



METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Metropolitan Historical Commission Meeting Agenda
February 23, 2026, 12:00 p.m.
ITS Enterprise Conference Room, Third Floor, Howard Office Building
700 President Ronald Reagan Way

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Welcome Linda Wynn, Chair
- II. Approval of February Special Called Meeting Minutes Linda Wynn
- III. Public Comment Linda Wynn

The MHC holds a designated public comment period at each meeting. Members of the public in attendance may provide comments to the Board or its Committees during this designated time. Anyone wishing to speak about an agenda item will be allotted two (2) minutes to make comments.

- IV. Friends of Two Rivers Jeff Syracuse, Board President
- V. Historical Markers Jessica Fitzpatrick
 - a. Proposed Historical Markers
 - i. Peabody Apartments/ Henry Hibbs
 - ii. Cumberland Heights
 - iii. Cecelia Nabrit Adkins
 - iv. Moses McKissack III
 - v. Calvin L. McKissack
 - vi. Joseph Mullins/ John Michael Mallette Jr.
 - b. Marker Program/Event Updates
- VI. Interim Director's Report Scarlett Miles
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Announcements
- IX. Adjourn



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APPROVED BY COMMITTEE 2-17-26

Peabody Manor Apartments/ Henry Hibbs

Location: 1901 Capers Ave.

Funding: private

Peabody Manor Apartments
Architect Henry C. Hibbs- 1923

Designed to be “one of the most compact, comfortable and well-constructed apartment buildings in the county,” with innovative design amenities, Peabody Manor was part of a movement to provide elegant apartment living for Nashville’s growing population in the 1920s. The apartments have been host to countless social occasions and home to notable Nashvillians including Lucy Gage, professor of education at Peabody College and a pioneer of childhood education in America.

Henry C. Hibbs, FAIA
1882-1949

Henry C. Hibbs moved to Nashville in 1914 to design Peabody College. Among his other local works are Scarritt College for Christian Workers, Fisk University Library (Cravath Hall), the Nashville Electric Building, as well as Vanderbilt’s original library, Neely Auditorium, McTyeire – International House, and the home of James Kirkland, second Chancellor of Vanderbilt University. Hibbs was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and first president of its Tennessee chapter.

Cumberland Heights

Location: 8283 River Road Pike

Funding: private

Cumberland Heights

Founded by Robert M. Crichton Sr., and Dr. Thomas F. Frist Sr., Cumberland Heights opened on July 25, 1966, on this 177-acre River Road farm, admitting three men for addiction treatment. The facility expanded to treat women in 1975, families in 1978 and adolescents in 1985. Over the decades, Cumberland Heights has opened 19 more facilities across Tennessee, serving more than a hundred thousand patients and families on their journey to recovery, including many in Nashville’s music industry.

Cecelia Adkins**Location: 1022 Archer Street****Funding: Participatory Budget**

Cecelia Nabrit Adkins

1923-2007

Born in Georgia to formerly enslaved parents, Cecelia Nabrit was the youngest of eight children, all of whom graduated from college. The family moved to Nashville in 1936 when her father became president of American Baptist Theological Seminary. Cecelia graduated *summa cum laude* from Fisk University in 1943. She lived here at 1022 Archer Street with her husband, John Willis Adkins (1917-1984), with whom she opened the J.W. Adkins Funeral Home on 12th Avenue South in 1948.

In 1943 Adkins began working as an accountant at the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. Inc. She became Executive Director in 1975, the first woman to head a denominational publishing house. She was the first woman to chair the Fisk University Board of Trustees and to serve on the Board of Directors of the Nashville Branch of the Federal Reserve Board of Atlanta, as well as the first African American woman on the Metro Nashville School Board.

Moses McKissack III**Location: 1425 Edgehill Ave.****Funding: Participatory Budget**

Home of Miranda and Moses McKissack III

1501 Edgehill Avenue

Architect Moses McKissack III (1879–1952), co-founded McKissack & McKissack (1905), the nation's first Black-owned architectural firm. He lived here with his wife Miranda Winter McKissack, daughter of businessman Lewis Winter. Here, they raised six sons—Winter, Moses IV, Lemuel, Calvin, Samuel and DeBerry—who were all active in the family firm. The house is a Craftsman Bungalow typical of the time period, but with stylized features like the curved porch opening and side walls.

In 1922 Moses McKissack III and his brother Calvin L. McKissack (1890–1968) became Tennessee's first licensed African American architects. Over their careers, they completed more than 3,000 building projects nationwide, including more than 2,000 churches, schools and civic structures, many of which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Moses's architectural leadership earned him appointment to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's White House Conference on Housing.

Calvin McKissack**Location: 1503 Edgehill Ave.****Funding: private**

Home of Geneva and Calvin Lunsford McKissack
1503 Edgehill Avenue

Born in Pulaski, Tennessee, architect Calvin Lunsford McKissack (1890-1968) attended Fisk University and practiced architecture in Dallas, Texas before returning to Tennessee to co-found McKissack & McKissack (1905), the nation's first Black-owned architectural firm. He lived here with wife, Geneva Windham McKissack (1901-1951). The house is unique in the neighborhood, featuring an eclectic blend of Italianate and Craftsman styles with Spanish Mission influences.

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Joseph Mullins/ John Mallette Jr.**Location: 4000 W. Hamilton Rd.****Funding: private**

Joseph B. Mullins
1865-1943

Joseph "Joe" Mullins was born in Rutherford Co., Tennessee to Vince Mullins and Millie King. He married Josephine Pinkston in 1886, and they had at least eight children. A farmer and minister at Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Mullins was the general manager of the United Helping Society, which encouraged members to secure homes and become self-sustaining. He helped develop housing in the Bordeaux area in the 1920s, and this park was named in his honor in 2017.

John Michael Mallette Jr.
1960-2021

John Michael Mallette Jr. was born in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania to John Mallette Sr. and Pazetta Berryman Mallette and reared in Nashville. A devoted public servant, Mallette was on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Camp for Diabetic Children and was a long-time supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project and Feed the Hungry. Together with his mother, Mallette rallied the community to acquire the connecting land easement that made the Whites Creek Greenway possible.