



# THE COURIER

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

SUMMER 2023



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Wars Commission Grants



# STATEWIDE CEMETERY MAP AND TENNESSEE HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER DEBUTS

By Graham Perry

In April the THC's Historic Cemetery Preservation Program released the Statewide Cemetery Map and Tennessee Historic Cemetery Register. "These are key accomplishments in the development of the Commission's Historic Cemetery Preservation Program," notes Executive Director Patrick McIntyre. Available in ArcGIS format, the cemetery map has been populated through the State's cemetery database and contains almost 33,000 cemeteries. The map should be helpful not only to historians, family members, and genealogists but also to purchasers of property, developers, and government entities needing to research cemetery locations.

Historic Cemetery Preservation Specialist, Graham Perry, has worked closely with Rachel Shultz, Andrew McDonagh, and Leah Fuller from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation as well as ETSU graduate assistant, Heather White, under the supervision of Dr. Eileen Ernenwein to bring this map to fruition.



THC presents Mount Olivet with Tennessee Historic Cemetery Register Certificate

The Tennessee Historic Cemetery Register is an honorary designation and a research tool. The register documents historic cemeteries across the state for the purpose of preservation efforts. Eligible cemeteries will receive a certificate and the option to purchase an official sign noting its inclusion in the register. Applications and additional information about the Tennessee Historic Cemetery Register and the Statewide Cemetery Map can be found on the Tennessee Historical Commission website

## Mount Olivet Cemetery listed in the Tennessee Historic Cemetery Register

After the cholera outbreak of the 1830s and 1840s, Nashville needed a cemetery outside of city limits for public health safety. Mount Olivet Cemetery was founded in 1855 by Adrian Van Sinderen Lindsley and John Buddeke. The 206-acre cemetery was outside of Nashville city limits, but still close enough to serve the community.

Many local, state, and national politicians, as well as the family of Nashville's founders are buried at Mount Olivet. Other nota-

ble burials include Major Eugene C. Lewis, who was the director of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition and built the original Parthenon.



The tomb of Major Eugene C. Lewis

Photograph taken by Theresa Montgomery, Chief State Photographer

Additionally, Rep. Andrew Price is buried at Mount Olivet. Price served four terms as a United States Representative from Louisiana, from 1889-1897. He graduated from Cumberland School of Law in Lebanon, TN. The Price family was the second family to own Clover Bottom Mansion, the offices of the Tennessee Historical Commission. They owned the mansion for over 30 years, until 1918. Price would restore the home and added several outbuildings, raising livestock and thoroughbred horses.



Photograph taken by Theresa Montgomery, Chief State Photographer

The cemetery was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 25, 2005. It is the first cemetery listed in the Tennessee Historical Cemetery Register.



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# STAFF NEWS



**Miranda Christy** joined the Tennessee Historical Commission staff and the Department of Environment and Conservation Office of General Counsel in March as the Senior Historic Preservation Attorney. Christy comes to OGC from Dodson Parker Behm & Capparella, PC, where she practiced for six years in the area of finance, real estate transactions, conservation, and historic preservation. She previously served as a Director at UBS and as an Associate with Stites & Harbison, where she worked on conservation easements and deeds to protect historic sites, farmland, and scenic viewsheds. Miranda holds a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Kentucky Wesleyan College, an M.A. in Theological Studies from Vanderbilt University, and J.D. from the University of Tennessee. She is a co-founder of Emerge Tennessee and has been recognized by the Nashville Business Journal as a Woman of Influence, Best of the Bar, and Forty under 40. Miranda lives in Pegram with her husband, 11-year-old daughter, three dogs, a cat, and a tortoise.



**Philip Staffelli-Suel** joined the staff in April 2023 as the Technical Preservation Coordinator and Certified Local Government Coordinator for West Tennessee. He holds a Master of Arts in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Currently, Staffelli-Suel is pursuing a Ph.D. in Public History at MTSU. Before his current position, he worked as an Educator at the Tennessee State Museum and a Graduate Research Assistant for MTSU's Center for Historic Preservation and the Rutherford County Archives. Additionally, he is an Adjunct Professor within MTSU's History Department. He has worked and volunteered at numerous other cultural institutions throughout Middle Tennessee and North Carolina. Staffelli-Suel enjoys cooking and trying new recipes in the kitchen.



**Dr. Lane Tillner** joined the staff in April 2023 as the Technical Preservation and Certified Local Government Coordinator for East Tennessee. A native of Collierville, Tennessee, she earned a B.A. in European Studies, with a Minor in Museum Studies, from Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi. She earned her M.A. in History and Ph.D. in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University. Tillner previously worked as a graduate assistant with the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU. While there, she developed exhibits and projects for the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County. Tillner completed an inventory of artifacts at the Tennessee Executive Residence for the Tennessee State Museum. Her dissertation research focused on historic roller-skating rinks, with an emphasis on why and how they should be preserved. Through this research, she conducted survey fieldwork in multiple states across the Southeast and Midwest. Tillner is an avid reader and book collector and enjoys watching



## Commission Member News

**Judge Jim Haywood** of Brownsville, Tennessee was appointed by Gov. Lee on January 7, 2023. Haywood is a general practice lawyer with more than 40 years of experience and has served as the Brownsville Municipal Judge since his appointment in 2006. Born and raised in Haywood County, he is a direct descendant of Judge John Haywood, known as the “father of Tennessee history”.

Haywood has had a lifetime devotion to history with a major in history from the University of Tennessee at Martin and is also a past president of the Haywood County Historical Society. He is married to Marietta Roth Haywood, an architect with TLM in Jackson, Tennessee. They have a daughter, Elizabeth Haywood, a sophomore at the University of Mississippi.





# 2023 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDS ANNOUNCED

By Caty Dirksen



The Tennessee Historical Commission celebrates National Preservation Month each May by presenting Certificate of Merit Awards in recognition of exemplary work by individuals, groups, organizations, corporations, or governmental entities that further promote historic preservation or the study of history in Tennessee. Since 1975, THC's Certificate of Merit Program has solicited Merit Award nominations from the public. All nominations are judged by category.

The **Historic Preservation** category recognizes excellence in the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of a historic or archaeological site, preservation leadership, preservation planning, publications related to historic preservation, public programming, or research.

The 2023 awards in this category goes to:

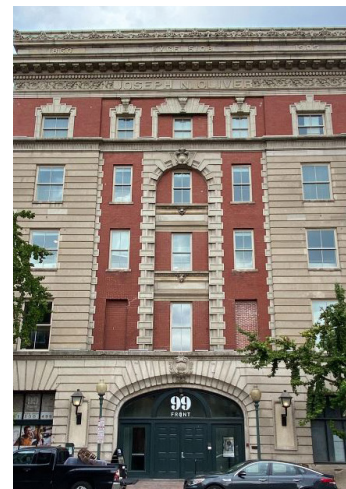
**Belmont Mansion** in Nashville for the restoration of the 19-foot barrel-vaulted ceiling in the Grand Salon to its former appearance.



**Bill Taylor** for his extensive research and role in the restoration of the box tomb and obelisk in the William Ewing Cemetery in Nashville.



**Emily Williams** for the completion of her Eagle Scout Project, mapping and documenting the Brewer's Chapel Cemetery in Chapmansboro.



**J.N. Oliver and Stewart Buildings** in Memphis for the completion of a rehabilitation project of two buildings within a National Register of Historic Places District for commercial and residential use.







**John McKamey** for playing an integral role in the acquisition of 15 acres of the original Cobb Farm of Rocky Mount State Historic Site in Piney Flatts.



**Sanda Hosiery Mills** for the rehabilitation of the National Register of Historic Places property into residential lofts in Cleveland.

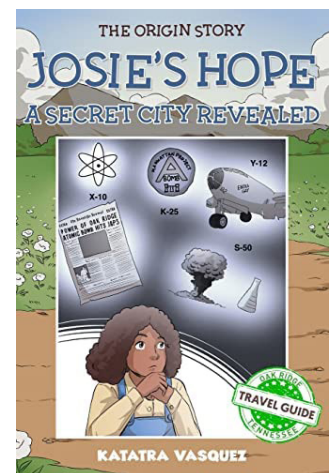


**Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park** in Manchester for their Cemetery Cleaning Workshop at Hickerson-Wooton Cemetery.

The **Book or Public Programming** category recognizes notable achievements toward advancing the study of Tennessee history through certain types of books or public programming.

The 2023 awards in this category goes to:

**Katatra Vasquez** for her children's graphic novel about the history of Oak Ridge before it became the Secret City during the Manhattan Project and through the eyes of African Americans. *Josie's Hope: A Secret City Revealed* also points out landmarks that are still extant related to the pre-Secret City history of Oak Ridge.



This year, **Claudette Stager** received a **Preservation Leadership Award**, the 5th bestowed in 48 years, for her 37 years of service with the Tennessee Historical Commission and State Historic Preservation Office, as a National Register Coordinator then the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer.





# 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARTERING OF METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY AND THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

By Linda T. Wynn *Assistant Director for State Programs*

As of April 1, 2023, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County celebrated its 60th Anniversary. The road to consolidating the city and county governments took a protracted meandering path to affirmation. After the Second World War, Davidson County witnessed an exponential increase in its population as residents began leaving Nashville's older urban localities for contemporary houses constructed in more modernistic enclaves known as the suburbs. The county's educational system found it difficult to keep up with the increased school age population, the county lacked the financial means to provide fundamental services, such as fire protection, sanitary sewers, or the collection and disposal of refuse. This population shift also created a financial challenge for Nashville's city government, as its tax base began to erode. County residents enjoyed many city services such as the use of its public libraries and parks system without paying the city taxes which funded those services. The county could not provide such services as a sewer system or fire protection. Notwithstanding, Nashville and Davidson County provided some overlapping of services. Both the city and county operated school systems and both governmental entities operated health departments. Nashville and Davidson County elected officials and community leaders resolved that a dualistic approach was needed to combat and solve problems faced by both governments.

The Nashville elections in 1951 presaged a shift in race relations in the "Athens of the South," a city that perceived itself as a forward-looking southern city. As the older leaders within the African American community passed off the scene, a new generation of leaders came to the forefront and like those before them, worked for the benefit of their community. Z. Alexander Looby and Robert E. Lillard were the first African Americans elected to Nashville's city council since the 1911 election of Solomon P. Harris, the first African American council member since 1885. Looby earned a bachelor's degree from Howard University, a Bachelor of Law degree from Columbia University, and a Doctor of Juristic Science from New York University. Although Lillard and Looby came from different experiences and backgrounds, and represented different electorates within the African American community, both dedicated themselves to increasing the African American influence and power within city government. Ben West narrowly won his mayoral race against incumbent Mayor Thomas Cummings.

Nashville's 1951 election also connoted a changing of the guard for city's white political establishment. After being sworn into office, Looby and Lillard focused on legislation and policies that benefited their constituents, namely, doing away with Jim Crow laws that stipulated the separation of the races. Consequently, Attorney Looby introduced bills to desegregate public facilities. The issue of race relations was not the only problem facing Nashville, whites began moving out of the city and consequently the tax base decreased and Davidson County governmental officials under the leadership of County Judge Beverly Briley found themselves struggling to provide the services needed to sustain the population growth. To create a solution, both the Nashville Council and the Davidson County Court created a joint commission of fifteen members to investigate and make recommendations, including merging the two governments. In 1952 the Community Services Commission published "A Future for Nashville," a comprehensive study of the challenges of growth and possible solutions to the problems of providing adequate government services to all residents in an efficient manner. The study indicated that Nashville and Davidson County both had something to offer the other. It provided the foundation for the creation of a city-county commission to write a charter for a unified system of government. With a Nashville-Davidson County consolidation in mind, in 1953 the Tennessee General Assembly enacted legislation that paved the way for local government mergers, notwithstanding, any such merger would have to be approved by voters in both affected areas.

During the study, in 1954 the Supreme Court of the United States handed down its unanimous *Brown versus Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* that outlawed the separate system of African American and white schools on a national level. A year later, known as the "Dean" of Nashville's African American attorneys, Looby filed a suit against the local public schools on behalf of A. Z. Kelley, a barber, whose son Robert was denied access to a nearby white school. In 1957, the same a federal court issued an order for Nashville's public schools to desegregate a grade a year, a city-county commission was established to write a charter for a unified system in which the city of Nashville and Davidson County would be consolidated into one governmental unit.





When the African American civil rights movements of World War II began, Looby became the local leader. From 1943 to 1945, he presided over the James C. Napier Bar Association. He ran for the city council in 1940, although a white opponent beat him in a runoff election. In 1946, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) hired Looby, Maurice Weaver, and Thurgood Marshall to represent the blacks of Columbia, Tennessee, who were charged with murder following recent race riots in that town. Looby's legal defense helped acquit twenty-three of the defendants. He crisscrossed the state in the company of other black lawyers, arguing against Jim Crowism and discrimination. Looby is credited with desegregating the Nashville Airport's dining room and the city's non-private golf courses. Looby viewed politics as a way to change an oppressive system.

Robert Emmitt Lillard, a native Nashvillian received his education at Immaculate Mother's Academy and in local public schools, and then attended Beggins Commercial College, although his ambition was to become a lawyer. In 1932, Lillard entered law school after Looby, and other local black leaders organized Nashville's Kent College of Law. He continued his city job and attended law classes five nights a week, and in 1935 he was graduated from the Kent College of Law and passed the bar exam the following year. However, he received an appointment to Nashville's Fire Engine Company No. 11 at 12th Avenue, North, and Jefferson Street, where he remained until 1950. Lillard then entered the practice of law on a full-time basis and participated in local politics. Earlier in 1932 he organized the 15th Ward Colored Voters and Civic Club. Later he founded the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Leagues. Among other accomplishments, Lillard helped persuade the city to transform Cameron Junior High School into the second high school for local African Americans and successfully secured an ordinance to desegregate the Parthenon in Centennial Park. In 1957, a city-county commission was established to write a charter for a unified system in which the city of Nashville and Davidson County would be consolidated into one governmental unit.

West and Briley appointed five members each. Both appointed African Americans to serve on the commission. West appointed Council Member Attorney Z. Alexander Looby and Briley appointed pharmacist Dr. George S. Meadors (1893- 1977), founder of People's Pharmacy and a prominent business leader in the African American community, to the commission. The following year, the committee produced a charter endorsed by both Mayor West and County Judge Briley and the Nashville Banner and Tennessean newspapers. Nashville's African American community found itself divided over the merging of city and county governments. In Nashville, the African American population was stronger in numbers near the heart of the city and weaker around the suburban edges. Consequently, questions arose about whether African American voters' influence would be diminished by city-county consolidation.

Those African Americans who followed Looby's reasoning felt that if consolidation generated economic growth, all Nashvillians, including African Americans would be the beneficiaries. Those who followed Lillard feared that if the city and county governments merged, the political gains realized would be loss. In June of 1958, when the charter referendum was held, although it passed in the city, county residents vote against it for concern about an increase in their taxes. Four years later, officials attempted a second charter.

In 1962, when a second charter commission convened, the mood in Nashville changed. Mostly, African American college students managed to sustain their movement to desegregate public accommodations causing the town that saw itself as a moderate southern city to change, although many whites opposed the desegregation of the city's public facilities. African Americans lost faith in Mayor West because he did not endorse complete desegregation of all public facilities. Although Mayor West and the Banner opposed the second charter as written, it was presented to the voters for their approval. Again, Looby remained steadfast in his support of a consolidated government and Dr. Vivian Henderson, an economics professor at Fisk University (who implemented the economic withdrawal during boycott of downtown merchants) joined Looby in support of the consolidation of city and county government. They believed that through consolidation African Americans could sustain political power by drawing intentional district lines for the 35-member metropolitan council included in the new charter. Because of Attorney Looby's relentless justification of majority African American councilmanic districts during the commission meetings, six of the thirty-five councilmanic districts were drawn to preserve black majorities in them. Dr. Henderson and Attorney Looby contended that economic gains promised by consolidating the two governments would create additional employment opportunities for both African Americans and whites. On June 28, 1962, the charter passed in both the city and the county, despite being rejected by fifty-five percent of African American voters. On April 1, 1963, Beverly Briley was sworn in as the first mayor of Metropolitan Nashville and African American council members Mansfield Douglas, John Driver, and Harold Love, Sr., joined Looby and Lillard among the 40 members of the first Metropolitan council.

Until his death in May 2009, charter member Mansfield Douglas was the last living charter member of the Metro Council. Serving for thirty-six years, after becoming one of the first African American members of the Metro Council, in 1996, Douglas felt the African American community lost its political muscle because of consolidate government. "It has not been to the advantage of minorities" he said. complaining of the inadequacy of road maintenance and care for the indigent. Still, Douglas said, "the consolidated government is a better option than dual city-county government." Prior to the 60th anniversary celebration of the consolidation of Nashville and Davidson County, several events were held across Nashville as the date of the anniversary approached. On April 1, 2023, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville





and Davidson County celebrated its 60th Anniversary on the public square. Ironically, as its citizens prepared to celebrate this milestone in its history, a bill passed in the first session of the 113th Tennessee General Assembly that reduced the Metropolitan Council of Nashville and Davidson County from forty to twenty members. The law was signed into law on March 9, 2023. Effective immediately, the law negatively impacted the upcoming elections. The new statute mandated that Nashville officials draw new councilmatic districts by May 1, 2023, a deadline city functionaries felt unreasonable. Nashville officials filed a lawsuit that contended changing the council's makeup would throw the city's elections into chaos, as more than forty members had already launched their councilmanic campaigns. Councilmanic district boundaries would need redrawing to reflect the council's reduced size. Three state court trial judges, one from Nashville, one from Shelby County and one from Athens, Tennessee, agreed, saying there is a "compelling public interest in preserving the integrity of the Metro election process that is already underway."

Today the Metro Council is reflective of its population, including African Americans, women, and others. The consolidation of Nashville and Davidson County gave more citizens the opportunity to participate in the governmental process through service on Metro's boards and commissions. For sixty-years, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County has stood the test of time. However, the question remains, where does it go from here?

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# TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SUMMER 2023

Keep up with the fantastic events offered by our State Historic Sites on our website's calendar!

- **Hawthorn Hill State Historic Site Tour**  
-- July 8, 2023 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm CDT
- **Old-Fashioned Independence Day at Rocky Mount State Historic Site**  
-- July 15, 2023, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm EDT
- **History Happy Hour at the Chester Inn State Historic Site, featuring Dr. William Kennedy**  
-- July 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm EDT
- **A Walk in History at Sam Houston Schoolhouse State Historic Site**  
-- August 19, 2023 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm EDT
- **Living History Festival at Rock Castle State Historic Site**  
-- September 7, 2023 - September 8, 2023, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm CDT





# COMMISSION STAFF ATTEND PRESERVATION ADVOCACY WEEK IN WASHINGTON, DC

By Casey Lee

Three staff from the Tennessee Historical Commission/Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office headed to Washington D.C. in March for the first in-person Preservation Advocacy Week since 2020. The group included Patrick McIntyre, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer; Justin Heske, Federal Historic Tax Credit Reviewer and Federal Programs Supervisor, and Casey Lee, Section 106 Co-Coordinator. For McIntyre, this marked the 20th anniversary of his first time participating in this annual gathering. Preservation Advocacy Week is a chance for preservation professionals across the nation to come together and learn about legislation that could affect preservation programs, specifically programs administered through State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs). These professionals then get the opportunity to connect with their state representatives in D.C. and staff from their representative's offices to discuss legislation that benefits historic preservation, including how the Federal Historic Preservation Fund is used in Tennessee.

This Preservation Advocacy Week, several issues were highlighted, and those advocating emphasized the following:

- 1. That the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) be reauthorized permanently at an increased rate of at least \$300 million to ensure that federal funds to State Historic Preservation Offices, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and federal grants continue to ensure successful preservation projects. Tennessee uses almost all of our allocated Historic Preservation Funds to directly fund preservation projects throughout the state, directly affecting and supporting Tennessee communities.
- 2. That our state representatives support the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity Act (HTC-GO). The Historic Tax Credit is a successful program that spurs preservation projects through rehabilitations of historic properties by providing owners with a tax credit for projects that successfully go through the tax credit process. This program generates more in tax revenue than the program costs by providing the credits. Since its inception, the historic tax credit program has helped rehabilitate over 47,000 buildings, has created nearly 3 million jobs, and produced over 185,000 low-moderate income affordable housing units, often in economically distressed areas. HTC-GO would make the program even more successful by making it possible for smaller projects to benefit from the historic tax credit, and it would eliminate the requirement that the value of the HTC must be deducted from a building's basis.



- 3. That our state Congressional representatives join the Historic Preservation Caucus, a bipartisan caucus that serves as a forum for members to work together to support preservation of America's historic resources and economic revitalization of America's communities.

The Tennessee Historical Commission staff had a successful preservation advocacy week with fellow members of their Tennessee contingent which included other preservation professionals from Tennessee: Phil Thomason and Kim Trent from the Tennessee Preservation Trust, and Jocelyn Imani. They met with all representatives or staff for all representatives to discuss and advocate for federal preservation actions that would benefit preservation and economic revitalization in Tennessee and help preserve Tennessee's rich history.

To learn more about preservation advocacy week, go to <https://preservationaction.org/aw2023/>





# WARS COMMISSION AWARDS OVER \$5 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDS

Nina L. Scall, Director of Programs

The Tennessee Wars Commission, a division of the Tennessee Historical Commission, is pleased to announce a total of \$5,184,162.24 in grants awarded for the 2022-2023 cycle between the Civil War Sites Preservation Fund (CWSPF) and Wars Commission Grant Fund (WCGF). These two grant funds make key contributions to saving threatened battlefield properties and provide an understanding of Tennessee’s military heritage.

The Tennessee Historical Commission has voted to award \$5,055,000.00 in Civil War Sites Preservation Grant Funds to the American Battlefield Trust

(ABT) and to Franklin’s Charge, Inc. for the acquisition of battlefield lands, where the THC will hold the conservation easements. Additionally, the Historical Commission has voted to award \$129,162.24 in Wars Commission Grant Funds to five applicants. The successful projects are as follows:

## Civil War Sites Preservation Fund:

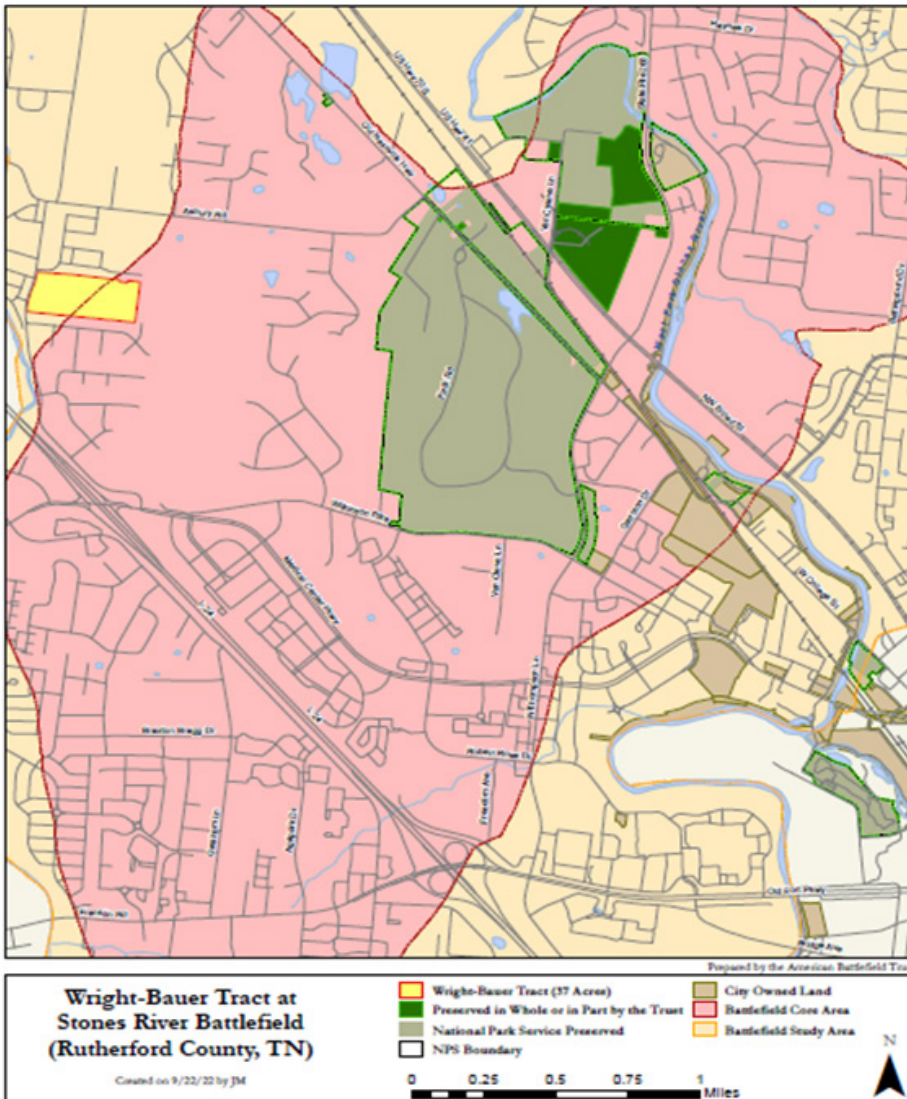
### 1. The American Battlefield Trust, Murfreesboro, Rutherford County: “Wright Tract”

was awarded \$3,330,000.00 for the acquisition of 37 acres of battlefield

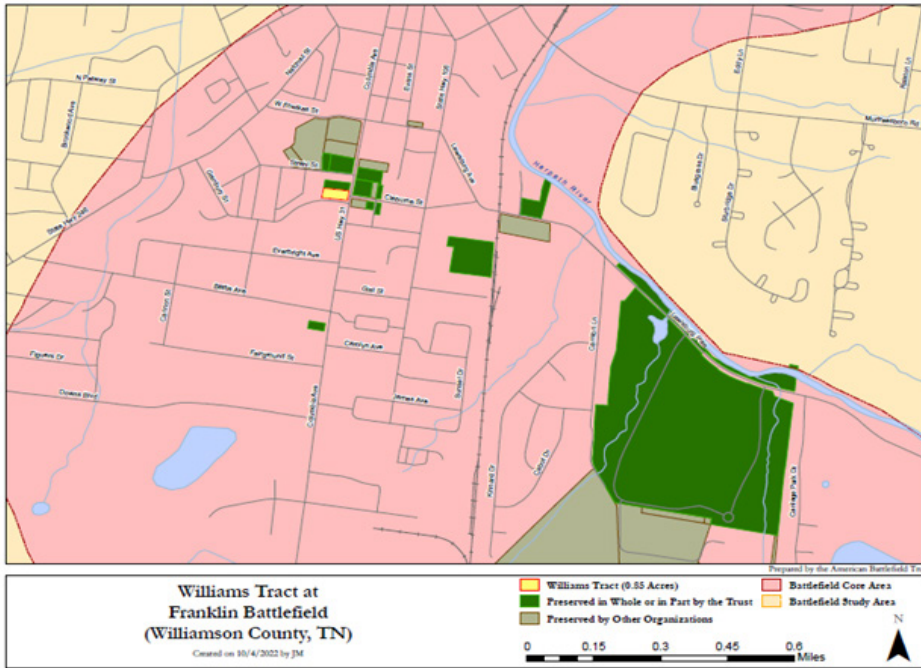
property in Rutherford County associated with the Stones River Battlefield. This parcel is within two miles of the two 2020 acquisitions, the O’Reilly Tract and the Van Cleve Tract. Where, on December 26, 1862, Major General William S. Rosecrans initiated a winter campaign and his Army of the Cumberland departed Nashville to engage General Braxton Bragg’s Army of Tennessee. After several days of maneuvering, the armies faced one another near Murfreesboro. Both commanders planned to attack on New Year’s Eve, each deciding to assault the other’s right flank. Ultimately, Rosecrans’ victory at Stones River was an important boost for Union morale and added military weight to the recently issued Emancipation Proclamation.

### 2. Franklin’s Charge, Inc., Franklin, Williamson County: “Williams Tract”

was awarded \$1,725,000.00 for the acquisition of the approximately 0.85-acre parcel adjacent to the Spivey Tract, preserved in 2019, and is among a cluster of preserved battlefield property near the Carter House State Historic Site. The Williams Tract was once part of the farm belonging to F. B. Carter, whose house became the headquarters for the Union 23rd Corps during the battle that took place on November 30, 1864. This tract was the scene of heavy casualties pounded by artillery fire from two directions, killing, and wounding scores of Confederate soldiers. Dozens were buried after the battle before being exhumed and moved to Carnton. After the war, the Williams Tract returned to the Carter family.







## Wars Commission Grant Fund:

### 1. Camp Blount Historic Site Association, Fayetteville, Lincoln County: “Foundation Document”

Camp Blount encompasses the last 40 undeveloped acres that held the significant mustering site of Tennessee’s volunteers during the War of 1812. Due to the successful planning and execution of the site’s development and its preliminary projects, Camp Blount is ready for its next phase in planning, the creation of a National Park Service (NPS)-level foundation document. The Camp Blount Historic Site Association has been awarded \$16,976.24 to hire historic preservation professionals to coordinate efforts, compile information, and draft the foundation document.

### 2. Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), Murfreesboro, Rutherford County: “LiDAR of Fort Negley”

Middle Tennessee State University has been awarded \$18,502.00 in funds to hire an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) consultant to conduct a LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) and orthoimagery remote sensing survey of Fort Negley Park. The objective of the survey is to collect geospatial data and to create three-dimensional data products whose uses are threefold, one, to identify cultural landscape features

at the site; two, to develop a geographic platform for an administrative record of the archaeological excavations and the stone wall fortifications; and three, to develop reference material for researchers, the Metro Historical Commission, Metro Parks Department, and contractors working to implement the 2022 Master Plan.

### 3. Reflection Riding Arboretum and Nature Center, Chattanooga, Hamilton County: “Phase II Archaeological Survey”

Since 2021, the Tennessee Historical Commission has held the conservation easement on the 300-acre Reflection Riding Arboretum and Nature Center due to its association with the Lookout Mountain Battlefield. Archaeology has helped inform development decisions in the past and is required yet again to help guide the gentle development of the property to accommodate the future needs of the arboretum. The \$29,000.00 award will ensure the proper preservation and conservation of archaeology and any material culture removed from the ground. Additionally, archaeological excavations will help to expand interpretation efforts at the arboretum to include stories of the Civil War for visitors.

### 4. The Andrew Jackson Foundation, Hermitage, Davidson County: “War of 1812 Living History Programming”

Each year over 200,000 visitors experience Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage and deepen their understanding of the nation’s history. The Andrew Jackson Foundation (AJF) was awarded \$17,500.00 in grant funds for the creation of two living history programs focused on the War of 1812. The first, “Andrew Jackson and the Tennessee Militia” will explore the history, hardships, and challenges that the militiamen faced during the War of 1812. The second, “The War of 1812 Encampment,” will be a large-scale living history event that will bring together over 100 professional reenactors for an event-filled weekend focused on developing a broad and unique interpretation of the daily life of the militiamen.

### 5. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Davidson County: “Geophysical Work, Mapping the Battle of Nashville”

The Battle of Nashville was the culminating event of the Civil War in the West that was both the final destruction of the Confederate Army of Tennessee and the last major engagement of the American Civil War in the Western Theater. The \$47,184.00 award will be used to implement newer, cutting-edge historical and archaeological tools such as geophysical surveys, comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis, georeferenced historic maps, high-resolution digital scanning, landscape modelling, magnetometry, and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to characterize this battlespace. The data will be integrated with other historical and technical information to create a digital ESRI StoryMap. Users will be able to journey through the battlespace, past and present.

The 2023-2024 grant cycle for the Civil War Sites Preservation Fund opens on August 14, 2023 and runs through November 3, 2023. The Wars Commission Grant Fund opens on September 1, 2023 and runs through November 19, 2023. More information on the grants can be found on the Wars Commission’s website at <https://www.tn.gov/historicalcommission/state-programs/tennessee-wars-commission.html>.





# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NEWS

By J. Ethan Holden

## Six Tennessee Properties Added to the National Register of Historic Places



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Carroll Van West.

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. It is part of a nationwide program that coordinates and supports efforts to identify, evaluate and protect historic resources. The State Historic Preservation Office administers the program in Tennessee. The state's new listings are:

### **Exit/In**

Listed March 28, 2023  
(Nashville, Davidson County)

Located on Elliston Place in Nashville's "Rock Block," Exit/In was nominated for its exceptional impact on Nashville's alternative music and entertainment scene. Exit/In opened in 1971, though the building it occupied on Elliston was constructed nearly twenty-years earlier. Owsley Manier and Brugh Reynold

were the original owners of the building. Manier and Reynold chose the location because of its proximity to Vanderbilt University and the local neighborhood's reputation as a "youth-oriented" area. Exit/In quickly established itself as an important alternative music venue in a city known for country music. Since its opening, Exit/In has hosted many important artist, musicians, singers, and songwriters, including Jimmy Buffett, Doc Watson, Joan Baez and Odetta, John Prine, Linda Ronstadt, Billy Joel, and Kris Kristofferson, to name a few. Popular music historians have ranked Exit/In with the Troubadour in Los Angeles and the Bottom Line in New York City as one of the most pivotal popular music clubs in the United States in the 1970s and 1980s.

### **Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church**

Listed January 17, 2023  
(Paris, Henry County)

Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church is located in a historically African American residential neighborhood in Paris, Henry County. The church was constructed in 1917 after the previous building burned in 1916. Quinn Chapel and its congregation were an integral part of their surrounding community and the city of Paris. The church sponsored many civic and community outreach programs. The

Paris-Henry County Civic League was organized in Quinn Chapel's basement in 1932, and the Paris-Henry County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) hosted events at Quinn Chapel in the 1960s teaching attendees how to apply for jobs or advance their own career. Quinn Chapel was also active within the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) denomination. The church sponsored other congregations nearby, and their choir was known regionally for their excellence. Current congregation members continue this tradition of community outreach and service.

**Maury High School** (Dandridge Historic District Additional Documentation)  
Approved February 1, 2023  
(Dandridge, Jefferson County)



Photo Courtesy of Jessica Baker.



Photo Courtesy of Buzz Goss.





Maury High School, located in the Dandridge Historic District in Dandridge, Jefferson County, was nominated for its Colonial Revival architecture. The high school was constructed in 1927 by architectural firm Barber & McMurry. It was preceded by several private male and female academies located in and around Dandridge. Maury High School possesses many of the character-defining architectural features of the Colonial Revival style, including symmetrical fenestration with multi-light wood windows, a classically influenced entrance door, and circular brick chimney. Additions to the school in 1955 also demonstrate the influence of Modernism architectural design on school buildings. In the mid-1950s, a new high school was constructed on Maury Circle, and the nominated building became the Dandridge Elementary School. It served as the elementary school until the 1980s, at which point it became used for storage. The current owner plans to rehabilitate the building using preservation incentives.

**Emory Place Historic District** (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

Listed April 20, 2023  
(Knoxville, Knox County)

The Emory Place Historic District in Knoxville was listed in the National Register on November 10, 1994, for its importance in both architecture and the history of transportation development. This nomination expanded and updated the district to include its significance in the commercial and community planning



*Photo Courtesy of Hollie Cook.*

history in the area. Early growth in North Knoxville gave rise to Central Market, a short, two-block long divided street that was home to a one-story market building constructed in 1890. In April 1905, the City of Knoxville tore down the market building and converted the space the market housed into a public park. It was named Emory Park in honor of Reverend Isaac Emory and was later renamed Emory Place in the mid-1950s. Emory Place quickly became a bustling economic and transportation hub. The first streetcar line established in Knoxville located its southern terminus at North Broadway and Tyson Street, and later several of Knoxville's first gas stations were located in the district. Buildings in the district housed businesses such as bakeries, grocery stores, furniture store, pharmacies, and dry cleaners. The district declined throughout the second-half of the twentieth-century as businesses relocated to the suburban sprawl of West Knoxville. By the early 1980s, many buildings in the district had deteriorated. However, a combination of federal preservation incentives and community preservation efforts have given the district new life.

**Griggs Business and Practical Arts College**

Listed March 21, 2023  
(Memphis, Shelby County)

Griggs Business and Practical Arts College occupies a small lot on Vance Avenue in Memphis, Shelby County. The College building was originally constructed in 1858 to serve as the residence for John Minter Gregory and Elizabeth Stovall. The neighborhood surrounding the building at the time of its construc-

tion was occupied primarily by affluent, white Memphians. As white Memphians moved eastward in the twentieth century, African-American families moved into the vacancies, bring new life and history to these areas. Reverend S.A. Owens and C.J. Gaston purchased the building on December 15, 1949 to serve as the campus for Griggs Business and Practical Arts College.



*Photo Courtesy of Rebecca Shmitt.*

Founded by educator and civil rights activist Emma Griggs, the college offered practical courses to its students, including shorthand, business English, commercial law, secretarial guidance, and typewriting. More than one-thousand men and women received their education from Griggs, and many alumni went on to hold leadership roles in their communities and professions. The College declined in the 1970s in the face of Urban Renewal and financial problems. It was officially dissolved in 1983. The current owner of the property is committed to preserving the building and transforming it into a vital resource for the surrounding community.







Photo Courtesy of Michelle Taylor

**Lewisburg Avenue Historic District**  
(Boundary Decrease, Boundary Increase  
and Additional Documentation)  
Listed April 20, 2023.  
(Franklin, Williamson County)

Lewisburg Avenue Historic District was first nominated on April 13, 1988 for its architectural significance. This update adjusted the boundaries and provided additional architectural information on buildings constructed after World War II. The Lewisburg Avenue Historic District is home to a large collection of residential architecture that reflects evolution in American architecture in the area and the state. Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Tudor Revival,

Colonial Revival, and Craftsman types are all represented. The residential district grew along the former Lewisburg Pike toll road. The Otey-Campbell House was the earliest residence. Development continued southward in the late nineteenth century following the subdivision of land owned by Colonel John B. McEwen. It was the 1920s that brought the most significant building campaign along Lewisburg Avenue. Little has changed in the district since it was listed in 1988, and in 2022 the City of Franklin adopted guidelines for historic districts to assist in their preservation. This update was partially funded by a federal Historic Preservation Fund grant.

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## HISTORICAL MARKERS

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At its meeting on February 17, 2023 the Tennessee Historical Commission approved seven historical markers: *Medal of Honor Recipient Charles S. Davis*, Bedford County; *Historic Bethlehem Church and Cemetery*, Blount County; *The Gold Coast*, Davidson County; *“Spirit of the American Doughboy”*, Johnson County; *Derryberry Log House/Wisener-Church House Site*, Maury County; *Clarksville Civil Rights Movement*, Montgomery County; and *Plum Grove*, Washington County. Those interested in submitting proposed texts for markers should contact Linda T. Wynn at the Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442, or call (615) 770-1093.



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### Public Comment Solicited

As the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Tennessee Historical Commission is soliciting public comment and advice on its administration of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Especially, we are seeking input on such matters as geographic areas or classes of properties which may be a priority for survey and/or registration efforts, criteria and priorities which should be established for Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grants, and ways and means through which local efforts at preservation of historic properties can be most effectively assisted. The HPF is the federal fund appropriated under the authority of the NHPA to assist states in carrying out the purposes of the NHPA. Comments and advice on other areas and issues of a more general nature are also encouraged. Activities carried out by SHPO under the mandate of the NHPA include efforts to survey and inventory historic properties across the state and to nominate the most significant of them the National Register of Historic Places. Other activities involve programs to protect and preserve properties once they are identified by reviewing Federal projects to determine if they will adversely affect historic properties; administering the federal historic tax credit program; awarding and administering HPF grants; and providing technical assistance and advice to local governments which are attempting to establish local programs and ordinances to protect historic properties. The comments received will be used to structure the SHPO's annual application to the National Park Service for these funds. The public input and advice which we are soliciting now will help to set both general office objectives and to establish priorities and criteria for the review of grant applications. Comments are accepted throughout the year and should be addressed to Holly Barnett, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214. This program receives Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127 Tennessee Historical Commission, Authorization Number 327324, 4,622 copies promulgated at a cost of \$1.05 per copy, 5/22/23.

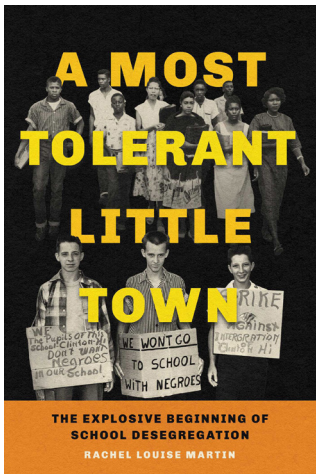




# PUBLICATIONS TO NOTE

By Linda T. Wynn

Assistant Director for State Programs & Publications Editor



Simon & Schuster in New York City published Rachel Louise Martin's *A Most Tolerant Little Town: The Explosive Beginning of School Desegregation*. When one thinks of noted school desegregation cases, the first to come to mind is Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, which captured the nation's attention. Three years after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously in *Brown v. Board of Education* that

separate educational facilities were fundamentally unequal, nine African American students—Minnijean Brown, Terrance Roberts, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Thelma Mothershed, Melba Patillo, Gloria Ray, Jefferson Thomas, and Carlotta Walls—attempted to desegregate Little Rock's Central High School. Recruited by Daisy Bates, president of the Arkansas branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the students, became known as the Little Rock Nine. On September 4, 1957, the first day of school, a white mob gathered in front of the school to prevent the African American students from entering. Governor Orval Faubus deployed the Arkansas National Guard. In response to the governor's action, a team of NAACP lawyers, including Thurgood Marshall, won a federal district court injunction to prevent the governor from blocking the students' entry. With the help of police escorts, the students successfully entered the school through a side entrance on September 23, 1957. However, fearing escalating violence, officials rushed the students home soon afterward. As president of the Montgomery Improvement Association, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote President Dwight D. Eisenhower, requesting a swift resolution allowing the students to attend school. While the Little Rock Nine and Arkansas's Central High School received attention across the nation, another school desegregation case played out in Appalachian town of Clinton, Tennessee. Dr. Martin received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. As a historian she concentrates on narrating the troublesome and problematic stories of inequality and how they structure families, communities, and the country. The author of *Hot, Hot Chicken: A Cultural History of Nashville Hot Chicken*, her work has appeared in *The Atlantic* and *the Oxford American*. Martin's *A Most Tolerant Little Town: The Explosive Beginning of School Desegregation*, takes the reader into the community of Clinton, Tennessee, following the

U. S. Supreme Court's ruling in the *Brown* decision and federal Judge Robert L. Taylor's ordering the desegregation of Anderson County's Clinton High School. On August 26, 1956, twelve African American students (Jo Ann Allen, Bobby Cain, Anna Theresser Caswell, Gail Ann Epps, Minnie Ann Dickey, Ronald Gordon Hayden, William Latham, Alvah Jay McSwain, Maurice Soles, Robert Thacker, Regina Turner, and Alfred Williams), who became known as the "Clinton Twelve", attended their first day of class, making them the first students to desegregate a public high school in the South. Martin interviewed over "sixty residents of Clinton—including some of the first students to desegregate Clinton High School." On May 17, 1957—three years to the day after the *Brown* decision—Bobby Cain became the first African American graduate of a white Southern public high school during the Jim Crow era.

*A Most Tolerant Little Town* makes a definitive statement about the terminologies: "integration" versus "desegregation" and the reader realizes they are not interchangeable. The students at Clinton High School and Little Rock's Central High School merely desegregated the schools' environs. Simply put, the students in both schools entered those spaces in compliance with the law as enunciated in *Brown v. Board*. They were not woven into a smooth-running system amid an association liberated from latent hostility. As she focuses the lens on that southern town, the desegregation of Clinton was literally "quite explosive." From the death threats and beatings, picket lines and cross burnings, the town of Clinton was a powder keg waiting to explode. It took a bombing two years after the desegregation of Clinton High School, on October 5, 1958, to draw townsfolk together who splintered into factions and spat insults at each other over the issues of desegregation and law and order. As with much of Tennessee's Civil Rights History, although it took place prior to that which captured national chronicle, the story of Clinton, Tennessee, and school desegregation became a loss memory and barely an endnote in the civil rights scholarship. Though this volume, Martin places the desegregation of Clinton High School in the annals of Civil Rights History. As the author notes, "unless we change how we talk about history, future generations will refight the same battles that are being waged today. This work should be of interest to those wanting to know how Clinton's school desegregation history fits into Tennessee's Civil Rights scholarship and consequently how that narrative adds to the topic's general account. **Paper, \$29.99.**







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ON THE COVER: Mount Olivet Cemetery located in Nashville, TN. Photograph by Theresa Montgomery, Chief State Photographer of Tennessee Photographic Services, April 18, 2023

