

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ September 2012



***In This Issue:
Battle of Nashville Driving Tour,
TPT-Preservation Station Partnership,
Shelby Park's Centennial Celebration,
and more!***

MHC UPDATE

Hot Off the Press! New Battle of Nashville Driving Tour Brochure

Stop by our office to get a head start on our latest Civil War-themed tour, ***Battle of Nashville: A Driving Tour of the 1864 Battlefield***. Sunnyside in Sevier Park happens to be site number 18 on this updated version of the popular brochure, which was first printed as a driving tour in 2002. Highlighting a variety of Civil War sites located in downtown Nashville and beyond the urban core, including battle sites, makeshift hospitals and cemeteries, the driving tour is a great companion to our recently released Civil War walking tour brochure, ***Nashville: The Occupied City, A Walking Tour of Civil War Nashville***. Have you seen the walking tour markers downtown? Be sure to pick up a copy of the brochure to follow along!

New! "Know Nashville" Classes Offered by County Historian

September 13, 20, 27, October 4—10:30 to 11:45 a.m.

Fort Negley Visitors Center

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.

Are you interested in learning more about Nashville, the place we call "Home" and known to the rest of the world by a variety of names? This fall Dr. Carole Bucy, Davidson County Historian, will offer a series of 4 classes for the public on Nashville history. Beginning on September 13 and continuing on Thursdays through October 4, from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., the classes will be held in the auditorium of the Fort Negley Visitors Center.

In this series, Nashville's rich history will be presented and discussed topically. The first class, "Rock City: How the Land Shaped Nashville's History," will explore the geography of Davidson County & middle Tennessee, and its relationship to history. Beginning with the Native Americans who came into the region as nomadic hunters of the Ice Age, Dr. Bucy will discuss Indian uses of the land as well as that of the Europeans who followed in the late 18th century. This class will consider the land's impact on settlement and commerce as well as its changing uses today.

"The Buckle of the Bible Belt" will investigate Nashville's religious heritage. Beginning with the Scots-Irish settlers, this class will explore the religious diversity that developed here in the early days of statehood and the roots of denominations that spread across

the nation from middle Tennessee.

Nashville's rich educational history will be the topic of Class 3, "The Athens of the South." In this class, Dr. Bucy will examine the earliest settlers' commitment to education by the early establishment of schools. This historical overview of education will include the establishment of a public school system as well as the history of our colleges and private schools.

This series will conclude on October 4 with a discussion of Nashville during times of war, "From Plowshares into Swords." Beginning with Andrew Jackson's rise to national prominence in the War of 1812, this class will discuss Nashville's role in every war in which the United States has participated and the impact of war on our home front.

Space in these classes is limited and pre-registration is required. The fee for this series will be \$25.00, payable to the *MHC Foundation*. To register, you may mail or drop off your check, along with your name and phone/email contact information:

MHC/Know Nashville
Sunnyside in Sevier Park
3000 Granny White Pike
Nashville, TN 37204

Fall Series

1. September 13 - Rock City: How the Land Shaped Nashville's History
2. September 20 - The Buckle of the Bible Belt
3. September 27 - The Athens of the South
4. October 4 - Turning Plowshares into Swords: Nashville in Time of War

For more information, call the Historical Commission (862-7970) or email Historian@nashville.gov.

IN THE NEWS

Tennessee Preservation Trust - Preservation Station Partnership

Preservation Station and Tennessee Preservation Trust (TPT) are venturing into a new partnership that will provide a much needed revenue stream to TPT. Preservation Station, located on 8th Avenue South in Nashville, is an architectural salvage firm owned by Aaron Hetrick and Julia Petrova. In existence since 2003, Preservation Station has come to be known as a source for antique lighting and unusual architectural elements for designers, builders, and homeowners. Preservation Station salvages architectural elements that might otherwise be forever lost. They obtain the items either through removal from a building about to be demolished (property owner grants permission) or an owner of a building wishes to replace a feature they no longer want. In both cases, Preservation Station purchases the items and then sells them in the retail store.

Occasionally, a property owner wishes to donate an item. As a for-profit organization,

Preservation Station cannot offer a charitable contribution letter and has had to decline these donations. The Tennessee Preservation Trust's partnership will allow Preservation Station to accept such donations. As the non-profit, Preservation Station can accept these charitable donations on behalf of TPT. Tennessee Preservation Trust will produce a charitable receipt for the donor and record of the donation will be kept in the Tennessee Preservation Trust database. Tennessee Preservation Trust will turn around and sell the donated item to Preservation Station.

Process:

1. Donor brings item to Preservation Station
2. Preservation Station accepts donation (if suitable)
3. Donor fills out TPT's Charitable Receipt Form
4. Donor fills in dollar amount for donated item. Preservation Station may suggest what value they would place on the item if asked.
5. Preservation Station notifies TPT of a donation and TPT picks up copies of the receipt form.
6. Preservation Station writes a check to TPT for the amount it would have paid to purchase the donated items.
7. TPT sends the donor a charitable donation letter for their donation and thanks them for supporting Tennessee Preservation Trust.

For more information about this exciting new venture, including donation guidelines, please visit the TPT website: www.tennesseepreservationtrust.org.

NEW!! NASHVILLE: REMEMBER BUILDINGS LOST THIS YEAR? NOMINATE A THREATENED HISTORIC PROPERTY FOR THE 2012 NASHVILLE NINE

Historic Nashville, Inc., (HNI) is now accepting nominations for the **2012 Nashville Nine**, its annual list of the most endangered historic properties in Nashville and Davidson County. The Nashville Nine list promotes public awareness of endangered historic sites and encourages preservation advocacy at the grassroots level. The list includes nine historic properties nominated by the public that are threatened by demolition, neglect or development.

2012 will be the fourth year HNI has solicited nominations from the public for the Nashville Nine program. The group expects high participation in this year's nomination process, as the city has lost several important properties this year, including bungalows in 12 South, a historic neighborhood school off West End, and soon a historic block of commercial buildings in Hillsboro Village.

Past Nashville Nine properties are also in the news as the Tennessee State Prison moves one step closer to being redeveloped after very vocal public support for saving the unique historic landmark over the past year. The historic Highland Heights School in East Nashville, which houses KIPP Academy, is slated for a \$10 million renovation. And, the National Park Service is documenting the downtown French-Starr Piano building on 5th Avenue for its role in Nashville's rich music history.

"The Nashville Nine has been one of our most powerful tools for saving the historic places that makes Nashville unique," said Robbie D. Jones, HNI president. "The

program engages the public and allows us to be proactive, instead of reactive, as we attempt to put the spotlight on endangered historic places that all too often don't get attention until it's too late."

For more information, visit the HNI website. [Nominate today!](#) **The deadline for nominations is Sept. 9, 2012.**

To see a complete list of previously-listed Nashville Nine properties, please visit www.historicnashvilleinc.org/resources/nashville-9.

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

New! First Tuesday at the Archives

Tuesday, September 4—2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Government Archives

3801 Green Hills Village Drive

The "First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" for September will feature Robert DeHart. Mr. DeHart will discuss "Surviving behind the Lines, Civil War Medicine in Middle Tennessee." This event is free and open to the public.

"First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" is always the first Tuesday of the month, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please contact the Archives at 862-5880 or Ken.fieth@nashville.gov for more information.

Ongoing! Nashville City Cemetery Work Days

Interested in helping to clean up the City Cemetery? Please visit

www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org for the complete schedule of Hands On Nashville's Clean Up Days at the Nashville City Cemetery (usually the second or first Saturday of the month—9:00 to 11:00 a.m.). The next work day is September 8.

New! Belmont Mansion Hosts Free Day to Celebrate Return of an Original Painting

Sunday, September 9—1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Belmont Mansion

1900 Belmont Boulevard

If you've visited Belmont Mansion, you've seen it. But did you know you weren't looking at the original? It's a sweeping view of the mansion, its gardens and grounds as Adelia Acklen saw them around 1860 to 1861, which was when the real landscape was painted. That's right, the vibrant Belmont Mansion landscape hanging beside the doorway to the formal dining room is a replica. But the original is soon returning for a visit.

Join Belmont Mansion Sunday, Sept. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. to celebrate the return of the original Belmont Mansion landscape, on loan from Nashville's Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art. In honor of this event, admission for the day is free, made possible by Dale, Inc., and Marvin Windows and Doors, and includes art-themed tours and presentations, as well as refreshments. Guests can explore the mansion at their leisure, with docents posted in each room to answer questions, or join art expert Mancil Ezell at 1:30 p.m. or 3 p.m. for a complimentary tour focused on the stories

behind the mansion's large and eclectic art collection.

Internationally-known artist Charles Brindley will also give a presentation at 1:30 p.m. explaining the creative process involved in developing drawings and paintings of historic architecture, ancient deciduous trees and panoramic landscapes. At 3 p.m., Dr. Judy Bullington, the chair of Belmont University's art department, will discuss how the landscape painting reflects both garden and agricultural landscapes, the 19th century garden as an outdoor "museum" and space for "rational amusement," and the socio-economic status of Adelia and Joseph Acklen.

The original landscape painting will be at Belmont Mansion for a limited time. We hope you'll join us Sept. 9 to commemorate its homecoming!

About Belmont Mansion

A National Historic Site since 1971, Belmont Mansion currently operates as a house museum, maintained by the Belmont Mansion Association. Belmont Mansion is open daily for guided tours, Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, please visit www.belmontmansion.com or call 615-460-5459.

New! Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society

"Tennesseans and the War of 1812"

Saturday, September 15—1:00 p.m.

FiftyForward Knowles Center

174 Rains Avenue (across from the State Fairgrounds)

Tom Kanon holds a doctoral degree in Public History and is archivist at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Dr. Kanon is a respected authority on the War of 1812, speaking and writing extensively about the conflict on the southern frontier. With the bicentennial of the War of 1812 upon us, there is renewed focus on this "forgotten conflict." Come and learn about the War from the perspective of Tennesseans. No Charge for this meeting. Refreshments provided. For more information, visit www.mtgs.org.

New! Buchanan Log House Folk Festival

Saturday, September 15—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Buchanan Log House

2910 Elm Hill Pike

The Annual Folk Festival hosted by the Buchanan Log House Chapter, APTA, at the historic Buchanan Log House will feature many 19th-century interactive activities and demonstrations on the life and times of people who lived in the frontier period. Artisans will demonstrate quilting, weaving, spinning, country dancing, dulcimer music, basket weaving, blacksmithing, soap making, wood carving, leather works, and much more. Train Engineer Charlie will be there with his train for rides.

Several musical groups will perform during the festival, including the Nashville Old Time String Band and The Grand Old Dulcimer Club. Be sure to catch a special performance by The Cripple Creek Cloggers, who travel and perform throughout the world. Additionally, several guests in period costume will visit the Folk Festival. Mrs. Lucinda Buchanan, matriarch of the Buchanan Log House, and her Cousin Emmaline from Natchez will be accepting visitors in the parlor – stop by to visit with them.

The 19TH Alabama Civilian Corps will set up camp at the corner of Hurt Drive & Harper Place for the annual Folk Festival. Children and adults may participate in the chores done in support of the troops – prepare food, wash clothes, sew on buttons of uniforms, lean to camp, and much more. The 19TH Alabama Civilian Corps is a reenactment group, an educational corporation, based in Huntsville, AL. This group has participated in battle reenactments as far away as Missouri and Pennsylvania. Its goals are to educate and inform the general public on the life and times of the Confederate soldier and to foster a sense of pride in historical heritage.

The event (including parking) is free and open to the public. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

The Buchanan Log House Chapter, APTA, is a proud member of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities. For information, call 370-9415 or email loghouse@buchananloghouse.com. Review the web site: www.buchananloghouse.com.

Closing Soon! Curtain Call

Now through September 23, 2012

*Nashville Public Library
615 Church Street*

Take a break from the heat and stop by the Courtyard Gallery to view “Curtain Call,” an exhibit of Nashville’s Performing Arts and Entertainment history from The Special Collections of the Nashville Public Library, featuring photographs, memorabilia, and publicity of the eras.

Save these Dates!

Nashville City Cemetery Living History Tour: October 6—Learn more at www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org

Shelby Park Centennial Celebration: October 13—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will include an art installation, music, art auction, dance, food, and history display. Learn more at www.Shelby100.com.

The Metropolitan Historical Commission publishes this monthly newsletter to keep you informed on events and happenings at the MHC. If you have questions, comments, or news to pass along, please email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov, with E-NEWS in the subject line.