

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ October 2014



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2014 Nashville Nine,
Lectures, Tours, Spooky Happenings,
and more...***

What's New with the MHC and MHZC?

New! Historic Preservation 101 for Realtors

Friday, October 24—9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Neighborhoods Resource Center

1312 3rd Avenue North

Nashville, TN 37208

Tennessee Preservation Trust and the Metropolitan Historical Commission are offering to Tennessee Realtors the highly regarded Historic Preservation 101. This course is offered on a limited basis, so register now!

As the country begins to explore sustainability, both in terms of the economy and the environment, buying and selling existing buildings, rather than developable lots, will increasingly become any realtor's main bread-and-butter. Historic properties are valuable to potential buyers because of their existing infrastructure and in numerous other ways. Learn more about how historic properties can help increase your income at the "Historic Preservation 101 for Tennessee Realtors" course.

Course objectives are to:

- Learn about historic designation and the additional value historic properties provide
- Explore the rules and regulations associated with historic zoning
- Identify common Tennessee architectural styles
- Discover how preservation is sustainable and green
- Uncover common myths about old buildings
- Learn valuable techniques for selling older buildings

All trainers meet the National Park Service's Professional Qualifications Standards and have years of preservation experience.

[Registration](#) is \$40 and includes lunch. Attendance is limited to 30 people. Registration

will close on October 17th or when the attendance capacity has been reached, so be sure to [register early!](#) Realtors are eligible to receive 6 CE Credits (just have your number handy when you register). For more information, contact Penny Bird with the Tennessee Preservation Trust, tnprestr@yahoo.com or 615-963-1255.

New! Topics in Nashville History: Leadership and Legacies

Thursdays, October 16, 23 & 30 and November 6—10:30 to 11:45 a.m.

Fort Negley Visitors Center

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.

Would you like to learn more about Nashville history? Davidson County Historian Dr. Carole Bucy will teach a series of classes based on various examples of leadership and legacy in Nashville, highlighting some of the lesser known names in our city's history.

Classes will be held at the Fort Negley Visitors Center for four consecutive Thursdays, beginning on October 16, from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Space is limited, so reservations must be paid in advance. The cost is \$25.00. All proceeds for this series of "Topics in Nashville History" will benefit the *Encyclopedia of Nashville and Davidson County* (information below); registration is tax deductible.

To register, make your check payable to the MHC FOUNDATION and mail or hand-deliver it to the MHC Foundation: 3000 Granny White Pike, Nashville, TN, 37204. For registration confirmation, please include an email address (or phone number) with your check. Paying for multiple participants? Please include everyone's name and contact information with your check. Have questions? Please call the Historical Commission at 615-862-7970.

Ongoing! Historic Home for Sale

We don't typically feature historic homes for sale in our monthly newsletter, but 3111 Hydes Ferry Road is a special case, so we are making an exception! If you are looking for your next preservation project, consider the Stephens House on Hydes Ferry Road. Built by the Hyde Family, this amazing antebellum home totals 2,580 sq. ft. on a lovely .98 acres. Additionally, the home is known as one of the houses used by Jesse and Frank James during their time in the Bordeaux and Jordonia communities. The owner is very interested in selling the house to a preservation-minded individual or group. The sale price is \$75,000. For more information, call Barbara Wayman at 615-293-1882. Photos are available on our [Facebook page](#) or by request. As always, MHC/MHZC staff is available to offer preservation advice and resources, such as those offered at the annual [Old House Fair](#).

Ongoing!

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!

IN THE NEWS

New! Historic Nashville Announces 2014 Nashville Nine

Historic Nashville, Inc. (HNI) today announced its 2014 Nashville Nine at a press conference held at RCA Studio A on Music Row on Tuesday, September 23. Mike Wolfe joined HNI representatives to reveal the Nashville Nine properties and to underscore how vital preservation is in maintaining Nashville's unique character. Wolfe, who now calls the Nashville area home, is the star of History Channel's hit show *American Pickers*, a member of Historic Nashville and a passionate preservationist.

The 2014 Nashville Nine is nominated by the community and represents nine historic properties threatened by demolition, neglect or development. These properties are then the focus of Historic Nashville's advocacy and outreach throughout the year.

The organization works to drive recognition of historic places and the impact they have on the culture, commerce and creativity of the city. Over the years, Historic Nashville has successfully advocated for the preservation of landmarks such as the Ryman Auditorium, Union Station and the Hermitage Hotel.

Several properties on the 2013 list have been, or are in the process of being saved. The Cordell Hull State Office Building has passed the first hurdle for a reprieve from the wrecking ball approved last year by the legislature. Friends of Kellytown is a non-profit created to purchase and preserve the Kellytown archaeological site.

For buildings on this year's list, Historic Nashville will work with the owners, government agencies, and the public to educate, evaluate and create solutions for preserving these important elements of Nashville's unique history.

"Historic Nashville believes historic preservation is an essential part of our community," said Melissa Wyllie, president of Historic Nashville. "This year, the community has said loud and clear that, as a city, we need to find a way to grow that also preserves the historic places that make Nashville unique."

For a list of the properties selected for the 2014 Nashville Nine, please visit [Historic Nashville's website](#). Visit the [Historic Nashville Facebook page](#) for additional information and press coverage about the announcement.

AROUND TOWN

New! Holly Street Fire Hall Celebrates 100 Years of Service!

Wednesday, October 1—10:30 a.m. to Noon

Station 14

1600 Holly Street

Join the Nashville Fire Department for a 100th Anniversary Open House celebrating Fire Station 14's 100 years of continuous service! Listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the J.B. Richardson Engine Company No. 14, but fondly known as

the Holly Street Fire Hall (or simply “14’s”), the fire hall is a designated local Historic Landmark. Nashville’s first municipal architect, James Yeaman, designed the red brick neoclassical style building to harmonize with the surrounding residential neighborhood. Completed in 1914, the fire hall was the first in Nashville designed and built to house motorized fire vehicles. If you’ve never visited this historic fire hall, now is your chance!

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! For more information, visit the [Cumberland River Compact](#).

Thursday, October 2—Noon

1823 Nashville Toll Bridge: First Bridge over the Cumberland, with Pat Cummins

Pat Cummins, president of the Nashville based Native History Association*, will tell the recently uncovered story of the first bridge over the Cumberland—the 1823 Nashville Toll Bridge, how it shaped and was shaped by the early economic history of Nashville, and the crucial role it played in the Trail of Tears. The Native History Association, led by its president Pat Cummins and vice-president Toye Heape, has led an effort over the last two years to uncover the story of the 1823 Nashville Toll Bridge, which until recently had been thought to have been completely destroyed. In 2012, while researching the path of the Trail of Tears, they uncovered a previously lost abutment of the bridge. They are now working with the National Park Service on a plan to turn the site into an interpretive site for the National Trail of Tears Historical Trail. [RSVP](#) today!

*The Historical Commission recognized the work of the Native History Association with its 2014 Commissioners Award during the 39th Annual Preservation Awards program.

New! Historic Old Hickory Village Home Tour

[Tour Historic Old Hickory Village](#), Saturday, October 4—11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

New! Fall Fest @ The Hermitage

Saturday and Sunday, October 4 & 5—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Hermitage

4580 Rachel’s Lane

Fall Fest @ The Hermitage is a weekend of fun, music, food, art, and history at The Hermitage: Home of President Andrew Jackson. The event will focus on a fantastic variety of live music acts that can only be found in Music City, as well as specialty foods and spirits from local artisans. This year, over 100 artists will display an array of products from Photography, Basketry, Ceramics, Painting, Jewelry, Leather, Woodwork and much more! Admission: \$5 Adults, Free for Children 11 and under.

Purchase ticket at The Hermitage box office or online at www.FallFestAtTheHermitage.com.

New! First Tuesday at the Metro Archives

Tuesday, October 7—2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Metro Archives

NEW LOCATION – Nashville Public Library

615 Church Street

Third Floor Program Room

Join Friends of Metro Archives for its monthly “First Tuesday” event. This month, enjoy a visit from Captain and Mrs. Ryman (aka Tom Doland and Debbie Watts). The program is free and open to the public.

New! Historic Mount Olivet Cemetery Tour

Saturday, October 11—4:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Mount Olivet Cemetery

1101 Lebanon Pike

Meet the fascinating people from the past who lived, loved, worked, and died while building our great city. Some of those buried in Mt. Olivet appear at their grave sites once a year and share the details of their lives and times with us. That evening will be here soon. Make plans now to bring your family and enjoy a wonderful evening of entertaining history.

Reenactors, in period dress, will portray spies, soldiers (from privates to generals), and bold southern belles from Nashville’s past. Each reenactor will be at the grave of the person they portray and dazzle you with their charm, wit, intelligence, and adventures in life.

Tours last just over one hour and leave at regular scheduled intervals. Please **bring a flashlight** and wear walking shoes. Admission: \$10.00 Adults, \$5.00 Children (under age 6=free).

Presented by the Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #28, a non-profit organization raising money for erection of historic markers and maintenance of the Memorial Hall at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

New! Agents of Their Own Destiny: Race and Remembrance in a Civil War City

December 2014 marks the sesquicentennial of the Battle of Nashville. To commemorate this important event in Nashville history, Lipscomb University will host a variety of special events and activities throughout the fall. Through a partnership with Historic Travellers Rest and Fisk University, Lipscomb’s events will highlight not only the significant battle but also Nashville’s unique Civil War history. All events are free and open to the public.

Saturdays in October—9:00 a.m. to Noon

Special Tours

Each Saturday during October (4, 11, 18, 25), guests will tour sites associated with the Battle of Nashville, including Peach Orchard Hill, Granbury’s Lunette, Fort Negley, and Historic Travellers Rest. Historian David Currey will host each tour. Reservations are required and space is limited. Visit battleofnashville.lipscomb.edu or call 615.966.6111 for details or to reserve your seat. Each Saturday features the same tour.

Currey is a public historian and documentary filmmaker. He was the interpretive planner at Nashville's Fort Negley, designed the Civil War exhibit at Bicentennial Mall, and is the former director at Historic Travellers Rest.

*Tuesday, October 14—7:00 p.m., with a post-movie discussion on leadership
Film Presentation: "Lincoln"*

Ward Hall, Lipscomb University

Nominated for seven Golden Globe Awards and 12 Academy Awards (winning in categories for both), this 2012 film received widespread critical acclaim and commercial success. It covers the final four months of Lincoln's life, focusing on the president's efforts in January 1865 to have the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution passed.

*Tuesday, October 28—7:00 p.m., with a post-movie discussion on war
Film Presentation: "Copperhead"*

Ward Hall, Lipscomb University

A 2013 independent Canadian/American film set in upstate New York, it is based on a 19th-century novel, *The Copperhead*, by Harold Frederic, a title which refers to Northern opponents of the Civil War, known as Copperheads.

For more information about these events and those planned for November, visit battleofnashville.lipscomb.edu.

New! Battle of Nashville Bus Tour

Benefiting the Council on Aging's Discover Programs

Tuesday, October 14--Registration at 8:30 a.m., Departure at 9:00, Return at 3:00 p.m.

Parking location: West End United Methodist Church

(2200 West End Ave, Parking lot off of 23rd Ave N)

Please join the Council on Aging's Discover Program Alumni and Ross Massey, local historian and co-founder of the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, as Mr. Massey tells the story of the Battle of Nashville along a guided bus tour on Tuesday, October 14. Author of the Nashville Battlefield Guide, Massey will share a wealth of knowledge on the history of Nashville at the start of the Civil War, during Nashville's occupation, and the climactic battle—the Battle of Nashville— on December 15 & 16, 1864, which ended significant military operations in the western theatre.

This historical program will include a local bus tour facilitated by Ross Massey with stops at several key battle locations, a visit to Fort Negley (the largest inland masonry star-pattern fort in North America), and a visit to Travellers Rest (the plantation home of Judge John Overton and headquarters of Confederate General John Bell Hood). Lunch is included with a stop at Sevier Park. Weather permitting lunch will be served at one of the park's pavilions, or if weather is poor, we will visit the new Sevier Park Community Center.

To make reservations, call the Council on Aging at 615-353-4235 or email discover@coamidtn.org. There are fewer than 30 seats remaining--register today!

Trip Fee: \$50 (\$20 of which is a tax deductible donation to COA & receipts will be provided the day of the trip), includes: transportation, lunch, guided tour, admittance

fee to Travellers Rest, and all gratuities (tour guides & bus driver).

New! Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Metro Codes (Almost!)

Saturday, October 18—9:00 a.m. to Noon

Neighborhoods Resource Center

1312 Third Avenue North

Join the Neighborhoods Resource Center for the first of two Fall workshops: "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Metro Codes (Almost!)." Is your community presently being developed, experiencing lots of improvements? Are abandoned vehicles, overgrown lots, absentee landlords, or run-down businesses problems for your community while these improvements are taking place? Could these be legitimate Metro Codes violations?

The workshop will cover the basics of codes reporting. Learn about the whole process from first violation to environmental court. Learn what a successful neighborhood audit looks like and how to do one in your community.

Workshop Outline:

1. Importance of Codes Reporting, why is reporting important
2. What is a Violation
3. What is the Reporting Process
4. Ways to report a violation
5. Codes in Action (planning an audit)

[Register](#) for this FREE workshop today!

New! History Comes to Life at the Nashville City Cemetery

Saturday, October 18—2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Nashville City Cemetery

1001 Fourth Avenue South

On Saturday, October 18, local actors will recreate some of Nashville's most interesting historical figures on the Living History Tour at the Nashville City Cemetery. Nashville City Cemetery Association is partnering with The Hermitage to highlight "Andrew Jackson's Nashville." The theme for this year's tour will be "Andrew Jackson's Friends and a Few Foes at City Cemetery." As an added bonus, this year's tour will commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans. Interpreters will highlight the lives of many veterans buried at City Cemetery who fought alongside Jackson in this historic battle.

The tours will commence at 2 p.m. Each tour lasts approximately one hour. A new tour will start every 15 minutes with the last tour beginning at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families and can be purchased at the entrance gate.

Nashville City Cemetery is located at Fourth Avenue South and Oak Street in downtown Nashville.

The Living History Tour enables visitors to see the past come alive as costumed characters tell their stories. Specific historical figures who will be featured on this year's tour include **President Andrew Jackson and wife Rachel; General William Carroll**, who served as Commander of the Tennessee Militia at the Battle of New Orleans and was elected Governor of Tennessee, serving 12 years, longer than any other governor; **Charles Dickinson**, a young attorney killed in a duel with President

Jackson; **Septima Sexta Rutledge**, daughter of a signer of the Declaration of Independence; **Josiah Nichol**, the richest banker in town; **Dr. Samuel Hogg**, **Dr. John Shelby** and **Dr. William P. Lawrence**, three prominent physicians that served in the War of 1812 with General Jackson; **Joseph Norvell**, owner of a local newspaper; **Major Jeffrey Lockalier**, an African American who served under General Jackson; **Ephraim H. Foster**, a prominent attorney; **Reverend William Hume**, a Presbyterian preacher; and **John McNairy**, the first Judge in the Mero District.

“We are excited to partner with the Nashville City Cemetery Association on the ‘Andrew Jackson’s Friends and a Few Foes at City Cemetery’ tour,” says Howard J. Kittell, President and CEO of The Hermitage, home of President Andrew Jackson. “Our principal focus at The Hermitage is Andrew Jackson, his life, his family and the enslaved community at The Hermitage. However, Jackson existed in a much larger social and political network that enabled him to rise to prominence. This tour will help to put Jackson in the context of friends and enemies and give us a more fleshed out image of him and the Nashville of his time.”

Started in 1998, the Living History Tour has become a dynamic Nashville tradition designed to delight and inform the whole family.

Free parking is available at Greer Stadium, located at 534 Chestnut St. Buses will provide round-trip transportation. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Proceeds go to the Nashville City Cemetery Association for the continuing restoration and documentation of the cemetery. For more information, call the Metropolitan Historical Commission at 862-7970 or visit www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org.

Opened in 1822, the City Cemetery is the oldest continuously operated public cemetery in Nashville. A walk through the grounds is truly a walk through Nashville's history. The Nashville City Cemetery is under the supervision of the Metropolitan Historical Commission and Metro Parks and Recreation. The site is open daily from 8 a. m. to 5 p.m.

The Nashville City Cemetery Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization that works to protect, preserve, restore and raise public awareness of the Nashville City Cemetery in collaboration with the Historical Commission and Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

Ending Soon! Lotz House Private Cellar Tours

Saturday, October 18

The Lotz House

1111 Columbia Avenue

Franklin, TN

Be sure 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 the last tour date: **October 18**, 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 and future programs, visit www.lotzhouse.com. The Lotz House will feature two days of programming with **National Park Service Chief Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss** in late November.

New!

A Historic Halloween:

[Historic Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum](#), October 23rd, 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

New! Stepping Stones to Find Your Ancestors: Beginning Genealogy

Thursday, October 23rd and 30th—10:00 a.m. to Noon

FiftyForward Knowles

Patricia Hart Building

174 Rains Avenue (across from the State Fairgrounds)

Middle TN Genealogical Society and FiftyForward Knowles, present a Beginning Genealogy Class led by Virginia Gooch Watson, President of the TN State Library & Archives Friends group. Ms. Watson has taught genealogy classes since 1976. “Stepping Stones to Find Your Ancestors” will teach participants how to begin and go forward with their research, covering topics such as recordkeeping, census records, vital records, county records such as wills, deeds and court records, cemetery records, internet resources, genealogy software, and more. \$15.00 Members and \$25.00 Non-members. For more information, call the Knowles Center at 615-734-4300 or visit www.mtgs.org.

Save the Date! Battle of Nashville Sesquicentennial Event

Saturday, December 13, 2014

City-Wide, All-Day Sesquicentennial Event

Commemorating the Battle of Nashville at All Major Historical Sites: Fort Negley • Belmont Mansion • Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum • The Land Trust for Tennessee’s Glen Leven Farm • Belle Meade Plantation • Shy’s Hill and other core battlefield sites

Living History Demonstrations: Mounted Cavalry • Union Corps Staff Headquarters • Confederate Army Headquarters • Union Signal Corps • Period Music • Battle Site Reenactments • City-wide Progressive Cannonade • Special Civil War Exhibits at the Tennessee State Museum

More information coming soon!!

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