

Metropolitan Historical Commission

Newsletter ▪ May 2013



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MHC/MHZC UPDATE

New Marker!

SYLVAN PARK SCHOOL

A two-room frame school building was constructed here in 1907 to serve the children of newly-annexed West Nashville. Students in grades 1-8 attended here, and a second two-room building was added in 1909 for students in grades 1-4. Maria Wilson Hill served as first principal. In 1936, the Public Works Administration funded the construction of the current Art Deco building, designed by the architectural firm of Asmus and Clark.

Location: Sylvan Park School, Utah Avenue, Sylvan Park
No. 150

New! Telling Nashville's Civil War Stories

Mark your calendar and make plans now to join the Metropolitan Historical Commission and 16 area partners for the **Nashville Civil War Lecture Series**. Lectures will take place on the **third Tuesday of the month, May through October, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.**, at a new location each month. The lecture series offers a unique opportunity to explore the stories of Civil War Nashville in some of the city's most exquisite historic sites.

May 21 – Dr. Carole Bucy presents “Legacies of the War”
Glen Leven Farm, 4000 Franklin Road

June 18 – Dr. Bobby Lovett presents “African-American Life During War”
Clower Bottom Mansion, 2941 Lebanon Pike

July 16 – Mark Brown presents “The Homefront”
Belmont Mansion, 1900 Belmont Boulevard

Lectures are free and open to the public. For more information and the full schedule,

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 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. Six of the featured sites will host the lecture series. Beginning May 21, pick up your copy at any of the lectures or any of our partner sites.

The Nashville Civil War Lecture Series and “Nashville’s Civil War Stories” is 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

PRESERVATION AWARDS

New! 2013 Preservation Awards

For almost forty years, the Metropolitan Historical Commission has recognized outstanding efforts to preserve the historic architecture of Nashville and Davidson County with its annual Preservation Awards program. We hold this program each May to coincide with National Preservation Month. The theme for Preservation Month 2013 is “See! Save! Celebrate!”

Please join the Historical Commission in celebrating the **38th Annual Preservation Awards on Wednesday, May 29, 2013**. The ceremony will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Nashville Public Library, 615 Church Street. Historic Nashville, Inc., and The Rymer Gallery will host a reception in honor of all participants following the ceremony.

Along with celebrating exceptional preservation projects, the Metropolitan Historical Commission will present three special awards during the ceremony. The Commission will recognize the contributions of Ann Tidwell with the Achievement Award and will present the Commissioners’ Award to Barry Walker and Marathon Village. Additionally, the Commission will honor George H. Cate, Jr., with the Leadership Award in History.

We can't wait for you to see some amazing preservation projects and *celebrate* some of Nashville's *saved* treasures.

To learn more about the awards program, visit [Preservation Awards](#). For more information about National Preservation Month, check out the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#).

IN THE NEWS

What's New? 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.

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

New! First Tuesday at the Archives

Tuesday, May 7—2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Metropolitan Government Archives
3801 Green Hills Village Drive

The May meeting of the "First Tuesday" lecture series will feature George Spain discussing his new book, *Our People: Stories of the South*. Spain's book contains sixteen short stories that span two hundred years in Tennessee. Sponsored by Friends of the Archives. This event is free and open to the public.

"First Tuesday at the Metro Archives" meets on 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.

***While you're there, be sure to visit *Werthan Bag Company*, a new exhibit featuring original bags, bag artwork, original printing plates, and a short history of the company.

New! Tour the NCC with Master Gardeners

Saturday, May 11—10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
[Nashville City Cemetery](#)
1001 Fourth Avenue South

Members of the Davidson County Master Gardeners will give visitors a glimpse of the cemetery as it was around 1862. The Master Gardeners maintain the flower gardens with plants that would be found in the cemetery right before the Civil War. This event is

free and open to the public. Free parking for the Master Gardeners' Tour is available within the cemetery grounds.

New!

The Brick & Mortar Bash: A Benefit for Historic Nashville, Inc.

Thursday, May 16, 2013

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The Bridge Building
2 Victory Avenue
Nashville, TN 37213

Historic Nashville, Inc. invites you to join in the celebration of Preservation Month.

Visit www.historicnashvilleinc.org to purchase your tickets!

New! Tour Fort Negley with Commissioner Currey

Saturday, May 18—9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Fort Negley

1100 Fort Negley Boulevard

Take a guided tour through Fort Negley's Past with historian, and MHC Commissioner, David Currey. Mr. Currey, Fort Negley Park and Visitors Center interpretive planner and exhibit designer, will expertly weave together the intricate details of military operations in the West, life in occupied Nashville, and the circumstances necessitating the building of Federal fortifications.

This event is free and open to the public, but **reservations are required**. For more information or to make reservations, please contact [Fort Negley Visitors Center](#) at 862-8470. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and to bring something to drink.

Register Now!

Tennessee Preservation Trust's Statewide Preservation Conference

May 16–18, 2013

Cookeville, Tennessee

Since 2000, the Tennessee Preservation Trust's Statewide Preservation Conference has brought together heritage supporters from across the state for educational sessions, tours, and networking opportunities. The annual conference travels around the state and showcases the historic character of a different community each year. The 2013 conference will take place in Cookeville, May 16–18.

Want to join the conversation and find out first the latest news on the conference? Like Tennessee Preservation Trust on Facebook and share your thoughts. Be sure to visit www.tennesseepreservationtrust.org/conference for program and registration information.

Closing Soon! Metro@50: Progress, Problems, Projections

Closing May 19, 2013

Main Library Art Gallery, first floor

615 Church Street

Metro @ 50: Progress, Problems, Projections includes selected items from the Beverly Briley Collection and the Jack Knox Political Cartoon Collection as well as works from the Special Collections Division and Metro Nashville Archives highlighting the history of Metro Government as it paralleled with a decade of one of the most turbulent times in history.

New! Phil the House with Art & Friends

Saturday, May 19—2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Two Rivers Mansion

3130 McGavock Pike

Join [Friends of Two Rivers Mansion](#) and Metro Parks and Recreation for a free afternoon of art, music, and food! Enjoy the featured exhibit, *Windows to the Hollow*, a collection of Tennessee woodcuts by artist Dan Quest.

Closing Soon! In the Footsteps of Sergeant York

Closing May 2013

Tennessee State Museum, Military Branch

War Memorial Building

Visit [Military Branch Museum](#) for exhibit hours.

Just a few weeks left to view [In the Footsteps of Sergeant York](#) at the Tennessee State Museum's Military Branch. The exhibit focuses on York's battlefield experience as part of the American Meuse-Argonne Offensive of 1918. The free exhibit features pieces from the Museum of the American Military Experience and archival images and short documentary clips of York, the Western Front, and the Meuse-Argonne.

Register Today!

2012 Memorial Day Dash for Nashville City Cemetery

Memorial Day, May 27—8:00 a.m.

Greer Stadium

534 Chestnut Street

Lace up your sneakers and start training now for this annual event! All proceeds benefit the restoration of the Nashville City Cemetery. Visit www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org to learn more.

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
Sunnyside in Sevier Park • 3000 Granny White Pike • Nashville, Tennessee 37204 • Phone: 615.862.7970
Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County • Karl F. Dean, Mayor