



## TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWS

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

Spring 2004

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

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It's been a great spring for the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. We have worked with our partners and many citizens to tell the whole story of the Civil War era through new programs, projects, and outreach.

### Slavery and the Civil War in Tennessee



The Legacy of Stones River symposium, "Slavery and the Civil War in Tennessee," attracted 164 people wanting to learn more about the role of slavery in Civil War Tennessee. Expert scholars Dr. Charles Dew, Gary Edwards, Linda Wynn, and Dr. Robert Gudmestad provided in-depth presentations on several key topics. Dew's research into the secession debate revealed slavery as the primary cause for war, and Gudmestad's study of Isaac Franklin illuminated the business of slave trading by a prominent Tennessean. Wynn focused on what life was like for Tennessee slaves, and Edwards elaborated on the institution of slavery in the state. The question-and-answer period produced a lively and open discussion. Check our Web site for summaries of the speakers' papers.



Front row (l. to r.) Linda Wynn, Gary Edwards, and Dr. Charles Dew, speakers; and Dr. Antoinette van Zelm, TCWNHA interpretive specialist

In the afternoon, the 12th United States Colored Heavy Artillery reenactment group from Camp Nelson, Kentucky, conducted an artillery demonstration at Fortress Rosecrans. To conclude the day's activities, Miranda Fraley from Stones River National Battlefield narrated a walking tour of Stones River National Cemetery and Battlefield.



The symposium is a partnership of Stones River National Battlefield (National Park Service), Eastern National, the Tennessee Civil War NHA, the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, the MTSU History Department, and Teaching American History: Cumberland River Valley Consortium Project.



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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## **2005 International Heritage Development Conference**

### **"Creating Economic Futures: One Story at a Time"**

The Tennessee Civil War NHA and the Center for Historic Preservation will host the Alliance of National Heritage Areas' international gathering of heritage leaders and policymakers. The conference will be headquartered at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel in Nashville and will take place June 4-8, 2005.

The festivities will begin on Saturday, June 4, 2005. Early arrivals may elect to join a separately ticketed tour to either Knoxville, Memphis/Jackson, or Chattanooga. On Sunday morning the Heritage Development Institute (HDI) Workshop, "Basics of Heritage Areas," will be offered along with local tours. Monday features the keynote event and the first group of sessions on the conference theme. The real highlight of the conference is "Workshop Tuesday," when registrants may choose to visit one of

sixteen middle Tennessee historic venues. Topics for these solution-oriented sessions range from greenways and trails, heritage corridors, and adaptive reuse challenges to urban parks and battlefield preservation.

This is an opportunity to showcase our state's heritage—rich in music, landscapes, architecture, folk art, ethnic neighborhoods, whiskey making, and Walking Horses, in addition to Civil War sites. We expect at least 500 participants, including heritage area professionals, board members, funding partners, and history enthusiasts. Details will follow in future newsletters and will be available on our Web site. If you or someone you know would like to sponsor portions of the conference or volunteer assistance, or if you wish to be added to our mailing list for updates, please send an e-mail to [IHDC2005@mtsu.edu](mailto:IHDC2005@mtsu.edu).

## **Heritage Happenings**

### **Heritage Development Institute, Augusta, Ga.**



The Augusta Canal National Heritage Area hosted this year's first HDI workshop on February 19, titled "Heritage Development: The Basics of Getting Started." Forty-eight attendees from southeast states, plus Pennsylvania and Ohio, participated in sessions led by Dr. Carroll Van West; Dan Rice, president and CEO of the Ohio and Erie Canal NHA; John Cosgrove, executive director of the Lackawanna Valley NHA; and National Park Service representatives Brenda Barrett, national coordinator of Heritage Areas, and Suzanne Copping, program assistant.

## Heritage Happenings continued

### Meeting with Delta State University Officials

After soliciting the Tennessee Civil War NHA's advice in December, six representatives from Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, met with Heritage Area staff in Murfreesboro on March 18 to discuss establishing a Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area. A culture rich in music, literature, Civil Rights activism, immigration, and foodways is the basis for the proposed heritage area. Dr. Luther Brown, director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning, led the team's fact-finding mission to benefit from our experience with the Tennessee program.

### Williams-Hildreth House Property

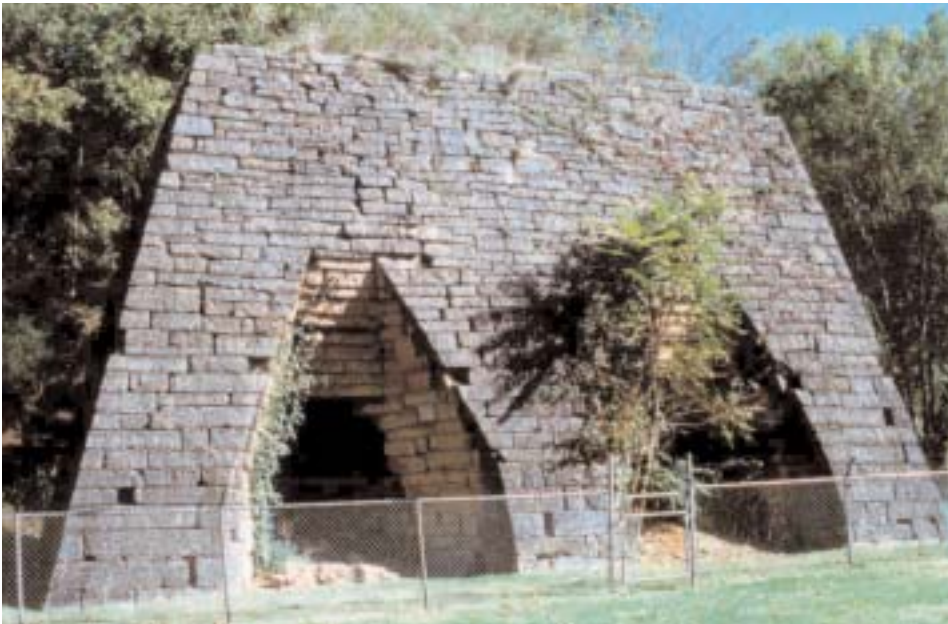


In the fall of 2003, the Tennessee Civil War NHA and the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP) partnered with preservation groups in Franklin to create a marketing presentation and feasibility study for adaptive reuse of the Williams-Hildreth House property. The location is the oldest continuously owned African American property in downtown Franklin. The Reconstruction-era property was saved from demolition and will be sold for private adaptive reuse. In March, First Lady Laura Bush recognized Franklin's commitment to protecting its heritage by designating the town part of the Preserve America initiative.

### Tennessee Preservation Trust

The April 15-17 conference in Nashville was sponsored in part by the Center for Historic Preservation. Nancy Adgent Morgan, Heritage Area technical services liaison, and Dan Allen, archaeologist, presented "Lasting Legacies of the Civil War Era-Confederate, Union, and African-American Cemeteries." With assistance from the City of Columbia and the Heritage Area, Allen is working in Columbia's Greenwood Cemetery to define borders, find evidence of buildings, repair grave markers, and produce the data for a National Register listing. Cemeteries are critical to telling the whole story of the Civil War and Reconstruction in Tennessee, and Morgan and Allen's presentation explained how to identify such historic resources and use their rich stories.

### Iron Furnace Conference



On April 27, the Buffalo/Duck River District of the United States Department of Agriculture's Resource Conservation and Development Council, the CHP, and the Tennessee Civil War NHA jointly sponsored a public forum, "Tennessee's Western Iron Furnaces: Forging the Future," to address the history, conservation, interpretation, and marketing potential of the Western Highland Rim's iron industry ruins. These resources exist in 15 counties and represent an industry connected to slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Presenters included the Heritage Area's Michael Gavin and the Tennessee Division of Archaeology's Sam Smith. The meeting was held at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns.

### American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP)

The seventh annual conference in Nashville April 19-25 combined the ABPP meeting with programs of three other groups: the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), the International Battlefield Terrain Conservation Group, and the International Battlefield Archaeology Conference. Historians/authors Ed Bearss, Benjamin Franklin Cooling, and Richard McMurry, among others, gave lectures and guided tours. State Representative Steve McDaniel, president of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, gave the keynote address.

### Franklin Battlefield Planning

The Tennessee Civil War NHA, along with other statewide heritage organizations and many local groups, participated in the March 22 public forums on the developing Franklin Battlefield Preservation Plan.

## New Partnership Projects Approved

At its March meeting, the Board of Advisors approved four new Consulting Partnership projects that meet Tennessee Civil War NHA objectives.

### East Tennessee Historical Society

An interactive computer kiosk will be placed in the Civil War section of the East Tennessee Historical Society's new exhibit, "Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee." Four touch-screen computers in the "Voices of Conflict" section will provide interpretive information about numerous Civil War related sites, museums, and research collections throughout the region and will include printable contact information and directions for visitors. In allocating matching funds, the Heritage Area hopes to test the effectiveness of such kiosks in providing interpretive and tourism information about the historic properties on its East Tennessee heritage route.

### Tennessee Historical Society

The Heritage Area will provide matching funds to support a symposium in commemoration of the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Nashville. The December 10-11, 2004, conference is a collaborative project that will feature new scholarship as well as a preservation workshop. (See page 6 for additional details.)

### "Occupied Murfreesboro" Photo Exhibit

Matching funds and professional assistance will be provided to prepare a professionally produced exhibit and accompanying interpretive booklet about these rare recently discovered photographs. (see related article on this page)

### Chattanooga African-American Museum

With matching funds and professional assistance from the Tennessee Civil War NHA, the Chattanooga African-American Museum will develop a comprehensive plan and project about the Underground Railroad, with Chattanooga as the southern gateway to Tennessee. The project will later include preparation of a workbook for teachers, teacher workshops, and production of a book on the topic.

## 2004 Partnership Projects and Programs

### "Occupied Murfreesboro" Exhibit



PHOTO COURTESY OF GORE RESEARCH CENTER

*View of the public square looking west. The town well is visible to the right.*

The Tennessee Civil War NHA partnered with Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center, the CHP, and MTSU's Albert Gore Research Center to fund a traveling exhibit that will be on display at Bradley through June 21, 2004. The exhibit features reproductions of the oldest-known photographs of Murfreesboro, which depict the town during military occupation. Sheryl and Don Jones of Colorado donated the collection to the Gore Center in 2003.

The Heritage Area's Dr. Carroll Van West and Dr. Antoinette van Zelm, in conjunction with Bradley's director, John Lodl, prepared an accompanying booklet that provides context and perspective about the significance of these photographs of the town square. The exhibit will later be displayed at various other sites.

### New Project in Bolivar



In March, Preservation Specialist Michael Gavin traveled to Bolivar and met with Joy Grubbs Oliver, president of the Hardeman County chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, to assess the physical condition of The Pillars, the former John Houston Bills residence. Gavin and Dr. Carroll Van West will return for a public meeting May 12 to discuss heritage development needs of this property and others in the Bolivar area.

**2004 Partnership Projects and Programs continued****Outdoor Exhibits in Murfreesboro**

Through our Professional Services Partnerships, the Heritage Area assisted with the development of outdoor exhibits at Oaklands Mansion and at the Discovery Center at Murfree Spring. Funded by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the outdoor exhibits are being designed by Ashworth Environmental Design in Nashville.

Heritage Area staff provided historical and editorial advice on the Oaklands panels dealing with slavery, plantation life, and the Civil War, and provided similar services for the History Wall to be featured at the Discovery Center. These exciting projects will greatly enhance the interpretive opportunities at both of these popular sites.

**Sam Davis Home Exhibit**

When staff members at the Sam Davis Home decided to broaden their interpretation of the historic home's role in the Civil War, they contacted the Heritage Area for editing and advisory services. As a result, the Tennessee Civil War NHA contributed to the content of the "Slavery" and "After the War" segments of the exhibit, in addition to providing matching funds for this important enhancement of educational and tourism efforts at the Sam Davis Home.

**Federal Planning Update**

At the spring Board of Advisors meeting, Wallace Brittain, director of the National Park Service's Southeast Regional Office, gave a positive report on the progress of our Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Working with the Walker Collaborative, a Nashville-based planning and consulting firm, Brittain's office has fine-tuned both planning documents in anticipation of their completion later this year. Finalizing these documents will enable the Heritage Area to proceed with establishing additional Collaborative Partnerships across the state. The conclusion of the planning process will also provide us with the opportunity to restructure and add new members to the Board of Advisors, further strengthening our partnering potential.

**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  
Middle Tennessee Visitors Bureau

Larry Lofton, Linden  
Tennessee RC&D Council

Bobby L. Lovett, Nashville  
Tennessee State University

Randy Lucas, Gallatin

Ben Nance, Nashville  
Tennessee Division of Archaeology

Dan Pomeroy, Nashville  
Tennessee State Museum

Fred Prouty, Nashville  
Tennessee Historical Commission

T. Clark Shaw, Jackson  
Casey Jones Village

Ann Toplovich, Nashville  
Tennessee Historical Society

Richard Tune, Nashville  
Tennessee Historical Commission

David G. Wallace, Dover  
Stewart County Executive

**Ex-Officio**

Dodd Galbreath  
Representative from the Governor

Bart Gordon  
U.S. Congress

Douglas Henry  
Tennessee Senate

Steve McDaniel  
Tennessee House of  
Representatives

## Mark Your Calendars

### Rosenwald Schools Initiative

**May 21-22, 2004, Fisk University, Nashville.**

Sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, this conference will feature educational sessions, exhibits, and tours. Dr. Carroll Van West and Anne Leslie Owens of the CHP, along with Blythe Semmer of the Metro Historical Commission, will lead a tour of extant Rosenwald sites in Sumner County. West and Leslie Sharp of the CHP, along with Jennifer Martin of Edwards-Pittman in Durham, North Carolina, will present a session on nominating Rosenwald Schools to the National Register of Historic Places. More information is at [www.rosenwaldschools.com](http://www.rosenwaldschools.com).

### Heritage Development Institute (HDI)

**July 23, 2004, Reston, Va. and September 29, 2004, Louisville, Ky.**

The HDI, a training initiative coordinated by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and the CHP, in partnership with the National Park Service, is designed to provide comprehensive training opportunities for novices and practitioners in the heritage development field. The September workshop will be an affinity session of the annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. To learn more, contact [hdi@mtsu.edu](mailto:hdi@mtsu.edu).

### Civil War 140th Anniversary Events

**October 1-3, 2004, Spring Hill.**

A national reenactment honoring the Battle of Franklin's 140th anniversary will take place. Sponsored by the *Civil War Courier*, Save the Franklin Battlefield, and the North/South Alliance, the event will feature speakers and living history activities. For more information, see [www.battleoffranklin.com](http://www.battleoffranklin.com).

**December 10-11, 2004, Nashville Public Library.**

A symposium in recognition of the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Nashville will be held. The Tennessee Historical Society, the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, Metro Nashville Historical Commission, and the Nashville Public Library will jointly sponsor the symposium, which will examine the battle's influence and its legacy as well as life on the homefront. Additional information is available at [www.tennesseehistory.org/battle\\_of\\_Nashville.htm](http://www.tennesseehistory.org/battle_of_Nashville.htm).



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