



## MEDIA KIT

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## HISTORIC NASHVILLE ANNOUNCES 2011 NASHVILLE NINE

The 2011 Nashville Nine represents historic properties across Nashville in danger of being lost to demolition, neglect or inappropriate renovations. Throughout the year, Historic Nashville will focus its advocacy efforts on these locations as well as Nashville Nine properties listed in previous years.

Fehr School 1957



Photo: Nashville Public Library Special Collections

Fehr School now



### **Fehr School - Built 1924**

*1624 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, North Nashville*

In September 1957, the Fehr public school, then an elementary school, stood at the center of Nashville's desegregation movement. After protests and even a bomb threat, it became Nashville's first desegregated school. Until recently, the building served as the headquarters of the Metro Action Commission. It was nominated by neighborhood residents and advocates who are worried about its future use and potentially inappropriate renovations. Councilwoman Gilmore and local residents are working with the Metro Historical Commission to designate Fehr School a Local Landmark, which will help protect the building.



**French-Starr Piano Building** – Built 1889  
*240 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Downtown*

A significant piece of Nashville’s early music history, this location was a retail outlet for pianos and sheet music as well as music studios. Home to the Jesse French & Sons Piano & Organ Company, which later merged with Starr Piano of Richmond, Ind., the upper three floors are vacant and deteriorating.

**Gallatin Road Fire Hall for Engine No. 18** –  
c. 1930s

*1220 Gallatin Road, East Nashville*

Designated a Local Landmark in 2006, the fire hall has experienced little physical change in its approximately 80 years of existence. This fire station was conveniently located along a major road serving areas seeing widespread suburban home construction in the 1920s and ’30s. Fire stations are representative of suburban growth and the expansion of cities since they are one important way Nashville provided services to its newly annexed neighborhoods. The building is now threatened by neglect and vandalism.





**Highland Heights School –**

c. 1930s

*123 Douglas Ave., East Nashville*

Currently home to KIPP Academy charter school. In need of restoration, the historic neighborhood school is threatened with demolition or inappropriate alteration.

**Hughes House 1974**



**Hughes House now**



Photo: Library of Congress

**Hughes House – c. 1870**

*1724 Jefferson Street, North Nashville*

In the 140 years since this Victorian-era side-hall Italianate cottage was built, the neighborhood surrounding it has changed. As the city grew, other working-class houses built during this time period were demolished. It now stands between a vacant lot and a cell phone shop and is threatened by further urban development, deterioration and disuse. The home was documented by the Historic American Building Survey in the early 1970s.



**McGavock House –**

c. 1840,

*908 Meridian Street, East Nashville*

Designated a local landmark in 2006, the home was built by the McGavock family. The house is the oldest residence on a 640-acre tract first deeded to David McGavock in 1786. Originally facing south, the house was renovated around 1880 to face east to Meridian Street and much of the land was subdivided into smaller parcels for residential development. Some time around 1915 the building was converted into separate apartments. Currently vacant, the home is threatened with deterioration and disuse.



**Percy Warner Park Picnic Shelters –**

c. 1930s

*7311 Highway 100, West Nashville*

Part of the WPA, designated a local landmark in 1999 and listed in National Register of Historic Places in 1984. Of the original 37 shelters, only 15 remain, with many of those damaged by flood, fire and in need of repairs.

**Tennessee State Prison – Built 1898**

*6410 Centennial Blvd., West Nashville*

This Gothic Revival landmark, designed by noted architect Samuel Manning Patton of Chattanooga, was used as a prison for 94 years after it opened in 1898. It has been vacant since 1992 and is deteriorating. The 146-acre facility has been used as a set for several major movies such as *The Green Mile* and *The Last Castle*.





**TSU Hale Stadium and Field House -  
Built 1953**

*3500 John A. Merritt Blvd., Nashville*  
Stone field house abandoned by TSU in 1998 suffering from deterioration and neglect. Hale Stadium, known as “The Hole,” has seen football played since 1931. The field house housed the ticket office, administrative offices and dressing rooms for the athletes. The proposed demolition of Hale Stadium and Field House was included in the 2008 campus master plan.

**About Historic Nashville, Inc.**

Established in 1968 and renamed in 1975, Historic Nashville, Inc. (HNI) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 membership organization with the mission to “Promote and preserve the historic places that make Nashville unique.” Over the years, HNI has successfully advocated for the preservation of such historic places the Ryman Auditorium, Union Station, Hermitage Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue & Lower Broadway, and Shelby Street Bridge, as well as neighborhood historic districts throughout the city. In 1982, HNI established the state’s first Preservation Easement program and currently owns easements on 16 historic landmarks with a market value of over \$30 million. HNI hosts an annual membership meeting, publishes a newsletter, maintains a website, hosts educational programs such as tours and the annual “Nashville Nine” list of endangered properties. For additional information, please visit [www.historicnashvilleinc.org](http://www.historicnashvilleinc.org) and our Facebook page.