

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ October 2013



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MHC/MHZC UPDATE

Ending Soon! Telling Nashville's Civil War Stories

Join the Metropolitan Historical Commission and 16 area partners for the final session of the **Nashville Civil War Lecture Series**. The last lecture in the six-month series will take place on **Tuesday, October 15th from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.** Enjoy another opportunity to explore the stories of Civil War Nashville in one of the city's most unique historic sites.

October 15 – Dan Pomeroy presents “The Unionists”
Jubilee Hall, Fisk University

The lecture is free and open to the public. Parking should be available near Jubilee Hall; enter the parking lot via Jefferson Street. For more information, call the Historical Commission at 862-7970, visit [Civil War Sesquicentennial Events](#), or find us on [Facebook!](#)

The Nashville Civil War Lecture Series accompanies the recent release of an exciting new Civil War brochure. “**Nashville's Civil War Stories: Common People in an Uncommon War**” tells Nashville's Civil War story through the eyes of twelve Nashvillians who represent the many perspectives of the war and its effects on the lives of those in our city. The brochure connects these Civil War stories to 24 Civil War sites, including homes, cemeteries, churches, and schools. Along with several battlefield sites, these are the places where Nashvillians fought to survive and struggled to cope during wartime and the years of Reconstruction. Pick up your copy at any of the partner sites, including Sunnyside, or visit the [Historical Commission](#) website to download a copy.

The Nashville Civil War Lecture Series and “Nashville's Civil War Stories” are made possible by a grant from the [Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area](#). A partnership of the National Park Service, the TCWNHA is administered by the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation.

Grant partners include: Metropolitan Historical Commission • Nashville Convention and Visitor's Bureau • Davidson County Historian Carole Bucy • Metro Parks and Recreation • Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum • Belle Meade Mansion • Belmont Mansion • Land Trust for Tennessee • Trevecca Nazarene University • Lipscomb University • Fisk University • University of the South • Tennessee Historical Commission • Tennessee State Museum • Battle of Nashville Preservation Society • Nashville City Cemetery Association • Tennessee Historical Commission

New! Celebrate International Archaeology Day

Tuesday, October 22—Noon

Fort Negley Visitors Center

1100 Fort Negley Boulevard

Join the MHC and Fort Negley for October's Lunch-N-Learn, in honor of International Archaeology Day! Ben Nance, with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology, will explore Civil War-related archaeological sites across the state. Over 400 Civil War-related archaeological sites have been recorded in Tennessee, ranging from fortifications and battlefields to camp sites and cemeteries. Nance will discuss some of these sites and the technological advances that allow archaeologists and historians to better understand the importance of these sites. The MHC and Fort Negley join over 130 organizations across the country to celebrate and promote archaeology and the thrill of discovery for International Archaeology Day! Bring your lunch!

IN THE NEWS

Just Announced! 2013 Nashville Nine

Historic Nashville, Inc. recently announced the 2013 Nashville Nine. The Nashville Nine, an annual list of the city's nine most endangered historic properties, is intended to promote public awareness and encourage preservation advocacy at the grassroots level. Visit the Historic Nashville Facebook page or [Historic Nashville's website](#) for details about the selected properties.

Ongoing! NashvilleNext.Net!

Work continues on a new Nashville General Plan which will provide a vision for our city's future over the next 30 years, along with guidance for growth and development in Davidson County and much of Middle Tennessee. Called "NashvilleNext," this is an ongoing, integrated plan for Nashville's future - and information about the plan is now available on a constantly updated webpage which includes contact information, volunteer opportunities, details of the plan in progress, and video comments from some of the many community leaders who are already part of the NashvilleNext initiative. Visit www.nashvillenext.net or find Nashville Next on Facebook for the "next" big news!

Concerned about what this means for Nashville's historic resources? Read the [Historic Preservation Background Report](#) and the [Historic Preservation Fact Sheet](#), and [share your comments](#) about the future of historic preservation in our city.

NashvilleNext "Mapping our Future"

Saturday, October 12

Community members will create maps of Nashville's potential future - where we might

grow, what we might preserve, and how we'll address the opportunities and challenges of the future. The event will take place from 9 am - 2 pm at the Bridge Building on the east end of the Shelby Avenue pedestrian bridge, with each participant spending about 90 minutes viewing background materials and working on a map. Email info@nashvillenext.net or call (615) 862-NEXT for details.

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

New! 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 Saturday of the month, but subject to change}. The final work day is Saturday, October 12—9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Register through [Hands on Nashville](#).

Ending Soon! Historical Tours of Two Rivers Mansion

Wednesdays through October 2nd—1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

*Two Rivers Mansion
3130 McGavock Pike*

Each Wednesday afternoon through October 2nd, visitors will have the opportunity to tour Two Rivers Mansion. \$5 for adults, \$2 for children, free for members of the Friends of Two River Mansion. Proceeds support The Friends of Two Rivers Mansion.

New! 2013 AAHGS National Conference

"150 Sounds of Freedom"

October 10-13, 2013

The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) will hold its 34th National Genealogy Conference from October 10 – 13, 2013, at the Inn at Opryland, 2401 Music Valley Drive, 37214. Participants will have an opportunity to attend a series of workshops and programs in celebration of Music City and the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Each year family historians and genealogists from California to Florida gather to seek answers to discovering their family roots. This year's theme, "150 Sounds of Freedom" endeavors to bring together persons from diverse backgrounds, distant geographic areas, and similar interests to continue this tradition.

Conferees will have the opportunity to meet authors and guests, exchange information and ideas, and network with attendees from around the country. The conference will consist of broad choices of workshops and speakers with over 30 sessions, focusing on resources, research methods, historic events and our ancestors who have paved the way. Experienced historians and genealogists will lecture on subjects targeting the beginner, the advanced, the hobbyist, and professional researchers. Attendees may shop with vendors and exhibitors, showcasing an assortment of genealogical software, resource books, apparel, and ethnic collectibles.

Key addresses by Dr. Glenda Glover, president of Tennessee State University; Chris Haley, historian nephew of "Roots" author Alex Haley; Dr. William S. Pretzer, senior curator for history of the Smithsonian Institution's upcoming National Museum of African American History and Culture; and Ashley Bouknight, assistant curator of The Hermitage: Home of President Andrew Jackson. Various meal, one-day and full-

conference registration options available.

AAHGS is a non-profit, membership organization committed to the preservation of history, genealogy, and the culture of diverse groups of people from local, national, and international communities. The Society stresses the importance of history and genealogy by encouraging active participation in recording research and documenting personal family histories.

For additional information and to register online, visit the society's national and local websites at <http://www.aahgs.org> and <http://www.aahgsnashville.org/>, or contact conference co-chairs Chajuan Fitzgerald, info@aahgsnashville.org, or Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis, ttenplewis@aol.com.

Pre- Conference Events

(conference registration not required, tour fees may apply)

Tuesday, October 8—2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Nashville Black Heritage Tour

Tour sites include Old Fairfield Four Funeral Home, General Hospital, Mt. Ararat Cemetery, former Waldon University site, the Gem Theatre, Cameron School, Hubbard House, Seay Hubbard Chapel, Hubbard hospital, the Cumberland Museum, City Cemetery, the site of the TSU sit-in markers, Old Pearl High School, Fisk University, and Tennessee State University. Tour conducted by native Nashvillian W.J. "Bill" Daniel, who shares a wealth of history from family roots in Nashville and Brentwood that predate 1850. Tour is the kick-off pre-conference event of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society 2013 National Conference. \$20. Tour bus departs from The Inn at Opryland.

Tuesday, October 8—6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Grand Ole Opry and pre-event performance by student group

Special group attendance at the weekly concert that has presented the biggest stars of country music since 1925. So far, you can expect a performance from Chris Young, Clint Black, Charlie Daniels band, Tyler Farr, and possibly more to be added. The pre-event student performance will be on the Opry Plaza at 6:20 p.m. \$32. Shuttle to Grand Ole Opry departs from The Inn at Opryland.

Wednesday, October 9—9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tour of The Hermitage: Home of President Andrew Jackson

Tour includes a welcome address by The Hermitage President & CEO Howard J. Kittell and the latest findings about the lives of Jackson's more than 150 slaves. \$50, including lunch at The Hermitage House Smorgasbord. Optional \$11 for special tour by wagon. Tour bus departs from The Inn at Opryland.

Wednesday, October 9—1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Guided research at the Tennessee State Library and Archives and the main branch of the Nashville Public Library

Join historians and genealogists from across the country for family and other historical research in downtown Nashville. A primer on research resources conducted at each location. FREE and open to the public to meet and join group at TSLA, 430 7th Ave. N., and NPL, 615 Church Street.

Thursday, October 10—8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wessyngton Plantation Tour

Rare private tour of America's largest antebellum tobacco plantation, which is not generally open to the public. Tour includes one of the nation's largest slave burial grounds. Lives of Wessyngton slaves are stimulatingly detailed for generations by tour conductor and "The Washingtons of Wessyngton" author John F. Baker, Jr. FREE and open to the public. \$20 for tour bus departing from The Inn at Opryland. For more information, visit www.wessyngton.com and watch www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhV-Ji0YHXI&feature=youtu.be.

Friday, October 11—6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Free to Read Bookfair

An array of books and authors related to African-American history and genealogy. The Atrium of The Inn at Opryland, 2401 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. FREE and open to the public.

For additional event and registration information, please contact AAHGS Nashville at 1-866-202-6423 or info@aaahgsnashville.org and see website at www.aaahgsnashville.org.

New! Nashville Trail of Tears Memorial Ceremony

Observing The 175th Anniversary Of The Trail Of Tears

Sunday, October 27--Noon

Cumberland River Greenway Amphitheatre, Nashville, Tennessee

Please join the Native History Association and the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the Trail of Tears on Sunday, October 27, 2013, from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.

Over 11,000 Cherokee people walked the Trail of Tears through the city of Nashville during the fall of 1838 on their forced immigration to Oklahoma. A memorial ceremony in observance of their passage 175 years ago will be held at the Cumberland River Greenway Amphitheatre located on the Gay Street Connector in downtown Nashville, near the place where the Cherokee crossed the Cumberland River.

Scheduled speakers are local journalist, historian, and educator Albert Bender, and Vicky Garland, board member of the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association.

The amphitheater is located on the Gay Street Connector between Church Street and Woodland Street, just south of the Woodland Street Bridge. It can be accessed on foot from the Gay Street Connector or 1st Avenue North. Metered parking is available along the Gay Street Connector, and at various pay lots and garages in the downtown Nashville area.

Visit the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association web site at www.tntota.org and the Native History Association web site at www.nativehistoryassociation.org.

Ongoing! Raise the Roof: An Exhibit About Buildings

September 14, 2013 to February 16, 2014

Adventure Science Center

800 Fort Negley Blvd.

Do you have a budding historic preservationist or architect in the family? Make sure to check out this great exhibit at the Adventure Science Center, where kids of all ages can learn about building construction, the cultural influences of building design, and yes, even building demolition.

If walls could talk, what sorts of secrets, surprises, or extraordinary engineering feats would they reveal? Discover the story behind the structures humans spend 90 percent of their lives within. The *Raise the Roof* exhibit will feature buildings and building science from around the world, including a "Collapsible Dome." Other components will include a table top activity where visitors can examine and work with a variety of hand-crafted wooden joints. For more information, visit the [Adventure Science Center website](#).

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.

Metropolitan Historical Commission

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Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County • Karl F. Dean, Mayor