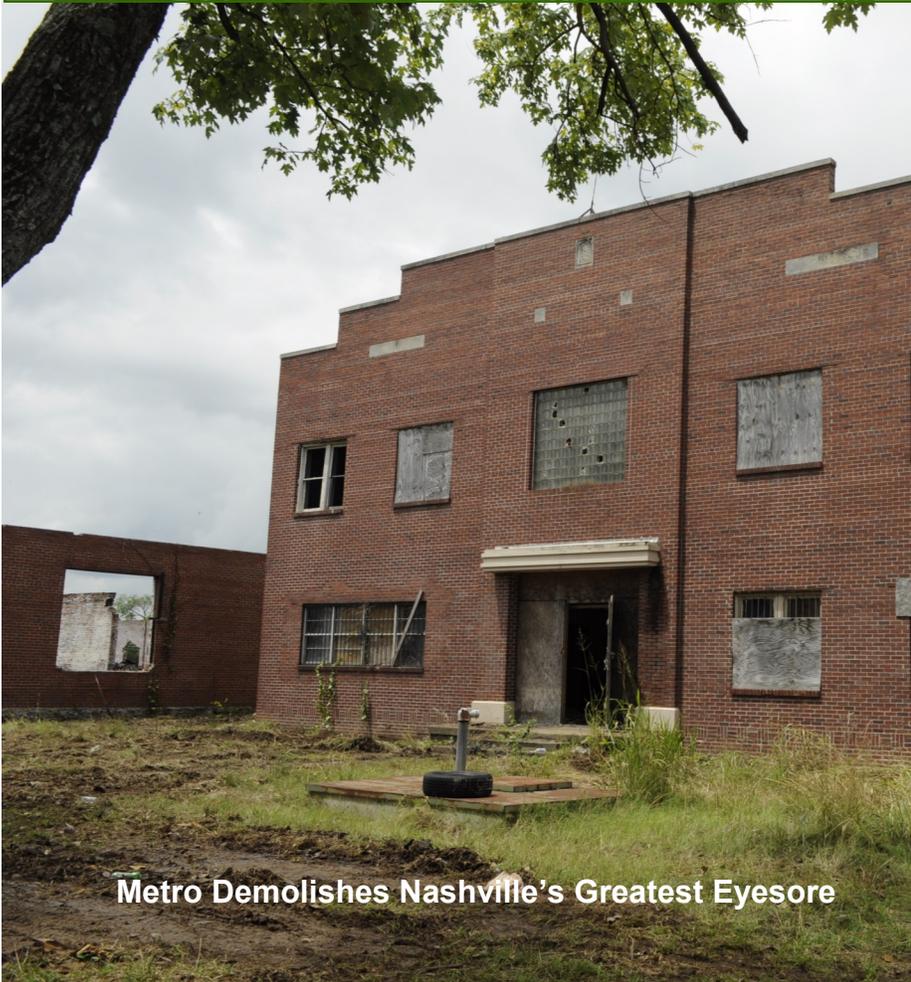




Metro Codes

E—News For Neighborhoods

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County



Metro Demolishes Nashville's Greatest Eyesore

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Blighted Property on 24th Avenue North Set For Demolition

One of Nashville's greatest eyesores finally gets cleaned up with special Council appropriation

For the last twelve years, the Codes Department has been wrestling with a one of the greatest eyesores in Nashville, the old Bible publishing company located at 2119 24th Avenue North. This property, located on in the Buena Vista Heights community, had become the dumping ground for hundreds of old tires, various types of vehicles (including a tandem axle dump truck), and all manner of junk, trash and debris. Homeless individuals were using the buildings on the grounds and illegal activity was a constant problem.

The property suffered a fire in 2010 that left the main buildings severely damaged and on the verge of collapse. The Codes department tried repeatedly to work with the current owners, Keith Churn, of C&M Construction Management in an effort to get the property either demolished or renovated. Mr. Churn purchased the property in 2003. Churn's company had a variety of plans for the property, but none of those plans were ever realized. As a result, the property sat vacant and slowly deteriorated. All of these factors resulted in the property becoming a popular dumping ground and major nuisance to the community.

Prior to its decline, the property was the home of the Southern Publishing Association which was started in 1901 by James Edson White, who was also known as "Edson," was an author, publisher and the second and oldest surviving son of James White, the founder of the Seventh Day Adventist movement.

White was keenly interested in advancing the spiritual health of African-Americans in the South. His work in this area began when he discovered a booklet written by his mother titled "Our Duty to the Colored People." After reading this book, he was encouraged to set up a mission to spread the Adventist message to colored people in the Southern US. In his forties, he began his outreach to the Black community and by 1894 had outfitted a steamboat, The Morning Star, where he could live and conduct schools for the illiterate and print and distribute materials for that purpose. His outreach to this group led to the building of schools and helped develop the Adventist work in the South. Schools were also created at



An aerial view of the property as it appeared prior to the start of demolition and cleanup. Photo—Google Maps



James Edson White—
circa 1890

nearly 70 years of operation, the Southern Publishing Association deeded the printing facility to a bible printing company, Memorial Bibles International Inc.

Memorial Bibles International Inc. published high quality, union made keepsake bibles. Each bible was embellished with gold leaf and bound within a white cover of real or simulated leather and came with a hand-made red cedar storage case. The company printed the bibles in several editions, to include the standard King James version, Catholic and Jews versions as well. The bibles featured extensive artwork depicting important biblical events. The bibles were designed to be given as keepsakes, memorials or awards.

Metro Codes has been working on removing this blight from the community for nearly a decade. "Without a doubt, this is probably the most significant piece of blighted property in Davidson County," according to Bill Penn, Assistant Director at Codes. "We have had a constant stream of complaints about this property. The legal troubles of the various owners and parties of interest have made our efforts to demolish the buildings and clean up of the site extremely difficult."

It was not until the department received a special appropriation from the Metro Council that the department had the funding to accomplish the demolition. Estimates for the demolition and clean-up ranged from \$181,500 to a staggering \$499,000. Be-

Vicksburg, Mississippi, Yazoo City, Lintonia, and Nashville, Tennessee. The mission built up to 50 schools, building an organization called the Southern Missionary Society. This became part of the Adventist Southern Union Conference.

The publishing organization that Edson established was originally known as the "Gospel Herald Publishing Company." This company was later taken over by the Adventist church and was renamed the "Southern Publishing." Part of what would become the main campus for the new publishing company was an old barn chicken house in Nashville. White printed several magazines and other publications, including the magazine titled "Message" which is still being published today. After



Example of the Cider cased memorial bibles produced by Memorial Bibles International, Inc.

cause of the scope of the project, the request for bids had to go through a number of amendments before being able to be released. Mike Allen, in the Finance Department's Procurement and Purchasing division worked on the bid package for this project. "As contractors interested in the work examined the site, they found numerous obstacles that had to be addressed, Allen said. "This project involved more than just the demolition of the buildings. We also had to contend with a significant amount of junk, trash and debris that had been dumped on the site over the years."

There was great concern about the environmental state of the property. Printing operations have been known to involve hazardous materials. Fortunately, no serious contaminants were identified. The project was first awarded to Rodgers and Rogers. That company later withdrew their bid, and the contract was then awarded to Bomar Construction on May 22, 2012.

Almost immediately, the transformation of the site was nothing

short of fantastic. Bomar's crews began cleaning the site even before the environmental remediation was complete. Corey Eldridge with Bomar Construction was the project manager. Concerning the scope of the project, Mr. Eldridge said, "this demolition presents a number of challenges. We literally have to clean a path onto the site just to start the demolition process." This allowed them to have ready access to the site to start the actual demolition and cleanup. All of the egress points of the site were blocked by trash, garbage and other junk that had been dumped on the site over the years.

Bomar's crews have removed over 3,000 old tires and have recycled 240 tons of steel. Seventy-three 30 yard roll-off containers of construction waste has also been removed from the site. Bomar expects to complete the project within the next two weeks. Residents living near the site are ecstatic and impressed by the transformation.



The posted "No Dumping" sign seems to have had little effect. The tires in the background represent some of the dumping that has occurred on the site. Photo—Bill Penn



With the water tower in the background, this photograph shows a pile of scrap metal just in front of the main building.

Photo—Bill Penn



The main printing building right before the demolition crews began their work.

Photo—Bill Penn

Memorial Bibles International Inc.

Union made, handcrafted bibles



This is a picture of the Corporate Headquarters and manufacturing facility of Memorial Bibles International Inc. The original

facility was over 100,000 square feet of space located on 8.5 acres in the heart of Nashville. All of their products were completely union made. Each of the bibles was shipped in a handcrafted aromatic red cedar storage case.

The company offered a wide variety of bibles, including the Keepsake Family bible, the Friendship bible, and the Memorial Bible. Catholic, Protestant and Jewish versions of these bibles were available.

The company printed bibles at its Nashville location for over 30 years. During this time, thousands of unions in the United States and Canada provided the Memorial bible to its members to express their organization's sympathy and respect.

Mayor Helps Dedicate Newly Renovated Hillwood High Library

Ingram Gift of \$500,000 Makes Possible Renovation, Expansion of Limitless Libraries Program at Hillwood



Mayor Dean at the Hillwood Library dedication.

Photo—Gary Layda

Mayor Karl Dean, joined by Nashville Public Library, the Nashville Public Library Foundation and Metro Schools, dedicated the newly renovated Hillwood High School library today. Nashville community advocates John and Stephanie Ingram were recognized and thanked for the \$500,000 gift that made possible the renovation and expansion of the Limitless Libraries program at Hillwood.

Through the donation, the library space was expanded and modernized, additional books and materials were purchased and technology was upgraded. Limitless Libraries was created by Mayor Dean as a collaborative program between Nashville Public Library and Metro Schools to deliver books and materials directly to school libraries.

“Private support like this generous gift from John and Stephanie Ingram helps us create world-class libraries in our schools,” Dean said. “Hillwood students are checking out more library materials than ever through Limitless Libraries, and they now have the library space and technology they deserve to make reading and schoolwork easier and more enjoyable to help them achieve academic success.”

As part of the renovation, the library was expanded from 7,960 square feet to 10,000 square feet. The space includes three new interactive study rooms, an attached classroom and restrooms. Additionally, the library was reconfigured to include space for a café. Students in the Business and Hospitality



Computer lab as part of the newly renovated Hillwood library.

Photo—Gary Layda

Academy at Hillwood will design the food offerings and business plan for the café this fall to prepare for an opening at the end of the year. The renovation also included new carpet, paint, HVAC system, comfortable seating and tables with electrical outlets.

In addition to 16 existing computer stations, improvements in technology included 12 new Mac computers, three laptops that students can check out and an iPad cart that includes 20 iPads. Small lockers outfitted with electrical outlets are available to students so they can charge their personal electronic devices in a safe place.

“Nashville Public Library is transforming the lives of Metro Schools students with access to its entire collection, and I was inspired to be a part of that,” John Ingram said. “I am delighted to feel the energy in this state-of-the-art library, which offers books and information in every format imaginable – digital and physical.”

The upgraded library and new technology will make it easier for students to access all the resources of Limitless Libraries. In 2010, the first year Limitless Libraries was in Hillwood High School, circulation of library materials increased 106 percent and has continued to increase every year since then.

Limitless Libraries was available in all Metro high schools and middle schools last year. During that school year, Metro Schools had more than 25,000 registered Limitless Libraries users, with about 15,000 of them being first-time Nashville Public Library card holders. Metro students requested an average of 7,500 items a month from the city library system. This school year, Limitless Libraries expands to all Metro elementary schools.

About Limitless Libraries

Established by Mayor Karl Dean, Limitless Libraries is a collaborative program between Nashville Public Library and Metro Schools to provide a groundbreaking service by delivering books and materials directly to school libraries. Limitless Libraries currently has 25,221 registered users. The program expanded into elementary schools at the beginning of the 2012 school year and will serve more than 81,000 students district wide.

About Hillwood High School

Hillwood High School provides students the opportunity to meet high academic standards so graduates are prepared for college, career and life. The school offers more than 20 Advanced Placement classes and Hillwood’s three small learning communities—the Academy of Art, Design & Communications, the Academy of Business & Hospitality, and the Academy of Health Sciences—are certified at the highest level by the National Career Academy Coalition.



Music City Center Update



While we are used to seeing great aerial shots of the building, this one, by Metro Photographer Gary Layda, gives a bird's eye view of Korean Veterans Boulevard progress and the round about at 8th Avenue.

Nashville Celebrates National Night Out Against Crime

Citizens come together to promote safe neighborhoods

On Tuesday, August 7, 2012 Nashville Neighborhoods celebrated National Night Out Against Crime. Over 50 neighborhood organizations registered with the Mayor's Office Of Neighborhoods as sponsors of events in their neighborhood.

Billy Fields, a member of the local National Night Out Against Crime steering committee said, "This was an amazing night for our community. Hundreds of neighbors all across Davidson County, from Antioch to Bellevue from Goodlettsville to Hermitage and everywhere in between, came out to show their solidarity against crime. The support these neighbors showed for the men and woken of our public safety and support agencies was unbelievable."

Mayor Dean visited several of these celebrations, talking with neighbors and expressing his thanks for their efforts to make Nashville a safer city.



Mayor Dean visits with Tracye Henderson and Christine Taylor at the McGruder Family Resource Center with Billy Fields, Director of the Mayors Office of Neighborhoods. Photo—Gary Layda.



Scott Wallace, with the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods thrills the crowd with his rendition of the Commodores "Brick House."

Photo—Gary Layda

History of National Night Out Against Crime

The National Association of Town Watch (NATW) is a nonprofit, crime prevention organization which works in cooperation with thousands of crime watch groups and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Since 1981, NATW has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of organized crime and drug prevention programs nationwide.

National Night Out, 'America's Night Out Against Crime,' was introduced by the Association in 1984. The program was the brainchild of NATW Executive Director Matt A. Peskin. This is the 29th celebration and it is expected that over 15,300 communities will participate in the program.

METRO LEADS BY EXAMPLE

Thousands of gallons of water released to show how permeable pavers benefit the environment; project also helps educate the development community

Metro Water Services held a demonstration on Friday, August 24th, to demonstrate the benefits of a permeable paver parking surface at the Metro Office Building. Thousands of gallons of water were released onto a section of the permeable paver parking surface to demonstrate how they are better for the environment over asphalt parking surfaces. Permeable pavers efficiently reintroduce rain water back into the ground, reducing the amount of stormwater runoff entering the Cumberland River and carrying with it contaminants and pollutants.



Mayor Dean and Roger Lindsey with Metro Water Services discuss the benefits of the new permeable paving system. Photo—Bill Penn

The recent addition of the permeable paver parking surface at the Metro Office Building demonstrates Nashville's commitment toward sustainability and low impact development. This site also features Bioretention planting basins and allows Metro to showcase the best of stormwater controls to the development community as they come to the Metro Office Building campus to apply for permits for new projects throughout the Metro area.

The demonstration was hosted by the Department of General Services and Aqua-Paving. General Services, Water Services and Aqua-Paving have been discussing the maintenance issues with the old pavement and how best to replace it. On hand to view the demonstration was Mayor Karl Dean, Nancy Whittimore, Director of General Services, Diana Stephen, Property Manager with General Services, and Carr Majel, the Project Manager with General Services who managed the parking lot project, along with staff from Metro Water Services. This new system offers several key benefits over the previous parking surface.

This project consists of about 40,000 square feet of Permea-

ble Pavers installed in one of the largest public installations in the State of Tennessee. The permeable pavers are both attractive and sustainable. This installation replaced an aging parking surface of pervious asphalt.

An engine from the Nashville Fire Department hooked up to an onsite hydrant and released thousands of gallons of water in an isolated area to illustrate the infiltration rates of the Permeable Pavement System. This demonstration illustrated how efficiently the paver surface is able to handle a large quantity of water with no runoff from the surface of the parking lot.

The demonstration also showcased the structural capability of the parking surface, with its ability to support a large fire fighting vehicle with a full load of water. Metro Government is pleased to use this state-of-the-art low impact method to demonstrate our commitment to using sustainable means for storm water management.

The Metro Office Building is part of Metro's Fulton Campus, which is a complex of six buildings designed as a healthy and environmentally-sustainable workplace.



Mayor Dean and others look on as 2,000 gallons of water are dumped onto the paver surface. The water was quickly absorbed away from the surface, demonstrating the ability of the pavement to handle a significant rain event. Photo—Bill Penn



The pavers used in the project were manufactured by Belgard Commercial, which is part of the Oldcastle Architectural Group, the largest concrete products manufacturer in North America.

The permeable line of stone pavers from Belgard help reduce the environmental stress being placed on our resources. With the reduction in the natural filtration provided by the soil, there is an increase in the amount of storm water runoff contaminants that are impacting our ground water. Permeable paving surfaces offer the following benefits:

- Reduces pollution from rainwater runoff
- Reduces runoff from the common rainstorm by as much as 100% • 50 year life-cycle for surface

- Outperforms similar systems in harsh climates or freeze thaw cycles.
- Replaces detention/retention ponds



The system was installed by Aqua Paving Company. Aqua-Paving Construction has refined paver construction operations for the past thirty-five years and offers state of the art methods to give your projects a competitive edge.

Aqua-Paving Construction is owned by Mr. William C. Schneider who is the first concrete paver installer in the United States.



[Art for Change](#) is a live street art competition that aims to draw attention to what we, as a community, can do to support permanent solutions to homelessness.

The competition among Nossi illustration students will be held in conjunction with the [First Saturday Art Crawl](#). Using the theme "It takes a whole community," teams of illustration students will paint on

large format canvas in the vicinity of the blue donation meters of Nashville's [Adopt A Meter](#) program. This program raises awareness and funds benefiting outreach and housing for homeless individuals and families.

Art for Change will be held on Saturday, September 1, 2012, in Downtown Nashville along Second Avenue North, Broadway and Fifth Avenue North.

Our rain date is Oct 6. Please call 800-0195 to check on the status of the event.

The [Metropolitan Homelessness Commission](#) is partnering with [Nossi College of Art](#) on this event. We are seeking [30 volunteers](#) to help us make [Art for Change](#) a great success.

We need about 30 volunteers for the following shifts:

Shift 1: 12.30-4.00 p.m.

Shift 2: 3.30- 7.00 p.m.

Please email Judith Tackett at judith.tackett@nashville.gov if you are interested to help and would like additional information.

Metro Arts Gallery—Visions

Free art exhibit in the Metro Office Building—Fulton Campus

METRO ARTS

Visions

The Metro Arts Commission held an opening reception for its latest exhibit "Visions on August 17th, in the Metro Office Building.

Visions features five Healing Arts Project Inc's (HAPI) artists: Barbara Shirley, Kathy Tupper, Laura Hudson, Robert Guy White and robert bruce scott. Collectively, their bright visions will include acrylic paintings, watercolor, marker, assemblages and mixed media. Each medium is unique and expressive to the individual artist.

The exhibition is free and open to the public and will be featured in the Metro Arts Gallery on the 4th floor of the Metro Office Building at 800 2nd Ave S, Nashville.

The exhibition runs through Friday, October 5, 2012.

Please bring a valid ID to check in with security. Parking is available at meters (bring coins before 6:00 p.m.) or at unmarked, unmetered spots around the Fulton Campus.



Kathy Tupper—Snail and Mare

Photo—Metro Arts Website

16th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament Planned
Save the Date: This years' tournament will be held at Ted Rhodes
on Saturday, October 6, 2012.

**Department of
Codes & Building Safety**

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Mayor - Karl F. Dean

Director - Terrence Cobb
Asst. Director - Bill Penn
Office Hours: Mon-Fri / 7:30-4:00



PASS IT ON!

Pass the word about our newsletter! We would be honored if you would share our newsletter with your colleagues and co-workers. If anyone would like to sign up to receive it themselves, they just need to send us their email, and we will be happy to "Pass It On" to them.

Terry Cobb and **Bill Penn** welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to [Bill Penn](mailto:bill.penn@nashville.gov), at bill.penn@nashville.gov
Assistant Director, Property Standards Div , 862-6590