



TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWS

• *Telling the Whole Story of America's Greatest Challenge, 1860-1875* •

Winter 2004

<http://histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivwar>

Vol. 1, No. 3

Forging Ahead on New Foundations: 2002–2003 Annual Report

Between October 2002 and September 2003, the Heritage Area both expanded its national presence and increased its local assistance to Tennessee communities. On the national front, the Heritage Area worked toward the completion of its Management Plan and Environmental Assessment and created new networks of support. Locally and regionally, the Heritage Area contributed to numerous projects and programs designed to tell the whole story of the Civil War and Reconstruction. The Heritage Area also developed new opportunities for enhanced cultural tourism.

Planning for the Future

Early in 2003, the Walker Collaborative, a Nashville-based planning and consulting firm, completed a preliminary draft Management Plan for the Heritage Area. After comments from the National Park Service (NPS), the collaborative and the Heritage Area solicited feedback on aspects of the plan and worked on developing the Environmental Assessment. Both documents will be completed in 2004.

For assistance in revising the Management Plan, the Heritage Area formed a Citizens Advisory Group. In May 2003, the Heritage Area and the Walker Collaborative held meetings with this group of twenty Tennesseans in Dickson and Kingston. The group provided valuable insights on the proposed corridors of the Heritage Area, as well as its management structure. The group also gave recommendations on future projects and needs of the Heritage Area. The Citizens Advisory Group will review the final drafts of the Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.



The Heritage Area has completed a National Register nomination for the Natchez Street neighborhood, founded by African Americans in Franklin after the Civil War.

Projects and Programs That Tell the Whole Story

With a full staff in place by January 2003, the Heritage Area initiated its Professional Services and Outreach (PSO) Initiative. The primary tool by which Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Historic Preservation (CHP) carries out its legislative mandate as the Heritage Area's "clearinghouse," the PSO program has contributed invaluable to development of the Management Plan and has enabled the Heritage Area to assist a variety of local and state partners, at no cost to them. The required match for the federal dollars for staff salaries is provided by MTSU and the CHP as part of their commitment to the Tennessee Civil War NHA.

The PSO is focused on helping communities, institutions, agencies, and property owners develop their capacity to produce meaningful projects and programs. Through on-site consultations over the past year, Heritage Area staff members have answered property owners' specific concerns about resource preservation.

Staff members have also worked with partners on interpretive tools, education programs, planning documents, National Register assessments and nominations, and promotional materials.

The 2002–2003 PSO Initiative included the following diverse partners and projects:

Driving Tours and Promotional Projects

- Initiating a **quarterly newsletter** for the Heritage Area.
- Consulting with Tennessee River Trails and other organizations to develop **heritage tourism materials**.
- Presenting **public programs** on the Heritage Area in Columbia, Franklin, Gainesboro, McMinnville, Memphis, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Savannah, Woodbury, and other Tennessee communities.
- Working with heritage groups and local historians in Collierville and in Union County on **interpretive markers and brochures**.

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The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA) is a statewide program dedicated to the interpretation and preservation of Tennessee's Civil War and Reconstruction legacies. Partially funded by the National Park Service, the TCWNHA is one of several projects administered by the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University.

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2002–2003 Projects and Programs Continued

Preservation Plans and Resource Assessments

- Producing a preservation and interpretation plan for the African American **Rest Hill Cemetery** in Lebanon and carrying out the preservation of **Greenwood Cemetery** in Columbia.
- Creating development plans for the **Cedar Grove Furnace** in Perry County, the **Matt Gardner House** in Giles County, the **Lee School** in Paris, the **Rose Mont Historic House** in Gallatin, and the **Williams-Hildreth House** in Franklin.
- Developing National Register nominations for the **Old Salem Cemetery Battlefield** in Madison County, the **Natchez Street Neighborhood** in Franklin, the **Fite-Ligon House** in Carthage, and the **Collins Farm** in Franklin.
- Supporting the archaeological dig and subsequent exhibition project at the **First Presbyterian Church Site**, Old City Cemetery, Murfreesboro, organized by MTSU's Sociology and Anthropology Department.

Public Programming and Education

- Planning and support for “**The Legacy of Stones River: The Civil War in Middle Tennessee**” symposium in 2002 and “**The Legacy of Stones River: Slavery and the Civil War in Tennessee**” symposium to be held in March 2004.
- Conducting a **Tennessee Historical Society-sponsored book discussion** in Nashville.
- Sponsoring a **lecture by Dr. Beverly Bond of the University of Memphis** at MTSU's Women History Month events and publishing a summary in the newsletter of the Society for Women and the Civil War.
- Speaking on the **Civil War in East Tennessee** and the Heritage Area to the Society of Military Historians in Knoxville.

Collaborative Partnership Projects

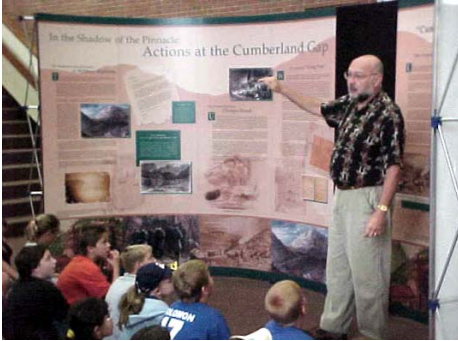
For these projects, groups work with the Tennessee Civil War NHA on a 50/50 matching basis to develop and fund projects and programs. Over the past two years these projects, which are used to test how the Heritage Area can best develop long-term partnerships, have involved the following:

- **Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum** in Harrogate: creating a traveling exhibition on actions at the Cumberland Gap (\$10,000).
- **Tipton-Haynes Historic Site** in Johnson City: researching a Civil War and Reconstruction-era exhibition on Confederate Senator Landon Carter Haynes (\$7,200).
- **Tennessee Historical Society**: publishing the Heritage Area's Master Plan (\$4,000).
- **Byrdstown/Pickett County Chamber of Commerce**: producing a historic driving tour brochure of the “Tennessee Borderlands” (\$4,000).
- **Tennessee Conference of Historians**: sponsoring the keynote luncheon address by Dr. Ken Goings on Tennessee's Reconstruction legacy (\$1,000).
- **Tennessee State University**: serving as a cosponsor for the Annual Afro-American History Conference in Nashville (\$500).
- **Tennessee Preservation Trust**: serving as a cosponsor for its meeting in Memphis (\$500).



CHP projects coordinator Caneta Hankins and archaeologist Dan Allen examine markers in Columbia's Greenwood Cemetery.

2002–2003 Projects and Programs Continued



Curator Steven Wilson of the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum tells the story of the Cumberland Gap during the Civil War.



The Heritage Area has developed a National Register nomination for the Old Salem Cemetery Battlefield in Madison County.

We are always looking for new partners. Please contact us with your project ideas.

Creating New National Networks and Support

A primary goal this year was to raise the credibility and visibility of the Heritage Area within national networks. We have achieved this goal by actively participating in the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA), by meeting with congressional office and committee staff in Washington, D.C., and by providing professional workshops in heritage development.

In partnership with the ANHA, the Heritage Area took a leadership role in the Heritage Development Institute (HDI), a professional training program. In 2003, we helped administer workshops in Pittsburgh and Denver, and we launched a monthly electronic newsletter about the HDI. Workshops in 2003–2004 are already scheduled for Los Angeles and Augusta, Georgia.

The solid work of the HDI has led to new outside support. In the summer of 2003, the Heritage Area received a Challenge

Cost Share grant of \$15,000 from the National Park Service to support its workshops and professional outreach. It received another \$15,000 from the ANHA to enhance HDI activities.



Dr. Reavis Mitchell (right) of Fisk University gave a tour of that historic campus during the ANHA's spring 2003 board meeting.

Developing New Opportunities in Cultural Tourism

To kick-start the Heritage Area's efforts to promote Tennessee's cultural resources, the staff prepared a bid to host the **2005 International Heritage Development Conference**, in partnership with the CHP. From June 5 to 8, 2005, we will host the conference, which will be sponsored by the ANHA, at the Downtown Sheraton in Nashville. The conference will not only bring heritage professionals from across

the nation to Nashville but will provide a forum to enhance the national reputation of the many outstanding heritage resources—Civil War battlefields, state parks, and distinctive rural landscapes—we have in the midstate region. The conference will be an unparalleled opportunity to showcase Middle Tennessee to an international audience.

TCWNHA Board of Advisors

Beverly Bond, Memphis
University of Memphis

Lee Curtis, Nashville
Tennessee Department of Tourist
Development

Vilma Scruggs Fields, Chattanooga
African-American Museum

Glenn Gallien, Brownsville
The Nature Conservancy

Jack Gilpin, Nashville
Tennessee State Parks

Herbert Harper, Nashville
Tennessee Historical Commission

Brock Hill, Crossville
Cumberland County Executive

Marilyn Holland, Nashville
Tennessee Department of
Transportation

Stuart Johnson, Murfreesboro
Stones River National Battlefield

Alton Kelley, Columbia
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Ben Nance, Nashville
Tennessee Division of Archaeology

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East Tennessee Historical Society

Ex-Officio

Dodd Galbreath
Representative from the Governor

Bart Gordon
U.S. Congress

Douglas Henry
Tennessee Senate

Steve McDaniel
Tennessee House of
Representatives

The Year in Review

Achievements

- **Greater Visibility and Outreach through Partnership Projects.** Our PSO Initiative carried our message to many new groups and led to numerous requests for assistance statewide. Many communities have benefited from this direct assistance.
- **Continued Federal Appropriations.** We received our second NPS appropriation (\$202,376), a three percent increase over the previous year. In the FY 2003–2004 budget, we are listed for \$209,000, which would mark three consecutive years of funding.
- **Progress on the Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.** We have gained the first full year of progress on these mandatory federal documents.
- **Enhanced National Networks and Outside Support.** For 2003–2004, we have achieved \$41,500 in outside support for staff, programs, national workshops, and the international conference.
- **2005 International Heritage Development Conference.** Our success in broadening our national networks and gaining new outside support enabled us to win the bid for this heritage tourism conference, which will enhance our partnerships and projects.

Challenges

- **Identifying New Partnership Projects in Tennessee.** We call upon our Board of Advisors and our Citizens Advisory Group to help us identify worthwhile, long-term projects for potential funding.
- **Broadening Federal Support and Networks.** We all need to do more to convince our representatives and appropriate congressional staff to increase the support provided to the Tennessee Civil War NHA. New relationships with such federal agencies as the United States Forest Service and the Tennessee Valley Authority need to be cultivated.
- **Completion of Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.** We need to build on the substantial progress made thus far and complete these documents.
- **Relations with National Park Service.** Our relations with NPS staff at the federal parks in Tennessee are extremely constructive and valuable. We will continue to work on enhancing our relationships with the Atlanta and Washington, D.C., offices.

Be sure to register for the 2004 Legacy of Stones River symposium, to be held March 6 (see <http://histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivilwar>).



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