

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ June 2014



***In This Issue:
MHZC Seeks Your Input,
Created Equal: America's Struggle for Civil Rights,
Encyclopedia of Nashville and Davidson County,
2014 Preservation Awards,
and more...***

What's New with the MHC and MHZC?

New! The Historic Zoning Commission Seeks Your Input

The MHZC is hosting a series of charettes to gain public input on design issues. The increase in new development has been positive for the city but it can place stress on our historic neighborhoods. The charettes, also known as brainstorming sessions, will explore those challenges and provide an opportunity for attendees to discuss potential design solutions.

On June 9, the series will conclude with New Construction--Infill. During this charette, MHZC staff will present examples of typical applications and explain how the Commission applies the design guidelines to these cases. MHZC staff will also present examples from other communities to show how they have addressed similar issues. Participants will explore how the needs and desires of property owners can be met in a manner that meets the design guidelines

SCHEDULE:

Topic: New Construction—Infill

Date: Monday, June 9

Location: Sonny West Conference Center, 700 Second Avenue South

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Please direct questions to Robin Zeigler, robin.zeigler@nashville.gov or 615-862-7970.

New! Created Equal – Film Screening and Discussion Series

“The Abolitionists”

Saturday, June 21 through Friday, June 27

Various dates and times

Fort Negley Visitors Center and Park

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.

The Metropolitan Historical Commission in partnership with the Fort Negley Visitors'

Center is delighted to be one of the recipients of a two-year grant program called *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle*.

[Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle](#) is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities that uses the power of documentary films to encourage community discussion of America's civil rights history. NEH has partnered with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to develop programmatic and support materials for the sites.

The MHC & Fort Negley are part of the 473 institutions across the country awarded a set of four films chronicling the history of the civil rights movement. The powerful documentaries, *The Abolitionists*, *Slavery by Another Name*, *Freedom Riders*, and *The Loving Story*, include dramatic scenes of incidents in the 150-year effort to achieve equal rights for all. Each of the films was produced with NEH support, and each tells remarkable stories of individuals who challenged the social and legal status quo of deeply rooted institutions, from slavery to segregation. *Created Equal* programs bring communities together to revisit our shared history and help bridge deep racial and cultural divides in American civic life.

The first film, "The Abolitionists," brings to life the struggles of men and women who worked to bring an end to slavery in the 1830s and 1840s, examining the lives of William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Angelina Grimke, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and John Brown. The film traces the evolution of the anti-slavery movement, from the belief that moral persuasion would convince the American public that slavery was evil, to their shift to political and even military action, culminating with the Emancipation Proclamation and the ratification of the 13th Amendment. The film's release in 2013 marked the 150th anniversary year of the Emancipation Proclamation.

"The Abolitionists" will be screened at the Fort Negley Visitors Center on June 21 and 24-26, and a community discussion will take place on Friday, June 27 at 10:00 a.m. Drs. Bobby Lovett and Sybil Bennett will lead the discussion.

Visit our website and Facebook page for [screening and discussion dates and times!](#)

New! Love Research, Writing, and Nashville History? If so, Nashville Needs YOU!

The Metropolitan Historical Commission and Davidson County Historian, Dr. Carole Bucy, are teaming up with other Metro departments including the Mayor's Office, Information Technology Services, Metro Government Archives, and the Nashville Public Library to embark upon a comprehensive on-line ***Encyclopedia of Nashville and Davidson County***. We need your help! If you are interested in researching and writing one or more articles of approximately 500 words pertaining to people, places, or events significant in Nashville history, sign up to become a writer! Check out <http://writers.nashville.gov> for more information and the "Guidelines for Writers" -- then email encyclopedia@nashville.gov to sign up!

2014 PRESERVATION AWARDS

New! 2014 Preservation Awards

The Metropolitan Historical Commission celebrated its 39th Annual Preservation

Awards program on May 28, 2014 at the Nashville Public Library. Seven properties received awards and four received honorable mentions. Mayor Karl Dean assisted with presenting awards in the categories of Residential, Industrial and Engineering, Commercial, and Infill architecture. After the awards presentation, The Arts Company, Historic Nashville, Inc., and the Historical Commission hosted a reception honoring all participants.

Judges for the 2014 Preservation Awards were Susan A. Besser, ASID, LEED AP, Principal Designer with Franklin Preservation Associates, and Jaime Destefano, Senior Architectural Historian with History, Incorporated.

Along with celebrating exceptional preservation projects, the Metropolitan Historical Commission presented two special awards during the ceremony. The Historical Commission presented the Achievement Award to Paul Clements for his dedication to the research and documentation of Middle Tennessee's settlement and architectural history. The Commission honored the Native History Association with its Commissioners' Award for outstanding efforts to document, protect, and promote the understanding and appreciation of Native American history and historic sites in Middle Tennessee.

The Preservation Awards program is held annually to celebrate National Preservation Month, which is observed nationally each year in May. The theme for 2014 was "New Age of Preservation: Embark, Inspire, Engage." Sponsored annually by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the purpose of Preservation Month is to celebrate the country's diverse and irreplaceable heritage.

For a list and photo gallery of winning properties, please visit [Preservation Awards](#). To request copies of photos from the event, email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov.

To learn more about the awards program, please visit [Preservation Awards](#) or email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov. Missed this year's deadline? We're already accepting nominations for the 2015 Preservation Awards program. Email Scarlett Miles to request the 2015 nomination form.



IN THE NEWS

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.

AROUND TOWN

New! History of the Cumberland Lecture Series

Selected Thursdays at Noon

The River Center, Cumberland River Compact

The Bridge Building

2 Victory Avenue, Suite 300

Join the Cumberland River Compact and the Tennessee Historical Society at the River Center for the monthly educational series, "[History of the Cumberland.](#)" The series—sponsored by the Cumberland River Compact and the Tennessee Historical Society—will feature some of the Cumberland River Basin's preeminent historians and storytellers, who will explore the rich past of the Cumberland. All lectures are free, but for \$8.00 they'll feed you lunch. You won't want to miss it!

Thursday, June 5—Noon

PAUL CLEMENTS: The Battle of the Bluff—A Turning Point of the Southern Frontier

Tennessee Historian Paul Clements will cap off the early history of the Cumberland with a discussion of the Battle of the Bluff. The Battle of the Bluff—which was fought between settlers of European descent, led by James Robertson, and warriors primarily of the Creek nation—was not only a crucial event in the founding of Nashville, it was a major turning point in the history of what became the American South. Paul Clements will discuss the events leading up to the battle and the impact the battle had on the entire Southern frontier.

Paul Clements, author of *Chronicles of the Cumberland*, has had a deep interest in Middle Tennessee history since his childhood and has been researching that history for the past 38 years. His first book, *A Past Remembered*, a study of antebellum homes in Davidson County, appeared in 1987. Since then he has published three additional books and frequently written historical essays for the *Nashville Retrospect*. Additionally, he is the recipient of the Metropolitan Historical Commission's 2014 Achievement Award.

[RSVP to the Cumberland River Compact](#) (you'll have the option to order a lunch, too).

Mark your calendar for this future program:

July 10—Noon

PANEL DISCUSSION: Why the Cumberland Matters, Revisited: A Look Towards National Expansion

New! Historic Tours of Two Rivers Mansion

Fridays through August 29—1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Two Rivers Mansion

3130 McGavock Pike

Each Friday afternoon through August 29, visitors will have the opportunity to tour Two Rivers Mansion. \$5 for adults, \$2 for children, free for members of the Friends of Two Rivers Mansion. Proceeds support [The Friends of Two Rivers Mansion](#).

New! Music at the Mansion

Saturday, June 12—7:00 p.m.

Two Rivers Mansion

3130 McGavock Pike

Mark your calendar and make plans to join the Friends of Two Rivers Mansion for the popular "Music at the Mansion" summer music series on the grounds of Two Rivers Mansion. The series of live outdoor concerts kicks off with a free performance by the Nashville Symphony on June 12 from 7:00 p.m., thanks to the Metro Parks Concert Series. The Moonlighter's Big Band will play on June 21. The River Band and The Donelson Fellowship Worship Band will perform contemporary Christian music on July 19. The Nashville Blues Society, featuring Eight O'Five Jive and Markey Blue, is set to perform on August 16.

With the exception of the Nashville Symphony performance, admission for each music event is \$5.00 per person or \$20 per family or car load. Admission is always free for members of the Friends of Two Rivers Mansion. Music starts at 7:00 p.m., but plan to arrive a little early to get a good spot. Rose Mary Lane's Catering will be on site so guests can purchase summertime refreshments.

For more information for upcoming events and membership visit the website at www.friendsoftworiversmansion.org. All events are supported by Metro Parks & Recreation.

New! Lotz House Private Cellar Tours

Selected Saturdays by Appointment

The Lotz House

1111 Columbia Avenue

Franklin, TN

Be one of the first to experience The Lotz House Cellar Tour, a unique showcase of historian John Marler's two year archeological excavation. The project, completed in November 2013, uncovered approximately 900 Civil War relics and items connected with civilian life from the mid to late 1800s.

Private tours will take place on the third Saturday of each month from March through October in commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Franklin.

Highlights of this exclusive experience include:

- A review of the excavation process
- A first-hand look at the relics uncovered
- A description of the significance of the findings
- An interpretation of how these findings relate to a better understanding of the happenings inside the Lotz House following the historic battle

Contact J.T. Thompson at jtt@lotzhouse.com or call 615-790-7190 to reserve your place on one of the following tour dates:

June 21 | July 19 | August 16 | September 20 | October 18

All tours will be held from 10 a.m. – noon. The cost is \$30 per person. This is a limited tour, first-come-first-served. The guided tour of the Lotz House is \$10 and is a separate ticket.

For more information about the Lotz House, visit www.lotzhouse.com.

New! Annual Juneteenth–Freedom Day Celebration at Fort Negley

Saturday, June 28—10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fort Negley Visitors Center and Park

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.

Join [Fort Negley Visitors Center and Park](#) and the African American Genealogical and Historical Society of Tennessee, Inc. for a celebration of freedom, family, and unity in our community. The event is free and open to the public.

Games and Activities for the Entire Family • Children’s Parade • Youth Essay Awards
• Memorabilia • Film Screenings • Door Prizes • Fort Negley Tours • Refreshments
• Meet Frederick Douglass and the 13th United States Colored Troops

Mark Your Calendar!

Buchanan Log House BBQ & Blue Grass Fest – June 28th

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.