



TENNESSEE CIVIL WAR NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWS

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

Winter 2005

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

Vol. 2, No. 3

New Partnerships, New Stories:

The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area in 2003-2004

Thank you for helping the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area achieve a tremendous year of growth and expansion, topped by the great news from Washington, D.C., that our fiscal year 2005 appropriation will double to \$400,000. The new funds will allow us to build upon the success of the past year and continue to open new programs and create new opportunities for Tennessee's heritage development.

Telling the Story!



Reenactors from the 12th U.S. Colored Infantry participated in our symposium "The Legacy of Stones River: Slavery and the Civil War in Tennessee."

The Heritage Area supported several stimulating programs that expanded the boundaries and understanding of Tennessee's Civil War-era story. The first took place in **Murfreesboro** and addressed the compelling topic of slavery and its impact on the Civil War in Tennessee. Over 180 people attended the one-day symposium, developed in partnership with Middle Tennessee State University's History Department, Stones River National Battlefield, and Eastern National. Featured speakers such as Charles Dew of Williams College and Linda Wynn of the Tennessee Historical Commission analyzed the centrality of slavery to the coming and fighting of the war.

Another exciting project was the traveling exhibition "Occupied Murfreesboro: Historic Photographs from the Civil War Era." Heritage Area staff created the exhibit and interpretive booklet from newly discovered photographs of the Murfreesboro square during Civil War occupation; the historic photos, donated to MTSU's Albert Gore Research Center, are the oldest known images of downtown Murfreesboro. These rare Civil War-era views became the centerpiece of a traveling exhibition that opened at the Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center in Murfreesboro before moving in the summer to neighboring Stones River National Battlefield and then to the Sam Davis Home Museum in **Smyrna**. If your institution would like to host this traveling exhibition or have a copy of the booklet, please contact the Heritage Area.

A third new avenue for telling the story of Tennessee's Civil War era came from a collaboration with the Buffalo-Duck River Resource Conservation and Development Council that focused on the neglected but very valuable resources of iron furnaces and kilns in the Western Highland Rim. We supported a one-day

conference at Montgomery Bell State Park in **Dickson** to identify the history, the best resources, and the best ways to develop the region's heritage potential.

These three programs opened new doors for interpretation and good quality projects. But the Heritage Area also joined other institutions in outstanding heritage programming such as the 23rd Local Conference on African American History and Culture in **Nashville**; a series of cemetery preservation workshops at the Greenwood Cemetery in **Columbia**; the Tennessee Preservation Trust's annual conference in **Nashville**; and the dedication ceremonies of the new visitor center at Stones River National Battlefield.



The "Occupied Murfreesboro" traveling exhibition included this view from the courthouse cupola looking east down Main Street.



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 resources. 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.

Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area

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Leading Heritage Development in Tennessee and Across America

The 2005 International Heritage Development Conference, to be held in **Nashville** June 4–8, 2005, is a signal event that will shape heritage efforts in Tennessee and the nation at a pivotal time. Conference planning now involves many Tennessee communities—from **Chattanooga, Memphis, and Knoxville** to **Lynchburg, Pulaski, Linden, Murfreesboro, Franklin, Leiper's Fork, and Lebanon**. Local groups and citizens joining with officials from many state departments will provide a high-quality conference experience with on-site workshops, challenging panels and roundtable discussions, and plenty of opportunities to network with national heritage leaders. Evening events at Leiper's Fork, Fisk University, Belle Meade Plantation, and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum will highlight the diversity of our state and allow Tennesseans to showcase the best of our shared past.

Register NOW at www.ihdc2005.org. The Heritage Area created the Web site to allow you to keep up with conference developments. Sponsored by the Alliance of National Heritage Areas, the Tennessee Civil War NHA, and the Center for Historic Preservation, the conference itself is a great example of partnerships; contributors thus far include the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development; the National Park Service; MTSU; and many other agencies, businesses, nonprofits, and citizens.

Helping Communities and Citizens Preserve the Best of the Past



The Heritage Area staff has traveled far and wide to assist owners of Civil War–era properties and to consult with institutions and agencies as they explore their communities' heritage potential.

In West Tennessee, we began to assist property owners and officials to develop the rich potential of heritage resources in **Bolivar**. At The Pillars, an important historic house administered by the local chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, we placed a graduate student on-site to develop interpretive materials and a collections management plan for the house museum. We gave another graduate student the challenge of developing driving and walking tours for heritage tourism in Bolivar and Hardeman County. We also worked with several local partners in Collierville to create an interpretive brochure entitled "Battle at the Collierville Depot," a key event that involved Gen. William T. Sherman in 1863.

The "Battle at the Collierville Depot" brochure resulted from a partnership with several groups.



The Pillars property includes this brick detached kitchen.



A new interpretive plan for The Pillars will provide fresh insights for visitors.

Helping Communities *continued*

In East Tennessee, we began to develop a National Register nomination for the Howard Moore Farm in **Hawkins County** and explore best practices and new connections for heritage programming with the **Rogersville** Heritage Association. We also created the text and images for a **Union County** Civil War—era driving tour and conducted a feasibility study for the historic campus of Morristown College in **Morristown**.

On the Cumberland Plateau, we updated a potential National Register nomination for the Kelly Ferry Road and Cemetery in **Marion County** and worked with property owners to assess the potential of the Poore Farm near **Jamestown** and the former home of A. P. Stewart in **Winchester**. We also reviewed the text and topics for a series of **Cumberland County** historical markers.

In middle Tennessee, we finished National Register nominations on historic Century Farms in **Perry, Dickson, and Rutherford** counties. We also reviewed outdoor interpretive panels for the Discovery Center Museum and Oaklands Historic House Museum in **Murfreesboro** and new interpretive plans for the Carnton Plantation and the Williams-Hilbreath House in **Franklin**.

In our Collaborative Partnership Projects, groups work with the Tennessee Civil War NHA on a fifty-fifty matching basis to develop and fund significant projects and programs. Total funding from the Heritage Area and its partners alike reached \$90,000 in 2003–2004. Our partners included the East Tennessee Historical Society, **Knoxville**, for an interactive kiosk at the new Museum of East Tennessee History; the Heritage Foundation of **Franklin and Williamson County**, for a book of Freedmen's Bureau labor contracts; the Tennessee Historical Society, **Nashville**, for the Battle of Nashville 140th Anniversary Symposium; Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center, **Murfreesboro**, for the "Occupied Murfreesboro" traveling exhibition; the Sam Davis

Home Museum, **Smyrna**, for the slavery and reconstruction sections of a new permanent exhibition; the **Chattanooga** African American Museum (CAAM) for Underground Railroad programs and publications; Main Street Collierville, **Shelby County**, for the "Battle at the Collierville Depot" brochure; and the Tennessee State Museum, **Nashville**, for a teacher workshop entitled "The Civil War in West Tennessee." **We are always looking for new partners. Please contact us with your project ideas.**

Photos clockwise from top: The Chattanooga African American Museum (CAAM) has an exhibition on the Underground Railroad; We partnered with the CAAM to produce this workbook for teachers; Reenactors and attendees mingled at the Battle of Nashville Symposium; Staff members assessed the home of Confederate General A. P. Stewart in Winchester.



Building the Management Partnership

Our Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, prepared by the Walker Collaborative of Nashville and Heritage Area staff, have been submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. Completing this partnership-building process is a crucial step in the Heritage Area's history. This fruitful collaboration between federal, state, and local officials and property owners sets forth an aggressive vision and logical goals based on the many comments made by Tennesseans during public meetings held from 1999 to 2003.

We unveiled the plan at public meetings throughout the state and incorporated comments from these meetings into the plan. Thank you for the many letters of support! Read the plan at histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivwar, or contact us and we will be happy to mail you a copy.

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Tennessee Senate

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Tennessee House of Representatives

This Year's Achievements, Next Year's Challenges

Improved Conservation of Tennessee's Civil War Heritage.

The visibility and outreach of the Heritage Area has improved through meaningful partnerships, including extensive projects in Bolivar and Pulaski and the development of exhibitions.

Increased Federal Appropriations.

The Heritage Area has been approved for \$400,000 for fiscal year 2004–2005.

Completion of Management Plan and Environmental Assessment Process.

This accomplishment marks a new level of maturity for the Heritage Area.

Progress of International Heritage Development Conference.

We have worked with many partners to lay the foundation for a successful event in June 2005.

Broadening Federal Support and Private-Sector Networks.

We all need to do more to convince Congress to continue to support the Tennessee Civil War NHA, and we also need to cultivate new relationships with other federal agencies.

Identifying New Partnership Projects in Tennessee.

We call upon our supporters to help us identify worthwhile, long-term projects that help us tell the **whole** story of America's greatest challenge, 1860–1875.

Mark Your Calendar

International Heritage Development Conference

June 4–8, 2005, Nashville

Go to www.ihdc2005.org for more information.

Register for the 2005 IHDC Now! Go to www.ihdc2005.org to register online for the 2005 International Heritage Development Conference. The cost for registration is \$295, which includes keynote speakers, conference sessions, mobile workshops, access to the exhibit hall, and evening events.

Legacy of Stones River Symposium:

The Tennessee Home Front During the Civil War

October 22, 2005, Murfreesboro



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