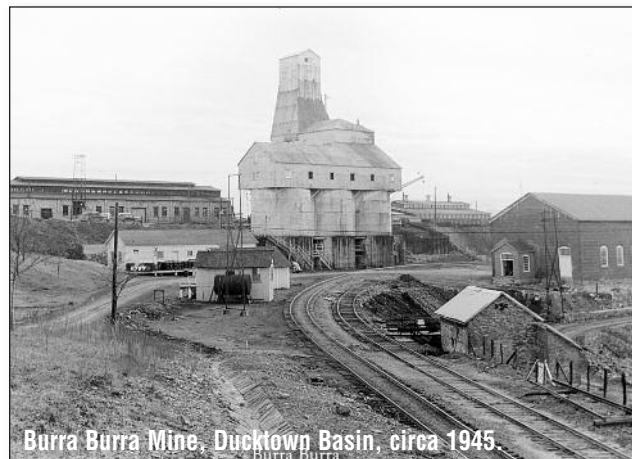
There are now 2,090 entries in the National Register from Tennessee including 272 districts for a total of 41,872 resources now listed.

## Capital Budget Requests for State-Owned Historic Sites

*By Martha D. Akins,  
Historic Sites Program Director*

This is the time of the year for departments and agencies within the State of Tennessee to prepare their respective capital budget requests. Consequently, work has long been underway at formulating needs of the state-owned historic sites. There are two types of requests, the first being "Capital Maintenance." Capital Maintenance projects are defined as major, non-routine repairs and replacements unrelated to new construction and costing \$100,000 or more. While there are certainly several needed projects that could fall under this category, Tennessee Historical Commission is focusing its efforts on the other type of request, "Capital Improvement" for the upcoming fiscal year.

Capital Improvement projects are defined as those providing new facilities or materially extending the useful life and improving or changing the function of an existing facility. A design professional is required, and the project costs \$100,000 or more. Capital Improvement projects can incorporate maintenance needs in addition to major alterations or new construction.



### DUCKTOWN BASIN MUSEUM STATE HISTORIC SITE

The project planned for Ducktown Basin Museum (Ducktown) is one such example. The oldest copper mining complex in the Copper Basin has been state owned for twenty-four years, and the visitor center, which is

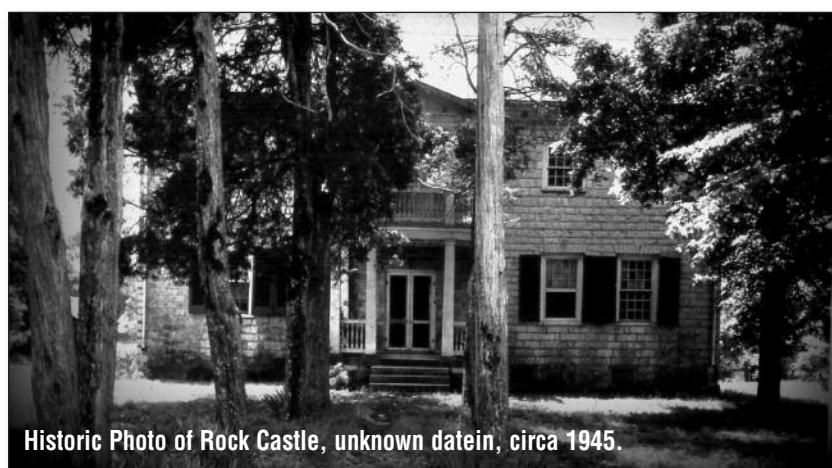
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**Capital Budget Requests for...continued**

housed in the historic Mine Office, does not adequately serve the public's or the site's needs. Expansion of this building will include ADA accessible public restrooms, reception area, gift shop area, upgraded museum exhibits, an orientation theater, archival storage, and office space. Plumbing, electrical, and HVAC upgrades are all needed as well. The non-historic metal siding will be removed and replaced with historic clapboard and painted.

In addition to the expanded visitor center, the site has several buildings that are not yet open to the public; they need restoration and/or upgrades, and they have suffered from deferred maintenance due to limited budgets. With over 36,000 total square footage of building space on the site, there is a significant amount of work to be completed at Ducktown Basin Museum.



Historic Photo of Rock Castle, unknown date in, circa 1945.

**ROCK CASTLE STATE HISTORIC SITE**

The project being created for Rock Castle (Hendersonville) is similar in scope but on a much smaller scale. Rock Castle, the home of Daniel Smith who began its construction in 1784, has a visitor center which does not meet the public's or the site's needs. Built in 1975, the visitor center needs include ADA compliant restrooms, enlarged gift shop area, interpretive museum exhibit space and exhibits, an orientation theater, archival storage, research library, office space, and a new HVAC and new roof. Connecting to the city's sewer system and repaving the parking lot are also a part of the visitor center aspect of the project.

In addition to the expanded visitor center, other maintenance or restoration needs include roofs for the main house, smoke house, and caretaker's house, installation of historic shutters, re-glazing of the windows, porch repairs, and painting.

**MARBLE SPRINGS STATE HISTORIC SITE**

The third Capital Improvement project being requested is a Visitor Center at Marble Springs, farmstead of Governor John Sevier (Knoxville). Marble Springs has been state owned since 1942, and it does not have a true visitor center. The staff has in the past operated from various buildings on site, leading to

confusion to the visiting public. The brand new building slated for this site would include a welcome area, public restrooms, office space, retail space, museum exhibit gallery and exhibits, archival storage, operational storage, a multi-use conference room, pervious parking lot, signage, and better entrance to the site. Incorporating energy saving ideas, green materials, and long life cycle costs are priorities in the new construction, as these items will be another way the site can fulfill its mission of educating the public. This project has been requested since 2003, although the need has existed since acquisition.

The original scope of work and cost estimates were prepared by Martha Akins, Historic Sites Program Director. Akins has been working with representatives of Jones Lang LaSalle, consultants hired by the state to make all of the Capital Budget requests more accurate. Hefferlin + Kronenberg Architects PLLC (Chattanooga) were secured as preservation architects to visit the three sites with Akins and site staff. Through these visits, the scope of work is being tightly defined for each site, and precise cost estimates are expected to be derived from them.

Once this information is complete, it is to be submitted in priority order to the Division of Budget in the Department of Finance and Administration, and from there it undergoes rigorous review. If the submission meets state requirements and funds are available, the Governor can include it in his budget, which must then be voted on by the legislature. And finally, any improvements to real property must be approved by the State Building Commission. The whole budget cycle process takes about a year.

In past years, Tennessee Historical Commission has been successful in obtaining much-needed improvements at the state-owned sites. For example, Alex Haley House Museum (Henning) secured a new visitor center as well as museum exhibits. Chester Inn (Jonesborough), Tipton-Haynes (Johnson City), Rocky Mount (Piney Flats), and Hotel Halbrook (Dickson) were all recipients of top quality museum exhibits. Most recently approved were the restorations of Sabine Hill (Elizabethton) and Hawthorne Hill (Castalian Springs), as well as new wood shake roofs needed at Rocky Mount (Piney Flats).



Cabin and kitchen at Marble Springs.



# Certified Local Government Training Activities

The Certified Local Government (CLG) program has participated in two important training activities in the past few months. The Statewide Preservation Conference was held from May 31st through June 2nd in Nashville and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) biannual national conference "Forum" was conducted in Norfolk, VA from July 18-22.

As an integral part of the statewide conference in Nashville a CAMP (Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program) was conducted by the NAPC. Once again, the statewide conference and the CAMP were both underwritten by federal grant assistance from the Tennessee Historical Commission and organized and directed by the Tennessee Preservation Trust (TPT). The CAMP uses their fun euphemism to establish a lighthearted setting for the serious work of training historic preservation commissioners, especially for CLGs. Most CAMP attendees were sponsored by the THC as a provision of the federal grant underwriting to TPT, and came from CLGs across the state. The four part program was conducted by two nationally prominent preservationists Ramona Bartos and Ken Kocher. Ms. Bartos is the Executive Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for the North Carolina state historic preservation office and she is also an attorney. Mr. Kocher is the principle with the nationally prominent Piedmont Preservation, an historic preservation consulting firm in Madison, GA. The CAMP was held at the Downtown Partnership offices in Nashville's CBD. Ms. Bartos led sessions in "Legal Basics" and "the Role of Commissioners as Public Servants." The Legal Basics class focused on local ordinances, local codes, and federal and state laws and the Role of Commissioners class focused on avoiding conflicts of interest and maintaining ethical standards.

Mr. Kocher led sessions in "Meeting Procedures" and "Standards and Guidelines for Design Review." The Meetings Procedures class focused on preparation strategies for public hearings and the Standards and Guidelines class focused on Federal Standards and local guidelines.

During the mid-day break a working lunch was conducted in which the annual meeting for the state's certified local governments was held. We discussed, through questions and answer, CLG assistance and support, and reported on the status of the CLG program in TN. In addition, we discussed at length grant opportunities for CLGs, the federal guidelines for CLG participation, and offered application assistance.

This CAMP was one of the best attended in years and the CAMP atmosphere and camaraderie, as always, provided for an enjoyable and productive conference. This co-hosting of the statewide conference and CAMP has proven to be a valuable synergy, and has allowed both TPT and THC to better accomplish its preservation goals. The Tennessee Preservation Trust and the THC are looking forward to a continued addition of the CAMP to the annual statewide conference.

On another note, the NAPC bi-annual national conference "Forum" was held in Norfolk, VA July 18-22. The THC received a

grant from the National Council of State Historic Preservation Offices (NCSHPO) and the National Park Service (NPS) for this author to attend as Tennessee's Certified Local Government Coordinator. The NAPC Forum is the premier national conference for preservation commissions and especially for CLG Coordinators. As it is only conducted every other year, attendance is important to stay current with education and trends in the field. The THC additionally provided federal grant assistance to CLGs across the state and four CLG communities, Jonesborough, Knoxville, Nashville, and Shelbyville sent a total of eight representatives to the conference for training.

The Forum offered an array of sessions and historical field tours over the five day conference. To assist preservation commissions special sessions were held in "Commissioner Chair Training," "Volunteer Training," and a "Commission Short Course." For this author, as a new CLG Coordinator, courses were offered such as "New State CLG Coordinators Training," and the "State CLG Coordinators Meeting." It was important opportunity to meet the NPS CLG staff, and the other CLG Coordinators from across the region and nation that will serve as important resources to address CLG issues in Tennessee. In addition, over 60 training session, working field tours and other related events transpired at the conference. As part of our professional support to help conduct the conference, this author hosted a day-long field tour to Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg. Needless to say it was an exceptional opportunity to participate in behind the scenes tours of these national treasures. It was the most well attended Forum in recent memory and may have matched or broken all previous Forum participation. It was a very successful conference for Tennessee and for our grantees and staff. Many important resources were developed and critical professional connections established. We have all returned to Tennessee energized and have begun putting this valuable training to work across the state.

## HISTORICAL MARKERS

At its meeting on June 15, 2012, the Tennessee Historical Commission approved three historical markers: David Hull Cabin, Anderson County; Saint Augustine Catholic Church and Catholic School and Humes High School, Alma Mater of Elvis Presley 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.





# National Register of Historic Places News

By Jaime L. Destefano

In 1957, RCA Records took a long-term lease on a new Nashville building situated at the corner of 17th Avenue South and Hawkins Street and installed a new recording studio there. RCA's new Nashville headquarters, referred to as RCA Studio B, reflected the dramatic expansion of American music during World War II and the decades that followed, an expansion that outpaced the economy as a whole and witnessed the rise of other new music centers in Atlanta, Cincinnati, Memphis, Houston, and Detroit, among other cities. Studio B's debut also mirrored structural changes in the music industry, most notably the increasing dominance of sound recordings, which rapidly replaced radio's reliance on live performers and far outdistanced sales of sheet music and songbooks, once popular music's primary consumer products.

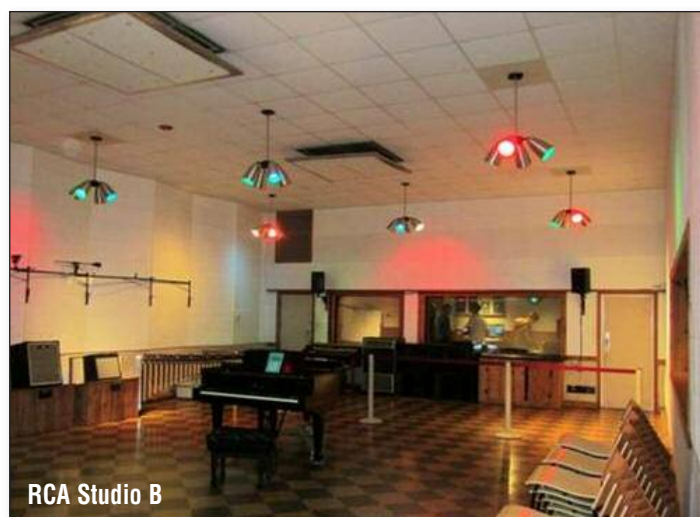
Nationally, this was a major recording studio for Elvis Presley, and the premier recording and mixing studio for RCA country music artists including national and international stars such as Jim Reeves, the Browns, Dottie West, Eddy Arnold, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and Dolly Parton. RCA pop acts (Elvis Presley, Al Hirt), successful artists on other labels (Roy Orbison, the Everly Brothers), and numerous artists on various labels who did not gain national fame also recorded here.

RCA Studio B was also closely associated with the pop-influenced Nashville Sound. Promoted primarily by RCA executives Steve Sholes and Chet Atkins, and by Decca producer Owen Bradley, this sound changed the face of country music and helped broaden its popularity throughout the nation and around the world.

RCA Studio B is a one- and two-story concrete block building constructed in 1957. The building consists of the original two-story studio area including its control room, echo chamber, a lounge area and restrooms; and the long, narrow, ca. 1960 addition, all essentially unchanged from their original configuration, with only minor interventions into their fabric.

Studio B is a large, rectangular room with linoleum flooring and a 13-foot high ceiling. Walls within the room are undulating and designed to capture sound waves and make the room sound as "dead" as possible. Along the south interior wall, beveled sections arranged in a "zig-zag" pattern were installed in the 1960s to improve the acoustics. Recording equipment and instruments important to Studio B's significance still remain in the room. The most notable instrument is the 1942 Steinway & Sons Model B grand piano used by session pianist Floyd Cramer on hits such as Elvis Presley's "It's Now or Never" and his own hit "Last Date."

The RCA Studio B control room is still fully functional, and a mixing console installed in 2003, along with other recording equipment (including two original Teletronix LA-2A tube-type limiters used to control volume levels and thereby prevent distortion), still occupy this space. The echo chamber, original to the studio, features highly reflective beveled walls. To achieve echo effects, a speaker and microphone were placed in this room.



As recording sessions took place, sound from the speaker was picked up by the microphone and routed back into the studio's mixing board. As part of a vintage recording method, this echo chamber is extremely rare today.

The c.1960 addition is accessible from the lounge. The addition consists of former office space, remnants of Studio D, and its control room. Both retain original acoustical wall treatments.

RCA remained in the building until 1977. In 2002, the Mike Curb Family Foundation purchased the studio and leased it to the Country Music Hall of Fame museum in perpetuity for \$1 a year. Museum staff manages the studio, supervising school programs and public tours during the day. Students in the recording program of Belmont's Mike Curb School of Music and Entertainment Business use Studio B to learn historic and present-day recording techniques.

*The National Register nomination for RCA Studio B was a collaborative effort between the Nashville Metro Historical Commission and the Country Music Hall of Fame. Preparers of the nomination include Julie Robison, Intern, Metro Nashville Historical Commission; Tara Mitchell Mielnik, Ph.D., Metro Nashville Historical Commission; and John Rumble, Ph.D., Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.*

The General Lawrence D. Tyson House (today, the University of Tennessee Office of Alumni Affairs) is a majestic, two-story Neoclassical house situated at the intersection of Melrose Avenue and Volunteer Boulevard on the campus of the University of Tennessee (UT) in Knoxville. Tyson House is an excellent example of the large, late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century single-family residential architecture that once occupied this portion of what is now UT's campus. The elaborate Neoclassical residence is recognized not only for its exceptional architectural

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



stylistic elements, but for its association with prominent Knoxville architect, George F. Barber, and General Lawrence D. Tyson, veteran of the Spanish American War, Tennessee World War I General, and a United States Senator.

In 1907, General Tyson's wife, Bettie, commissioned Barber to remodel the Tyson's existing two-story Queen Anne frame house; originally built in 1895 by Julius Lewis of New York for Knoxville businessman, James M. Meek. The project, which included extensive landscaping, was completed in 1909. The remodeled house, as designed by Barber is a two-story, brick Neoclassical building. Barber incorporated his own stylistic elements known as "Colonial Classic." Loosely derived from the designs for eighteenth century Georgian mansions, this style featured the formal lines and full-height porticos supported by classical columns of the traditional Neoclassical style. "Colonial Classic" designs were popular among Barber's wealthiest clients. Tyson House is Knoxville's only extant example of Barber's "Colonial Classic" design.

Tyson House sits on a rusticated stone foundation and features wide overhanging eaves, a dentiled cornice, and ornate gable dormers. Its most striking feature is the full-height portico with fluted Corinthian columns on the front façade. A detailed balcony is situated above the entry door. The south elevation features a one-story port-cochere with Corinthian columns and fluted pilasters. A two-story wing on the rear elevation is slightly setback from the main block and was historically used as the service wing.

The interior of Tyson House features a principal entry hall leading to the landing of a grand staircase. A smaller hallway, leading from the port-cochere entry, joins the main hall at the base of the staircase. The floor plan of the historic main block consists of two rooms on either side of the central hall on the first floor. The second floor contains two rooms north of the central hall and three rooms to the south. There is no secondary hallway on the second floor of the main block. The third floor was historically an open ballroom, and has since been modified to accommodate office space for UT. The service wing, as well as

the second floor has also been converted into office space. Despite renovations, a large degree of the historic design elements and elaborate workmanship survive. Unique interior features include the library's original Flemish oak wainscot, an inglenook, and two sets of bookcases with leaded glass doors in the library. The Parlor contains scrolled consoles with beaded edges mounted at the wall-ceiling junction, with the underside of the ceiling beam containing recessed, plastered panels. Decorative fireplace mantels on the first and second floors remain intact. The focal point of the second floor hall is a pedestal colonnade near the entrance to the balcony. Original baseboards, trim, pilasters and doors of Tyson House survive as well.

The property includes the burial site and grave of the Tyson's dog, Bonita.

*The National Register nomination for Tyson House was authored by Gail Guymon of the University of Tennessee.*

The National Cotton Council (NCC) Building faces North Parkway in Memphis, Shelby County. Designed by Memphis architect Anker Hansen, the 1955 Neocolonial-style building housed the NCC, the first industry-wide, commodity-specific organization in the history of American agriculture, during the period of its greatest accomplishments.

The National Cotton Council (NCC) Building is a two-story irregular-plan office building roughly centered on a 2.8 acre site. Measuring 259' X 57' across at its center core and end wings, the building is poured concrete construction with a full basement. The south facade displays a center, two-story entry portico supported by columns. It has brick veneer cladding with limestone trim and the horizontal form of the building is contrasted by wall ornamentation of three sets of two-story, engaged limestone piers at the center and ends of the facade. The interior retains a double-loaded corridor plan and the one-story lobby boasts a main stairwell with brushed aluminum balusters and railing. Terrazzo flooring, birch and frosted glass office doors, and ten-foot ceiling height are intact.

During the years 1955-1966, the NCC worked with the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) and was responsible for promotion of Federal legislation by providing market development information which evolved into Public Law 480; legislation which authorized the export sale of surplus commodities to countries in exchange for foreign currency used for market development purposes. The FAS then began the Cooperator Program, signing cooperative agreements with groups representing American producers of specific commodities in order to expand foreign demand. The groups themselves were called "cooperators" and the NCC became their first cooperator in May, 1955. During the next decade, the NCC's intensive lobbying for the passage of the 1966 Research and Promotion Act paved the way for a dramatic increase in the research and promotion of cotton which caused a major resurgence for cotton as consumers' fiber of choice by vastly increasing research programs of the federal and the state agricultural agencies, and also by working with the private sector

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

such as the chemical and farm machinery industries.

The National Cotton Council's pioneering industry successes in marketing, economic research, government legislation, pest eradication programs, cotton genetics, and research promoting cotton staple and plant by-products. Their innovative marketing

programs, its effective lobbying efforts on behalf of the industry, and the organization's fund-raising strategies made them a leader and role model for other commodities advocacy groups. The trade group's efforts during the height of their powers resulted in a uniform collection system funding research and development which is among the NCC's greatest achievements.



Not only did the National Cotton Council Building house the organization during the years of its greatest accomplishments, the building also housed the Cotton Producers Institute whose aim was to work exclusively on the interests of cotton growers through research and promotion. In 2007, the NCC relocated their office to Cordova, TN and sold the historic National Cotton Council Building. Today, the building is being converted into multi-family housing for students of a near-by private, liberal-arts college.

*The National Register nomination for the National Cotton Council Building was prepared by Judith Johnson of J. Johnson & Associates.*

**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 University of Kentucky Press, 663 South Limestone Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40508-4008 includes:**

***Freedom Rights: New Perspectives on the Civil Rights Movement***, edited by Danielle L. McGuire and John Dittmer bring together twelve established and new scholars to provide a new look at the development of the Civil Rights Movement. In his seminal 1991 article, "Freedom Then, Freedom Now: The Historiography of the Civil Rights Movement, Steve F. Lawson appealed for a more in-depth investigation of the civil rights movement in order to form a multifaceted understanding of its interconnected influences. Inspired by the work of Lawson, who called on researchers to "examine the external influences on national political struggles . . . the internal dynamics of movements . . . and to investigate relations between the sexes and races of organizers," each essay proffers new insight into the movement by connecting its development to intriguing stratagems and influences. The collection of essays reaches into the present as the final essays discuss voter disfranchisement cases and covers the

election of Barack Obama as the first African-American President of the United States. Danielle L. McGuire, an assistant professor at Wayne State University and John Dittmer, professor emeritus at DePauw University meticulously arrange ***Freedom Rights*** to demonstrate the linear and lateral associations between each essay's topical matters. The editors present a new generation of civil rights scholars who have produced work that not only covers broad political and social movements, but also the grass-root influences of those movements. Similar to *Civil Rights History from the Ground Up: Local Struggles, a National Movement* (2011) edited by Emily Crosby, ***Freedom Rights*** adds a innovative approach to the study of civil rights and serves a catalyst for future investigations. **Cloth, \$40.00.**

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

***The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Social Class Volume 20*** Edited by Larry J. Griffin & Peggy G. Hargis; Charles Regan Wilson, general editor. This volume

provides a full investigation of social class in the region and situates class concerns at the center of one's understanding of Southern culture. In 58 thematic essays and 103 topical entries, the hundred-plus contributors, including several from Tennessee institutions of higher education, explore the effects of class on all aspects of life in the South. The scholars look at the role of class and its role in Indian removal, the Civil War, the New Deal, and the civil rights movement, to cite a few examples, and how class manifested itself in religion, sports, country and gospel music, and matter of gender. The editors and contributors investigate skilled craft-persons and the working class, indentured workers and steelworkers, the Freedman's Bureau and the Knights of Labor, among others. Griffin, a College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Research Professor, and Hargis, a professor of sociology, both of whom are Georgia Southern University scholars, and Wilson, the Kelly Gene Cook Sr. Chair in History and Professor of southern studies at the University of Mississippi, offer a timely, authoritative, and interdisciplinary exploration of issues related to social class in the South from the colonial era to the present. **Paper, \$27.95.**

# *Tennessee's Official* Civil War Sesquicentennial License Plate



The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) announces the final campaign to get the official Civil War Sesquicentennial license plate on the road.

TCWPA must get 1000 orders before the State will produce the plate.

We're on our way to the finish line. With the generous support of The Trusted Choice Agents of Insurors of Tennessee, TCWPA is now accepting applications for free plates to put us "over the top."

Get your Civil War Sesquicentennial license plate free for the first year and join TCWPA in our effort to commemorate and preserve our state's Civil War heritage.

## HERE'S ALL YOU NEED TO DO:

- 1) Go to: <http://www.tcwpa.org/license-plate> to download the form.
- 2) Print and complete the form and send to TCWPA
- 3) Share this with your family, friends, local history organizations, etc.
- 4) Do this today! It's first come-first served.

Proceeds from the plate will support Civil War Battlefield preservation and the Tennessee Civil War Trails program. For more information about the Civil War license plate please visit TCWPA's website. Questions? Contact TCWPA at [info@tcwpa.org](mailto:info@tcwpa.org).



P.O. BOX 148535, NASHVILLE, TN 37214      [WWW.TCWPA.ORG](http://WWW.TCWPA.ORG)

***Insurors  
OF  
Tennessee***







# Tennessee's Land Acquisition Process Through The Tennessee Wars Commission

By Fred M. Prouty, Director of Programs

The Tennessee Wars Commission is charged with the preservation of Tennessee's battlefields connected with the French and Indian War (1754-1763), the American Revolution War (1176-1783), the War of 1812 (1812-1815), US/Mexican War (1845-1846) and the American Civil War (1861-1865).

In order to familiarize the general public with the process used by the Tennessee Wars Commission (TWC) to purchase endangered state battlefield properties, the following information has been created.

When a significant and/or endangered battlefield property is identified in Tennessee as being a potential or existing National Register Site, the Tennessee Wars Commission can officially approach the Tennessee Lands Acquisition Committee with a proposal to purchase and/or acquire a conservation easement for the historic site.

In order to seek approval to purchase property through the State Lands Acquisition Committee (SLAC), the Wars Commission director is required to complete an application to seek placement on the next SLAC meeting agenda. Once on the agenda, the TWC director will make a presentation to the Committee and submit a required packet of property information. The packet is to contain a letter of intent from a willing seller, a copy of the deed, a current site survey, plate maps, individual letters of support, and a letter of agreement from the city and/or county as a willing "primary caretaker" of the property to be purchased. The State Lands Committee meets once a month in its Nashville headquarters of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

The state purchasing process is a lengthy one and frequently the services of a not-for-profit preservation organization are required to help with the initial outright purchase of the historic property, or to help obtain an option to purchase until the state can complete the acquisition process.

Once the State Lands Acquisition Committee has approved the acquisition funding it then goes before two meetings of the State Building Commission (SBC) for approval. If approved by the SBC the State Lands Acquisition Manager will then order title work on the property and this can take up to 30 days. With title work completed an appraisal will then be ordered and again another 30 days is required. The appraisal will then be reviewed and approved by Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and by a certified appraiser. At this point an order for the survey will go out which is typically a 45-day contract. Once everything is reviewed and approved, the State Attorney General's office will then draft the deed and this process will require between 15 to 30 days. A typical project, if everything were to run smoothly, takes at least 6 months from beginning to end.

Funding for Tennessee State Lands Acquisition is acquired through state land transfer taxes. This is a relatively small amount

of funding and members of SLAC closely review and grade all submitted proposals. It is recommended that proposals contain additional outside matching funds as well as local, state, and national letters of support that will be needed for the highest possible project rating.

Since our first meeting with the State Lands Acquisition Committee the Tennessee Wars Commission has been successful in obtaining funding for thousands of acres of threatened Tennessee battlefields. In addition to those funding grants the TWC has obtained Federal Department of Transportation Enhancement Funds, National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program Funding, matching grants from the Civil War Trust and the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (both non-profit organizations), the Land Trust for Tennessee and other local preservation organizations.

To date the Tennessee Wars Commission and our preservation partners have purchased and preserved over 7,000 acres of endangered Civil War battlefield property in Tennessee and in doing so have also created new battlefield parks as historic tourism destinations for Tennessee's visitors. Parkers Crossroads Battlefield in Henderson County and Davis Bridge Battlefield in McNairy and Hardeman Counties are becoming our states newest saved and interpreted battlefield destinations.

We hope the above information is informative and will emphasize the time and effort required to preserve endangered historic battlefields in Tennessee. These preserved historic treasures will now remain Hallowed Grounds as long as there is an America. During these years of the 150th Civil War Sesquicentennial we encourage you, the future caretakers of Tennessee's historic resources, to support our state and national Civil War preservation initiatives.

When a significant and/or endangered battlefield property is identified in Tennessee as being a potential or existing National Register Site, the Tennessee Wars Commission can officially approach the Tennessee Lands Acquisition Committee with a proposal to purchase and/or acquire a conservation easement for the historic site.

## TENNESSEE WARS COMMISSION MEMORIAL SURVEY AND VIETNAM MEMORIAL AUDIT

The Tennessee Wars Commission has been asked to conduct a statewide audit of war memorials for the express purpose of ensuring that all Tennesseans who were killed in military actions have been correctly listed on those memorials, while also noting the current physical condition of the memorial itself.

This project will be completed by Philip Thomason and Associates of Nashville and are highly qualified to complete the services requested. Project Principal Thomason is to provide overall project oversight and coordinate the field survey.

*cont. next page 10*

**Tennessee's Land Aquisition Process...continued**

This scope of work will be completed in the following manner:

- Each county historian, local historical society or county genealogical association in Tennessee will be contacted by the Contractor to identify known war memorials in their respective counties and jurisdictions.
- The majority of war memorials in the state are located in county courthouses or on courthouse property. At each identified location, the Contractor will complete a photographic inventory and conditions assessment for each war memorial identified in each county. The majority of the state's war memorials are to be inventoried in this manner including those from the French and Indian War through the Vietnam War.
- The audit of names will research names of those Tennesseans who died in the Vietnam War and record those findings as per each county in the state. This list of names will be cross referenced with the names on the existing memorials (if provided) to assure no names have been excluded. This list, maintained by the Department of Defense, currently totals 1,295 killed in action for the state of Tennessee.
- The findings of the survey will be presented in a survey report to the TN Wars Commission. This report will provide an overview of the types of war memorials erected across the state, typical conditions issues, a full inventory of Vietnam War memorials and the listing of the war dead, and recommendations for future actions.

- This survey report will be completed and submitted in both hard copy and electronic copy. Digital photographs will be submitted on CDs and labeled according by region, county and location.

This project is scheduled for completion within a four-month period and a final report submitted by December 2012. On August 1, 2012 Thomason and Associates were given notice to proceed as winners of the state bid process, by the Tennessee Historical/Wars Commission. Utilizing research provided by THC staff, Thomason and Associates will by September 1 contact all county historians, local historical societies and genealogical associations to identify war memorials in their respective counties. In October all field investigations to inventory and photograph war memorials across the state will be completed.

A draft of this report will be submitted in November in both hard and electronic copy to the Tennessee Wars Commission along with digital photographs in jpeg format. This draft will also be uploaded to all County Historians for review to ensure accuracy of the findings.

By December 1, 2012 the report will be finalized following receipt of comments from the Tennessee Wars Commission and input from county historians and other contacted individuals and organizations.

This is a long awaited and needed project for our state and we are indebted to Tennessee Senator Jim Kyle for his vision and support on this important project.

## A New Era Begins as Wynnewood Reopens

Accompanied by the sounds of a welcoming string band and a host of speakers, Wynnewood State Historic Site was officially rededicated and reopened on July 4th. Undeterred by temperatures pushing above the 100 mark on the morning of the ceremony, approximately 800 people attended the reopening and the day of activities. Rep. Terri Lynn Weaver sang the National Anthem, while State Historian Walter Durham, who wrote the history of Wynnewood, gave the keynote address. The occasion marked the conclusion of an often-challenging but ultimately rewarding four year, \$4 million dollar restoration following a devastating tornado in February, 2008. THC director Patrick McIntyre reflected that "there was never any point after the storm when I did not think we would bring this site back. Our goal was to return this property to its finest condition since it was built, and I believe we have done that." "More of the site is now open to the public than ever before," explained Historic Sites Program Director Martha Akins, noting



Left to Right: Rick Hendrix, Jim Thompson, Nellie Blevins, Martha Akins, Patrick McIntyre, and Larry Wiecek at the re-dedication of Wynnewood State Historic Site, July 4, 2012

"a substantial portion of the main house formerly occupied by the on-site manager is now restored and serves as museum space." The manager's residence has been relocated to a c. 1910 bungalow across from the property that was refurbished as part of the project. In addition, the sole remaining 19th-century summer cottage, blown down in the storm and last used for storage, was reconstructed using as many original materials as possible. It now serves as an exhibit space interpreting the site's fascinating

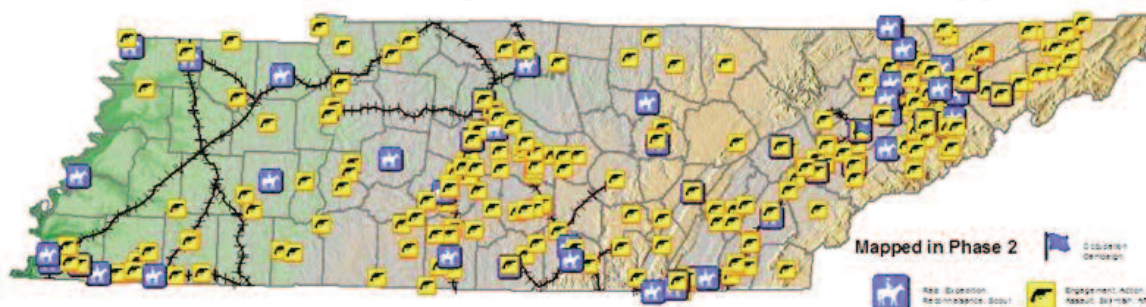
history as a mineral springs resort. Other restored buildings include the stock barn, the doctor's office, and Bledsoe Cabin #2, which will serve as the offices for the site.

A National Historic Landmark, Wynnewood is the largest extant log structure in Tennessee. It was built as a stagecoach inn in 1828 and later served through the Victorian Period as a place to spend days or weeks to take in the site's sulphur water, reputed to have healthful effects. It has been owned by the State since 1971.





# MAPPING THE CIVIL WAR IN TENNESSEE



Have you ever wondered if any Civil War fighting occurred in your community? Now, there's an app – actually a “map” – for that. My research team of historians at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) have painstakingly researched and mapped the locations of hundreds of Civil War military actions that occurred in Tennessee. Tennessee ranks second only to Virginia in the number of Civil War military events that occurred in the state. We are mapping both large and small scale combat sites using Geographic Information System (GIS) computer technology. GIS allows the locations of military actions to be displayed over other types of map layers such as aerial photography, street maps, land ownership maps, or zoning maps.

The Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) is using MTSU's Civil War GIS site data as the foundation for an online Civil War map of Tennessee – the “Tennessee Civil War GIS Project” (<http://tnmap.tn.gov/civilwar>). This interactive map lets users “zoom to” specific battlefields or engagements, search by county, or “click on” a specific site to learn more. In addition to aerial photos and street maps, the Tennessee Civil War GIS Project website has other map layers including the 1860 county boundaries, the 1865 railroad locations, the locations of historical markers, and locations of Civil War Trail markers. Because the interactive map was created using GIS technology, military engagements can be linked to battle descriptions, regimental histories, historic maps, diaries, and photographs. Tennessee's online Civil War GIS map is the first of its type in the nation. Now, anyone interested in Tennessee's Civil War history can explore a wealth of online resources from their own computer.

The idea for the Tennessee Civil War GIS Project came from the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA), a non-profit organization dedicated to saving Tennessee's Civil War battlefields (<http://www.tcwpa.org>) and the Tennessee Wars Commission ([http://www.tn.gov/environment/hist/tn\\_wars\\_com.shtml](http://www.tn.gov/environment/hist/tn_wars_com.shtml)). Funding from the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area Program (<http://www.tncivilwar.org/>), allowed the TCWPA to partner with MTSU to map the Civil War military events listed in Frederick H. Dyer's *A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion*.

First published in 1908, Dyer's *Compendium* contains details about Union Army regiments and battles that he compiled from a variety of sources including official War Department sources as well as his personal contacts. His *Compendium* includes a chronological record of the Union Army's military actions and lists 1462 military events occurring in Tennessee. Dyer classified

military events by type of conflict -- such as “skirmish,” “affair,” “engagement,” or “battle.” He also included a place name for each event. Examples include “Action at McMinnville,” “Affair near Wilsonville,” or “Skirmish at Carter's Station.”

While the locations of major battles – such as the Murfreesboro's Battle of Stones River – are well known, figuring out locations of smaller skirmishes and actions required my MTSU research team of historians Lydia Morehouse and Catherine Hawkins to become “spatial history detectives.” Working out of MTSU's Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Technology, we comb the articles in the Tennessee Civil War Source Book (<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/civilwarsourcebook/>) for clues that can help pinpoint a specific event on a map. We scour historic maps for locations of old roads, train depots, and communities and compare them to modern topographic maps. We also consult databases of historic place names and genealogical records for other bits of information that might help us map the events. We account variations in place name spellings (such as “Murfreesborough”), variations in wording (“station” can mean “depot”) and even changes in county boundaries. For example, since Moore County was not created until 1871, Civil War records about Lynchburg refer to Lincoln Co.

Thus far, the funding for this project has allowed MTSU to map approximately half of the military events in Dyer's *Compendium*. Additional funding from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (<http://www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/>) lets TSLA work with the Tennessee Office for Information Resources (OIR) to link the Civil War events with the Tennessee Civil War Source book articles and other historic records, maps, and photographs. In addition to going directly to the Tennessee Civil War GIS Project website from an online search engine, users can also access the website through the Tennessee Map Portal (<http://tnmap.state.tn.us/portal2/> - click on “GIS Applications”).

The Tennessee Civil War GIS Project is the result of partnership and cooperation between state agencies, federal programs and the academic and non-profit sectors. Even though the list of organizations can read like “alphabet soup,” the Tennessee Civil War GIS Project's interactive online map makes it possible for anyone – including teachers, students, Civil War enthusiasts, and preservationists – in any place to explore the Tennessee's Civil War history.

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# Editorial Cartoons Documenting the Midland Railroad Funding Issue in Nashville, September 1887.

By James B. Jones, Jr. • Public Historian • Tennessee Historical Commission

In September 1887 the voters of Davidson County and Nashville were asked to approve a bond issue aimed at building the Tennessee Midland Railroad. It promised competition with the existing Louisville & Nashville Railroad and its nominal competitor the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad, a regional monopoly. The ensuing battle over the subsidy was fought in the editorial columns in both the pro-Midland Nashville *Daily American*, and the advocate for the L&N, the Nashville *Banner*. A unique characteristic of this fight was the use of the contemporary cartoons, usually but not exclusively, by the *Daily American*.<sup>1</sup>

Throughout the latter part of the 19th century the Louisville and Nashville Railroad (L&N) gained a reputation as one of the most efficient and profitable railroads in the South if not in the nation. Partly this was the result of its business practices that resulted in an absolute monopoly between its two termini, which in turn allowed it to effectively engage and halter rival economic competition, the bane of monopoly. According to one author, after 1900 the L&N's tendency toward waging public, large-scale political efforts in such southern states as Alabama and Kentucky is well illustrated.<sup>2</sup> Yet at least once before 1900 the L&N carried out an effective campaign to thwart the development of a rival railroad, the Tennessee Midland, in 1887 in Nashville and Davidson County. It is not going too far to suggest that its actions served as a model defining action in similar efforts in the future. This was carried out in a political context in which the anti-railroad monopoly Farmers' Alliances were evolving into the nation's largest third political organization, the Populist Party. The positive values inherent in that shift included individualism, economic freedom and competition, a strategy to link rural, urban and black workers to obtain economic justice through political means.<sup>3</sup> The 1887 issue revolved around the question of whether or not public support should be translated into public subscription to fund competition for the L&N. The narrative has been unnoticed in Tennessee historiography.

The L&N had gained its monopoly stature by the close of the 1860s. Its initial success was partly a matter of gaining public support for the road before the Civil War. It ran along what was essentially a north to south axis. The Midland, on the other hand, had not one mile of track laid by 1887, although it had completed its survey of what was basically an east west route. It was breaking new ground, although the idea of such railroad had been discussed for decades before the outbreak of war. The construction relied upon public support. The actual building of the road represented



In this, the first of many cartoons published in the Nashville *Daily American* in September 1887, it is announced on the 6<sup>th</sup> that the fight for a public railroad subsidy has begun. The Midland, not yet a railroad but merely a proposal, sought public funding for its construction, which was opposed by the monopoly L&N railroad. Here, a heroic St. George figure clad in medieval armor, prepares to fight the vicious, stiletto-toothed L&N dragon that holds a nearly unconscious damsel, representing "Lady Nashville," dressed in classical Grecian costume and vaguely reminiscent of the Statue of Liberty, in its sharp, scaly clutches. The plumed knight holds a sword labeled "competition" and a shield with the motto "Vox Pop." Third Vice-President of the L&N and editor of the opposition newspaper, the Nashville *Banner*, Edward B. Stahlman, goads the L&N dragon, symbolizing monopoly, on to combat with the knight representative of free market competition. Nashville is visibly distressed by the L&N monopoly. The dragon's crest is characterized by a section of railroad ties and steel rails. The plump Stahlman's top hat is typical of the attire worn by cartoon characterizations of millionaire monopolists of the day. This cartoon, like most of those that followed up to the vote on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, appeared on the first page of the *American*. It would have been difficult not to discern the cartoon's meaning. It was the nineteenth-century's equivalent to late twentieth and early twenty-first century "negative advertising." The identity of the cartoonist (or cartoonists) is unknown.

a dangerous threat to the L&N – and to a lesser extent the Nashville and Chattanooga (N&C) – and could not be allowed to proceed. Moreover, the actual fight for public subscription took on clear tones of moneyed power versus the common man. The effort in Davidson County and Nashville occurred in the context of the emergence of Populism from its Farmers' Alliances antecedents, although the as a political movement it had not surface in Tennessee until 1887.<sup>4</sup> In this aspect it represented an early manifestation of the Populist strategy to link rural with urban with black workers to obtain economic justice through the political means. Biracial political rallies, ethnic block voting during the first phases of the Jim Crow era are at odds with

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<sup>1</sup> This subject was presented in greater detail in a paper delivered under the title "The Midland Railroad Subsidy Struggle of September 1887," at the April 2007 meeting of the Kentucky-Tennessee American Studies Association at Pleasant Hill Shaker Village, Kentucky. It was also published under the title "Visual Documentation Relating to the Midland Railroad Subsidy Issue in Nashville, September 1887," in Kentucky-Tennessee American Studies Association's Border States, Vol. 17, 2009. See also: "Monopoly's Triumph Over Free Market Capitalism and Cartoons. The Midland Railroad Subscription Referendum of September 1887," Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Vol. 56, Winter 2007, Number 4. Ms. Karina McDaniel, photographer at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville, digitally prepared these images.

<sup>2</sup> William G. Thomas, *Lawyering for the Railroads: Business, Law, and Power in the New South*, (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State Press, 1999), pp. 108, 181-183, 185-186. James T. Moore, "Agrarianism and Populism in Tennessee, 1880-1915: An Interpretive Overview," Tennessee Historical Quarterly 42, no. 1 (1983), 76-94. The L&N records held at the Louisville University Archives, do not reflect the 1887 controversy in Nashville.

<sup>3</sup> Connie L. Lester, "John H. McDowell, 1844-post 1911," "Agricultural Wheel;" "Colored Agricultural Wheel," Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture, <http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net>; and, James B. Jones, Jr., "General' John Hugh ('Jehazy') McDowell: A Brief Biography of a Confederate Veteran and Political Maverick (1844-1927)," The Courier, October 1998.

<sup>4</sup> James T. Moore, "Agrarianism and Populism in Tennessee, 1886-1896: An Interpretive Overview," THQ 42, no. 1 (1983) p. 80.





## Editorial Cartoons...continued

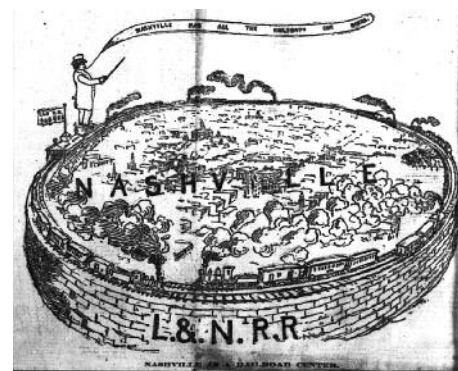
interpretations of the beginnings of segregationist policies.<sup>5</sup> The effort likewise revealed a Populist tendency toward xenophobia. Pinkerton detectives, corrupt electoral practices, and bribery were revealed by the L&N as weapons to maintain its monopoly and defeat the subscription. This was ironic in that the L&N's early success was in part a result of public support. For example Louisville and the government of Warren County twice passed a referendum to purchase stock in the early history of the L&N.<sup>6</sup> A hostile takeover in 1880 allowed the L&N a majority interest in Nashville Chattanooga & St. Louis stock, and the two operated virtually as separate entities, although always in each other's interest.

In August, 1887, after nearly two years of effort, the Tennessee Midland Railroad Company had completed its survey for a route from Memphis to Bristol, Tennessee, with grandiose plans to stretch all the way to the Atlantic Ocean at Norfolk, Virginia. The route began in Memphis, running to Somerville in Fayette County, to Jackson in Madison County, to Lexington in Henderson County, to Perryville in Decatur County, across the Tennessee River to Linden in Perry County, to Centreville in Hickman County, thence through the western part of Williamson to Nashville in Davidson County, thence through the northern part of Rutherford, along the Stones River to Woodbury in Cannon County, thence to Rock Island in Warren County, thence along the waters of Caney Fork, near the county line between White and Van Buren Counties to the head waters of Obed River in Cumberland County, then down the Obed River and Emory river, through Emory Gap to the East Tennessee Valley, and then through Anderson, Union and Hancock Counties up the valley of the Clinch to the point where the Virginia State line crosses the Clinch River.<sup>7</sup>

The fight began after backers of the Midland project gained approval to hold a referendum that would put the matter of public subscription to the voters. The *American*, a solidly Democratic party paper in favor of the project, and the Nashville *Banner*,

substantially Republican in orientation and against the Midland project. It was a classic conflict between economic concentration and the ideal of competition. The *Banner's* editor, Edward B. Stahlman, was coincidentally a Third Vice-President of the L&N, a fact that wasn't wasted upon the editors of the *American*. Yet the *American* could not throw the first stone in-as-much as its leading officer, A. S. Colyar, was a Vice President of Tennessee Iron and Coal company, ironically the subject of two *Banner* cartoons in 1885<sup>8</sup> against that company's practice of leasing convicts to work in the coal mines.

The *American* utilized editorials and cartoon art, beer and political rallies in its campaign to persuade voters to approve the referendum. It was not shy in appealing to proto-Populist xenophobia and emasculating threats the monopoly symbolized to voters' manhood. The *Banner* likewise staged rallies, while L&N company officers made threats of joblessness to L&N workers if they dared vote for the Midland subsidy. Resorting to bribery was not unknown either. More conventionally editorials castigating the project as a charade dominated its pages. Neither did the L&N hesitate to recruit voters from along its line and charter crews of Pinkerton detectives to spy on and intimidate workers. Both sides courted the African-American vote which was robust in its appearance in the initial days of Jim Crow. It is not difficult to deduce how the battle went, but it is significant that it permanently quashed the Midland project. Monopoly triumphed over the ideal of competition. Perhaps more important, however, are the visual documents generated by the controversy, part of what can legitimately be called one of the first, if not the first, nineteenth-century visual media campaigns in Tennessee political and economic history. The following do not represent the full number of these cartoons, but a sampling that is captivating in its focus and iconic imagery, plus entertaining as political art. They are visual documents worthy of further research and study.



(RIGHT) The reality of the L&N monopoly's strong impounding of state government (symbolized by the capitol), economy, and indeed the entire city of Nashville is represented in this cartoon appearing in the Nashville *American* of September 8, 1887. A medieval theme is again utilized, that of a walled city, in which L&N trains pass in order along the fortress's ramparts as sentries, protecting the city from competition. The walled city has no facility for entrance or egress. The caption reads "Nashville As A Railroad Center." The commanding top-hatted Stahlman is seen in the distance, standing just outside the wall, disciplinary rod in hand, declaring, "Nashville has all the railroads she needs." A flag on the L&N station (just left and below Stahlman) has as its device dollar signs underneath the letters L&N.



(LEFT) The cartoon in the *American* for September 9, 1887, illustrated a concerted attack upon the sequestered L&N bastion. It was entitled "Monopoly Squirms." In the foreground leading the assault are trains from the "Tennessee Midland RR" approaching the city atop railroad trestles. Underneath the trestles are other Midland trains, leaving via the arched egress, labeled the "Midland Station" penetrating the stout L&N wall. Midland railroad cars are labeled "Low Rates" and "Coal-Better Prices," indicating the desired effect of competition. The L&N wall is labeled "High Rates," "No Competition." L&N trains symbolically continue their now largely impotent anti-competition patrol atop the ramparts while a viciously screaming arrowhead-tipped-tongue "monopoly" dragon, an image first introduced on the 6th, defends the city. A "vote bomb," reminiscent of Haymarket affair a year earlier, soars hissing through the air at the dragon symbolizing the explosive power of the franchise against monopoly.

\* Joseph H. Cartwright, *The Triumph of Jim Crow: Tennessee Race Relations in the 1880s*, (Knoxville: 1976), pp. 151-260. The example of robust black voter participation in this 1887 referendum seems contrary to Cartwright's well-established arguments. [Hereinafter: Cartwright, *Triumph*.]

\* Kincaid A. Herr, *The Louisville & Nashville Railroad: 1850-1940; 1941-1959*, (Louisville, 1959), 4-5, 8.

<sup>7</sup> Nashville Daily *American*, August 11, 18, 1887. [Hereinafter: DA]

<sup>8</sup> See for example Nashville *Banner*, March 18, 1885.





## Editorial Cartoons...continued

(BELOW) The proto-Rube Goldberg image in the *American* cartoon of September 10, 1887, was designed to illustrate the manner in which the L&N worked to corrupt the vote on the Midland subscription ballot. To the left, on a railroad trestle, is an L&N train literally dumping large amounts of money into a funnel that reaches, to no one's surprise, the office of Edward B. Stahlman, Third Vice President of the L&N. The cash is deposited in large barrels from which Stahlman ladles generous portions and pours it into yet another funnel into the pockets of a wily speaker standing atop a beer barrel. The speaker is addressing a largely African-American audience. L&N cash is thus being employed behind the scenes to affect the black vote on the Midland issue. The clever slogans "Behind the Scenes" and "Loquence & Nterprise," reinforce the symbolic imagery of the cartoon's message.



(ABOVE) The *American* cartoon of September 13, 1887, presented another symbolic reptilian representation for the L&N monopoly, that of a crocodile. In fact, this particular symbol for the L&N was utilized often in the remaining nine days of the subsidy campaign. In the cartoon, captioned "The Fable of the Weeping Crocodile" a "Large and Nergetic" crocodile converses with an "Unsophisticated Citizen." The gist of the conversation reveals that a firm in Holland controlled the L&N, and consequently the "Holland Crocodile" was the new symbol for the L&N monopoly. The beast, of course, cries crocodile tears while unsuccessfully attempting to convince the "Unsophisticated citizen" to vote against the Midland subscription. The "Holland Crocodile" is an emblematic locomotive, pulling a long tail of L&N boxcars. Symbolic appeals to American xenophobia are clear.



(ABOVE) Competition meant the ruin of the L&N's grip on the city of Nashville, if the symbolism of this *American* cartoon of September 11, 1887 plus the caption "What Competing Railroads Will Do For Nashville" are interpreted correctly. The destruction of the L&N's "great wall" of Nashville is represented by the devastation of the barrier, its stone blocks strewn about with abandon and railroad tracks ripped asunder. The city is compensated by the introduction of the Midland railroad. The scene is reminiscent of the destruction of Atlanta, Georgia, in 1864. The cartoon claims Nashville supported a population of 200,000, all of whom were now set free from the demon monopoly. The banner over the L&N depot, seen to the upper left, is flying from a leaning flagstaff, as compared to the robust symbol of the healthy Midland flagpole. The Midland Railroad Station symbolizes the hearty freedom and victory over the L&N with six track lines emanating from its impressive Romanesque revival depot, an architectural symbol of imposing strength and solidarity.



(ABOVE) The "monopoly" anaconda wraps itself in a death grip around the symbol for economic freedom, the classically clad iconic "Lady Nashville." The symbolism of the similarity to the Statue of Liberty is evident. At her side is a prophylactic shield, labeled "Progress" which, in her present circumstance, is no longer of any value to her. The black serpent, "Monopoly" opens its expansive fang-contoured mouth while flicking its tongue, about to strike and keep "Nashville In The Toils." Yet help arrives in the nick of time in the form of a stalwart ax-wielding yeoman farmer, whose belt is labeled "competition." He will dispatch the serpent and symbolically rescue progress from monopoly. The extended caption of this September 15, 1887 *American* cartoon reinforces the visual message that "competing lines-is all she needs to rise like a Queen among her sister cities....rise like freemen, and teach this foreign corporation that you dare stand like men in defense of your rights." Such symbolic imagery predated by only a few years the populist fight against monopoly.





## Editorial Cartoons...continued

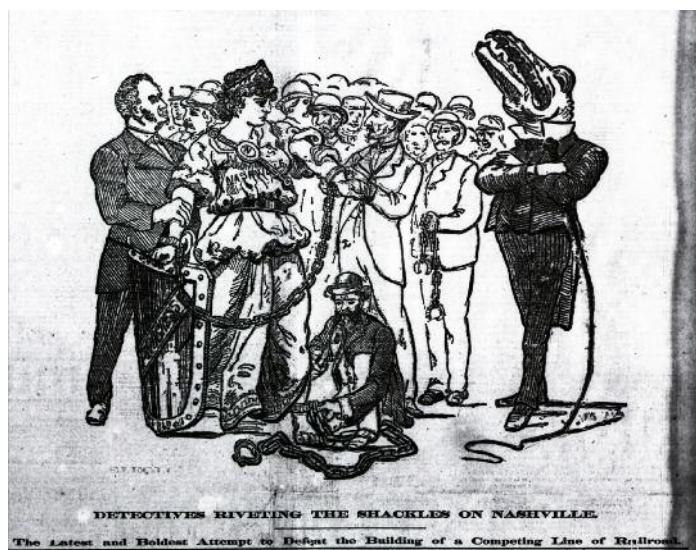


(ABOVE) The immense monster crocodile, with a collar designated "Holland Crocodile" appeared in a naturally prone position in the *American's* cartoon of September 16, 1887. Citizens ranging in occupation from urban merchants to farmers, carpenters and industrial workers bring sustenance in the form of grain and money to the wide mouthed leering crocodile, whose tail, like that of the first appearance of the reptile on the 13<sup>th</sup>, is a train of L&N box cars stretching phantasmagorically into a phantasmagorically pastoral landscape. The larger caption indicates, with increasing alarm designated by an increasing number of exclamation points, that the monster monopoly would consume all of Davidson County's and Nashville's wealth. The crocodile is gratuitously labeled "No Competition Allowed." The image also hints at the symbolic possibility that the Holland Crocodile will even consume the Nashvillians forced to feed it – such were the dangers of monopoly.

(BELOW) The *American* full-front-page cartoon of September 18, 1887 was a partial salvage of the illustration of the 16<sup>th</sup>. An even larger Holland Crocodile consortium was symbolically responsible for an immense tornado funneling horses, sheep, mules, swine, cattle, geese, goats and grain into the mouth of the "L.&N.R.R." A sign in the background identifies "Middle Tennessee Farms Without Rail Road Commission," from whence the tornado emanates. A small figure to the left, an apparent urban dweller, holds on to a torn tree trunk and exclaims "It's about to get me too." The giant monopoly was symbolically able to harness the forces of nature to gluttonously feed itself with the livelihood of hapless farmers.



(ABOVE) During the campaign it was reported that Edward B. Stahlman had visited L&N shops to threaten workers with discharge should they vote for the Midland subscription. In the September 17, 1887 number of the *American*, a now surrealistically metamorphosed and hideous Holland Company whip-cracking crocodile is symbolically portrayed holding dismissal notices over the ballot box to coerce workers' votes. They laugh, demonstrating that their manhood and honesty is validated as they vote defiantly against their employer. "A Delectable Spectacle" read the caption. The reader is reminded by apparent graffiti in the background of the image that "This Is A Free Country." While the mustachioed workmen recognized the results of their labor belonged to the Holland Crocodile, their "manhood" was their own. One defiantly holds a ballot marked "For the Midland." They could not be intimidated and approved of competition, not monopoly. The cartoon symbolized an anticipated growing power and political awareness of the working class in Nashville.



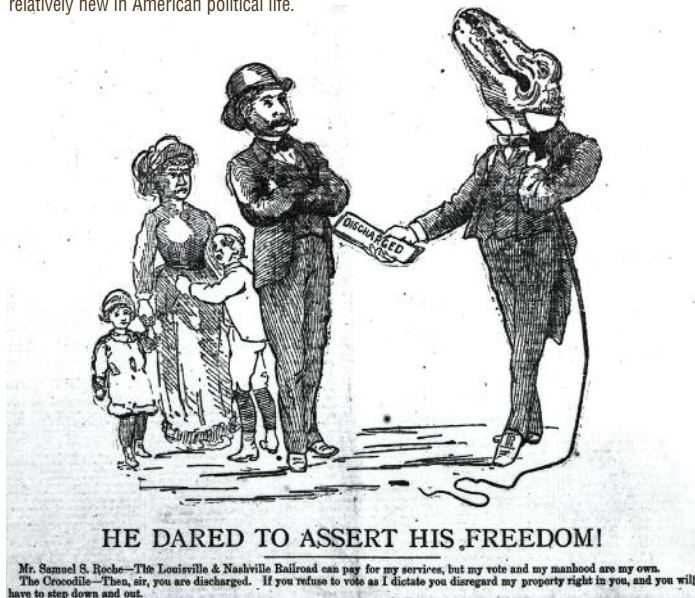
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## Editorial Cartoons...continued

(BELOW) While there were smaller and less dramatic cartoons published in the back pages of the *American* of the 21<sup>st</sup>, the eve of the Midland subscription vote, the front-page illustration carried the bold caption "He Dared To Assert His Freedom." The perfectly dressed and whip brandishing Holland-Crocodile, symbol of the L&N, is pictured handing an employment discharge notice to Samuel S. Roche. A fifteen year veteran of the L&N he had been terminated because he voiced his opinion, while off the job, that he favored competition and therefore the passage of the Midland subscription. This the L&N would not tolerate having adamantly suggested that all its employees toe the line and vote as the company dictated – otherwise the corporation would force the employee "to step down and out." Roche, with folded arms takes a bold, manly stand, refusing to take the discharge papers, while his dismayed and frowning spouse comforts the couple's frightened children. Roche was the victim of latter day version of "political correctness." The entire cartoon symbolized the new power of the corporation to manipulate freedom of speech and the franchise to favor its own ends, a phenomenon then relatively new in American political life.

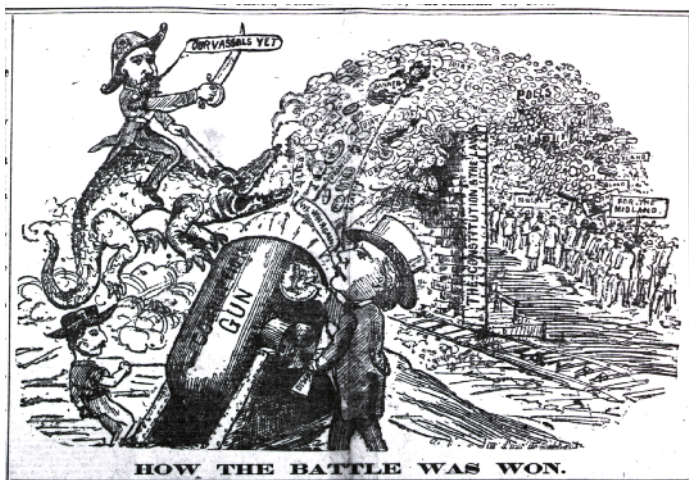


(ABOVE) On Election Day, September 22nd two *American* cartoons deserve attention. The first, captioned "Hard At Work" was meant to convince the average voter that the L&N would do to any erring employees what it did to Samuel Roche. Pictured at a table, visible to the viewer, are the now wholly devolved primal Holland Crocodile and "Me Too" Edward B. Stahlman. With his back to the viewer is Milton H. Smith, First Vice President of the L&N, identified by the name on the back of his chair. Both men take orders from their reptilian chief and obediently write discharge notices to all the company's employees known to have expressed their desire to vote for the Midland subscription. A railroad detective-spy, most likely T. G. Hewlett, is seen scurrying to their table with a list of disloyal employees. Workers, symbolized by brawny blacksmiths pounding their hammers L&N shops are seen in the background. No doubt their names were on the list being hastened to the executives' desk. The architectural symbolism of the Romanesque arches in the background suggest luxury and the atmosphere if not attitude associated with the paternalistic Latin American plantation



The second cartoon to appear in the *American* on the 22nd indicates that no matter what the L&N's economic power might be, it was not enough to overcome the American Constitution and the law. In the drawing, captioned "The Fate of the Holland Troops-A Barrier They Can't Fire Over" is seen Edward B. Stahlman, T. G. Hewlett, and Milton H. Smith. "General Smith," sits astride a rearing Holland Crocodile with a sword in hand. Stahlman makes the hesitant allusion to the 1885 defeat the legislature's establishment of a Tennessee Railroad Commission, saying "This Won Before, I Am Not So Sure This Time." T. G. Hewlett unquestioningly pulls the lanyard of the massive mortar-like "corruption gun" at Smith's command "Fire!" The cannon fires an immense charge of money, and a cur dog representing the *Banner*, at voters marching to the polls. The symbolic wall of "The Law and Constitution," however, shields the great throng of determined pro-Midland voters from the heavy-handed "military and industrial complex" assaults of the L&N.

Despite the hullabaloo raised by the cartoons in the *American*, the Midland subsidy vote was lost by the slim margin of 2 per cent. The cartoon of the 23rd, was an adaptive reuse of the previous day's caricature with a new caption, "How The Battle Was Won." In it the much-revered wall of the constitution and law proved no barrier to the issue of the corruption gun and its attendants. Still astride the bucking crocodile, "General" Milton H. Smith raises his sword and triumphantly exclaims "Our Vassals Yet!" Top-hatted Edward Stahlman holds a discharge notice and an emblematic, enlarged golden double eagle saying "We Win Again." Hewlett's part in the defeat is characterized by a better aim as he continues his artillery responsibilities, firing a hurricane of money, the dog *Banner* and a variety of detritus of ammunition at erstwhile Midland voters. The corporation had defeated the fearful competition of the Midland subscription and maintained control over Nashville by means of its monopoly, as the cartoon symbolized, by the use of newspaper editorials, tricks, money and lies.



cont. next page





## Editorial Cartoons...continued



(LEFT) The last cartoon on the subject of the Midland subsidy appeared in the *American* on September 25, 1887. In it, a sandaled Miss Nashville, yet again symbolized as a caricature of the Statue of Liberty, holds the odiferous "Holland Crocodile" at arms length, unrolling a scroll asking if the gateway of prosperity had been closed by the L&N "And This Monster Keep the Key?" The sneering cartel L&N crocodile, keeping the key to prosperity tucked tightly in its monopoly belt, displays its own scroll with the tauntingly direct exclamation "Well, what are you going to do about it?" The caption admonished "Something For Good Citizens To Think About." As it turned out, nothing was or could be done. Nashville and the nation at large were entering a new economic era and a new phase of social development.<sup>1</sup> Concentration now held sway over economic and political freedom. There was no turning back, symbolically or otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> Nashville Daily American, September 17, 1887; Robert H. Wiebe, *The Search for Order, 1877-1920*, American Century Series, ed. David Donald (NY: 1967), pp. 1-2, 18-19, 23, 47-49, 52-53, 186.



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The Tennessee Historical Commission is accepting nominations for its Certificate of Merit Awards to honor individuals or groups that have worked to preserve Tennessee's cultural heritage during 2012. The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2012.

"Although much of our work at the Tennessee Historical Commission focuses on efforts to preserve and to restore historic structures, we also want to recognize people for the work they do in the areas of publication, commemoration, and education to safeguard our history and heritage," said Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission.

The awards program recognizes individuals or groups throughout the state who have worked to conserve or highlight Tennessee's cultural heritage during the past year. The awards recognize historic preservation projects



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