



## TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWS

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

Fall 2004

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

Vol. 2, No. 2

### **“Creating Economic Futures: One Story at a Time” 2005 International Heritage Development Conference Update**

#### **“Workshop Tuesday” to Highlight Best Practices**



*Carnton Plantation*

One of the most innovative and exciting features of the 2005 International Heritage Development Conference (IHDC) will be “Workshop Tuesday.” Complementing the traditional conference sessions, attendees will participate in interactive, all-day traveling workshops at a variety of historic towns and venues across middle Tennessee. At these workshops, both conference attendees and workshop hosts will discuss best practices in heritage development and historic preservation.

“Workshop Tuesday” will incorporate 15 different mobile sessions that emphasize one of the conference themes: “The Nuts and Bolts of Heritage Development,” “Making the Past Work for the Future,”

“Telling the Stories,” or “Smart Growth Issues.” Participants will delve into heritage successes and challenges in such historic communities as Lynchburg, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Leiper’s Fork, Franklin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, and Bowling Green, Kentucky.

These local communities are collaborating with the IHDC to design community forums that



*Stones River National Battlefield*

emphasize how heritage development approaches help stimulate economic benefits, provide community stability, and promote a sense of identity. Several of the

workshops will take place at Civil War and Reconstruction properties, including Stones River National Battlefield, Rippavilla, Carnton Plantation, the Pulaski town square, and Fort Negley.

The IHDC will be held June 4–8, 2005, in Nashville. Hosted by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and the Center for Historic Preservation, it is a program of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas. Please check our Web site periodically at [www.ihdc2005.org](http://www.ihdc2005.org) for the latest information regarding the conference.



*Nashville Greenway*

## Heritage Area Partnerships

The Heritage Area continues to partner with the **Chattanooga African American Museum** on research and publications about the Underground Railroad in Tennessee. This fall the museum held two teacher workshops and distributed teacher workbooks on the topic. The project will culminate with publication of an overview of Chattanooga's role as the southern gateway to the Underground Railroad.

A new partnership with the **Old Gray Cemetery in Knoxville** will result in a revised and expanded Civil War tour brochure. Graduate research assistants Emily Read and Erin Loob will also prepare expanded biographies of several individuals for use by tour guides. Follow-up projects may include teacher workshops, a teacher's guide, a "virtual" tour, or a summer research project.



*A new Civil War brochure will introduce visitors to Old Gray Cemetery in Knoxville.*

**"Occupied Murfreesboro: Historic Photographs from the Civil War Era,"** a traveling exhibition funded by the Heritage Area in partnership with the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP), the Albert Gore Research Center, and Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center, was most recently on view at the **Sam Davis Home in Smyrna**. Earlier venues included

Bradley Academy and Stones River National Battlefield, where more than 3,700 people saw the exhibition.

Tourism and heritage groups in **Collierville** have published a brochure with support from the Heritage Area. The handsomely designed brochure places in a national context the local events of October 11, 1863, when Union and Confederate forces squared off at the town's railroad depot just as General William T.

Sherman was attempting to pass through en route to Corinth, Mississippi.



*Union General William T. Sherman lost a horse during an 1863 skirmish at the Collierville depot.*

In partnership with the **Cumberland Valley Civil War Heritage Association (CVCWHA)**, graduate assistants are researching the DuVal-Groves House in **Robertson County** and the Ebenezer Methodist Church and cemetery in **Sumner County**. The DuVal-Groves House property contains part of Camp Trousdale, a Confederate training camp, and the church remained affiliated with the northern branch of Methodism during the war. The Heritage Area and the CVCWHA also plan to collaborate on interpretive and tourism brochures.

The Heritage Area and the **Tennessee State Museum** recently sponsored a teacher workshop on the **Civil War in West Tennessee**. Featuring presentations by historians and site visits, the workshop provided participants with an in-depth look at

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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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## Heritage Development in Bolivar: Focus on The Pillars

New avenues for heritage development have opened in Bolivar, thanks to the Heritage Area's partnership with The Pillars, the 1828 home of John Houston Bills that is now owned by the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA). Before the war, Bills, a prominent merchant, planter, and officer of the county court, lamented that secessionists would "break and destroy the best government on earth," but he took a pragmatic stance during the conflict, befriending both Union General Lew Wallace and Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest. The Pillars served as a hospital twice during the war, alternately providing care for men on both sides of the conflict.

Steve Smith, a Heritage Area intern, trained the Pillars's volunteer staff in preservation and conservation techniques and also created a collections management policy. In addition, he helped establish inventory-control procedures for the site's varied collection of letters, diaries, photographs, visual arts, and family belongings. Steve is now developing a heritage educa-



*The parlor at The Pillars features a portrait of John Houston Bills.*

tion packet and an interpretive plan for The Pillars. Educational and interpretive possibilities abound for the years following Bills's death in 1871, when The Pillars served Bolivar as the community's free lending library and an informal school of art and music.

The second part of the Bolivar project will produce a new walking tour of the historic downtown as well as a driving-tour brochure for historic properties throughout Hardeman County. Heritage Area intern Sarah Jane Murray heads up this collaborative venture.



Fran Mainella, director of the National Park Service, donned a Tennessee Civil War NHA cap during her visit to Murfreesboro in September. Stuart Johnson (left), superintendent of Stones River National Battlefield, and Mona Herring (right), director of the Rutherford County Convention and Visitors Bureau, were among the local officials who met with Mainella at Old Fort Park to talk about partnerships. Mainella also visited the new visitor center at the battlefield and toured Fortress Rosecrans.

### Heritage Area Partnerships continued

both military campaigns and home front experiences.

Heritage Area staff provided **Rippavilla Plantation** in **Maury County** with a revised tour script and recommendations for new outreach tools. Rippavilla, the home of Nathaniel Cheairs, served as a Union hospital during the Civil War.

Dan Allen, an archaeologist and Heritage Area graduate research assistant, held a series of cemetery and gravesite restoration and conservation workshops at **Greenwood Cemetery** this fall. Free to the public, the workshops were sponsored by the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department, the Maury County Archives, the CHP, and the TCWNHA.

### Heritage Happenings

Stones River National Battlefield in **Murfreesboro** dedicated its renovated visitor center on September 18. The expansion includes a new museum, film, improved offices, and museum storage. Forty-one years after the first visitor center was built on the site, park staff celebrated the completion of this major project. The new exhibition brings to life the suffering of the common soldier, the effects of the devastating battle on the local community, and the desire of many area slaves to secure their freedom behind Union lines.

Two 140th anniversary events took place in October. A national reenactment honoring the Battle of

Franklin in **Spring Hill** featured speakers and living history activities. A symposium on the Battle of Nashville, held at Travellers Rest in **Nashville**, included a roundtable seminar, discussion, and tours.

### Federal Planning Update

Phil Walker of the Walker Collaborative and Heritage Area staff are holding public meetings across the state to solicit comments on the Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. After this feedback is incorporated, the final document will be submitted to the National Park Service by the end of the year. Thanks to all who participate in the public meetings or write letters of support for the plan.

### Mark Your Calendar

**Battle of Nashville 140th Anniversary Symposium** December 10–11, 2004, Nashville Public Library. Go to [www.tennesseehistory.org/battle\\_of\\_Nashville.htm](http://www.tennesseehistory.org/battle_of_Nashville.htm) for more information.

**International Heritage Development Conference** June 4–8, 2005, Nashville. Go to [www.ihdc2005.org](http://www.ihdc2005.org) for more information.

**Legacy of Stones River Symposium** October 22, 2005, Murfreesboro.



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