



THE COURIER

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

FALL 2020



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Women's Suffrage Centennial
Battle of Nashville Peace Monument
New National Register Listings
Section 106, A Community Tool

COMMISSION MEMBER NEWS

In Memoriam, Dr. Reavis Mitchell

This summer, on June 17, the Tennessee Historical Commission lost its admired and widely respected chairman, Dr. Reavis L. Mitchell, Jr., after a battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Patricia W. Mitchell, four sons, and a granddaughter.

At the time of his death, Dr. Mitchell was serving his third consecutive term as chairman, having first been elected in 2015. On the Commission for 21 years, he was the second longest serving current member. Dr. Mitchell also chaired the Metro (Nashville) Historical Commission from 2006-2008. Since 1993, he was a member of and former chairman of the Tennessee State Review Board, which reviews nominations to The National Register of Historic Places. He was also Executive Vice President of the Tennessee Historical Society.

Dr. Mitchell was a native of Nashville and member of the history faculty at Fisk University since 1980. Dr. Mitchell authored *Thy Loyal Children Make Their Way: A History of Fisk University Since 1866*, as well as hundreds of historical monographs in journals, magazines, and newspapers. He held numerous administrative positions at Fisk and was Professor of History and Dean of the School of Humanities and Behavioral Social Sciences at the time of his passing. For many years he co-chaired the Nashville Conference on African American History and Culture with Tennessee Historical Commission Assistant Director, Linda Wynn. Shortly before his death, the Conference adopted a resolution recognizing Dr. Mitchell's contributions to the study of history and education in Tennessee, noting "his generosity and exemplary work in public spaces, a labor that spurred Metro Nashville's evolution into a space that is more reflective of the



THC Chair election, 2015 (left to right) former Chairman Norm Hill, Chairman Reavis Mitchell, and prior Chairman Sam D. Elliott

culture of all its citizens; recognizing that Nashville is a better place as a result of his presence at Fisk University and activism in the community; and expressing sincere appreciation and gratitude for the work he has faithfully done, pledging to continue to build upon the example Dr. Mitchell has set as a devoted colleague and much-valued friend."

Members of the Tennessee Historical Commission passed a Memorial Resolution for Dr. Mitchell at their July 10, 2020 meeting. The resolution memorialized sentiments expressed by board members, stating that Dr. Mitchell was "a gentleman and scholar, a role model for many;" and that "his balanced leadership of the commission was effective and he will certainly be missed by all of us." We certainly agree.

Derita Coleman Williams Elected Chair

Derita Coleman Williams of Memphis was elected chairman of the board of the Tennessee Historical Commission at the summer board meeting on Friday, July 10, 2020. Her term will run through February 2021. Member Dr. Keith Norman of Memphis moved the nomination of Mrs. Williams forward, noting that in 1920, the



Tennessee General Assembly ratified the 19th amendment for women to vote. Dr. Norman offered, "How historic would it be for the 100th commemoration to nominate Mrs. Derita Coleman Williams as the first woman to head the Tennessee Historical Commission!" She was elected unanimously. Williams, first appointed to the Commission in 2007 by Governor Phil

Bredesen, was reappointed by Governor Bill Haslam in 2012 and again in 2017. She has served as the Commission's Vice Chair for West Tennessee since 2015. She is also Vice President for West Tennessee of the Tennessee Historical Society, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honorary, plus the Junior League of Memphis.

Mrs. Williams is an independent scholar in American material culture and private dealer in American fine art and decorative arts, having taught at the University of Memphis and Northwest Mississippi Community College for 15 years. She holds a Master of Arts from the University of Memphis with post graduate studies at the Universities of Memphis, North Carolina, and Delaware, at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts and the Henry Frances DuPont Winterthur Museum Summer Institute.

Mrs. Williams has served as field researcher for the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, co-authored *The Art and Mystery of Tennessee Furniture and Its Makers Through 1850*, and authored *A View of Tennessee Silversmiths* in addition to numerous journal and magazine articles. She has served as guest curator at Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, and the Tennessee State Museum and lectured at Sotheby's New York, Tennessee Arts Commission, Southern Viewpoint Lecture Series, and Tennessee Decorative Arts Symposium at Belmont University among other museum groups.



A MONUMENTAL APPLICATION FOR HIGH-TECH MAINTENANCE

By Dan Brown

On July 20, the Tennessee Historical Commission learned that the *Battle of Nashville Peace Monument* had been spray painted with insulting messages across the monument's base.

This monument stands on a preserved portion of the December 1864 Battle of Nashville Civil War battlefield, situated at the intersection of Granny White Pike and Clifton Lane. Once slated to become a highway interchange, this site is now a passive park. The monument was originally erected at a different, but nearby, location in 1926. Years later the construction of I-440 made that original site largely inaccessible, necessitating the monument's relocation.

The Tennessee Historical Commission, through a foundation created for the purpose of raising money to repair the monument after it had been toppled by a tornado in 1974, led the successful effort to move and restore the monument in the 1990s. In addition to

private funding, a \$150,000 transportation enhancement grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation supported creation of an outdoor amphitheater at the new site. The Commission oversaw the recreation of the destroyed obelisk, restoration of the bronze sculpture, construction at the new location, and has continued to maintain the monument and site since then.

Executive Director Patrick McIntyre and State Historic Sites Programs Director Dan Brown visited the site within an hour of learning about this summer's damage and swiftly procured an emergency contract with a historic conservator, the Tradesmen Group, to sensitively remove the paint as quickly as possible. These conservation professionals used a state-of-the-art laser removal system in combination with applied poultices to skillfully remove the graffiti with no damage to the monument.



The Battle of Nashville Peace Monument is a rare piece of public art dedicated to both sides embroiled in the American Civil War and to U.S. soldiers who perished in World War I. Designed by Italian-American sculptor Giuseppe Moretti (1858-1935) and his assistant, Geneva Mercer (1889-1984), this monument does not present military imagery. Instead, it features an allegorical depiction of a youth and two horses under a banner marked "Unity"—all formed in bronze obtained from melted World War I cannons. An angel stands atop the obelisk portion of the monument.



Tornado damage in 1974 required full restoration of the bronze sculpture and recreation of the destroyed obelisk



Vandalism in 2020 required the removal of spray-painted graffiti from the base of the monument



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

African American Women and the Intersectionality of Race and Gender

By Linda T. Wynn, Assistant Director for State Programs



Tennessee captured national attention in the summer of 1920, as the Suffragists who sought the right of franchise and their Anti-Suffragists opposition descended on the Volunteer State to campaign for their respective positions. Thirty-five of the thirty-six states needed had already ratified the 19th Amendment to the Constitution which would give women the right to participatory democracy by granting them the right to vote. Eight states rejected the amendment, three refused to act, leaving the undecided states of North Carolina and Tennessee to make the 19th Amendment a reality. Most southern states rejected women's suffrage with the racialist calculation that the entitlement would also include African American women. Anti-Suffragists used this bigoted reasoning in Tennessee.

The issue of Women's Rights emerged during the American Revolution, when Abigail Adams warned her husband, John Adams (2nd U.S. president and founding father), not to adopt the repressive code of common law, or the ladies were "bound to foment a rebellion." In some colonies women voted, but all women lost the right to vote with each state constitution drafted between 1777 and 1807.

19th century Suffragists maintained that they were not asking for a new right, but the restitution of a right their foremothers possessed. By the 1830s and 40s, women began to champion diverse social reforms that questioned women's subservience to men. Two southern sisters, Angelina and Sarah Grimke, called for women to "participate in the freeing and educating of slaves" as other white women rallied around the abolitionist movement as a way of calling attention to all human rights. African American women found ways to work in abolitionist movements, aiming to end institutional enslavement and gain freedom for their families and themselves.

It is important to recognize the African American women and men who were involved in nearly a century of effort to gain the right of franchise for women and realize how they were rendered invisible as control of this movement's narrative was appropriated by Suffragists Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony in their six-volume *History of Women's Suffrage*. Recent historians have exposed Stanton as a racially prejudiced liberal who embraced fairness in the abstract while publicly enunciating bigoted views of African American men. As the suffrage struggle acquiesced to white supremacy, selling out the interest of African American women when it became expedient to do so, African American women faithfully acted on their convictions that they had just as strong right to full citizenship as white women.

In general, African Americans maintained a political philosophy of universal suffrage, while Whites advocated a limited, educated suffrage after the Civil War. Notable support came from Black men and major church leaders Henry McNeal Turner and John Mussolini Brown, as well as the leading feminist of his

time, W.E.B. Du Bois. Along with March Church Terrell, a native Tennessean, their views reflected the consensus: Political empowerment of the race required the participation of Black women. As early as 1832, Bostonian Maria Stewart, the first female African American activist to address a mix-gendered audience, spoke out for both the rights of African Americans and women and shattered long-standing proscriptions against women speaking about political issues. Stewart sparked debate, questioning the nature of female influence on public life and movements to abolish enslavement and earn civil rights, convinced that the future for African Americans was bound with the woman question.

In 1848, at the nation's first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, the only African American and one of the few men in attendance, Frederick Douglass, argued that "the ballot was the guarantor of all other rights, the key to liberty, and women must be bold." In 1866, with Stanton and Anthony, this formerly enslaved man co-founded the American Equal Rights Association. In 1867, the renowned abolitionist and formerly enslaved Black woman, Sojourner Truth, addressed the first annual meeting of that association and the essence of coverture, saying, "If colored men get their rights, and not colored women theirs, you see the colored men will be masters over the women and it will be just as bad as it was before." The 14th Amendment, passed the following year, defined "citizens" and "voters" exclusively as male. Two years later, the 15th Amendment granted African American men, but not women, the right to vote. With that, the women's question continued into the 20th century.

Former Tennesseans Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Mary Church Terrell worked assiduously with other African American women to establish organizations such as the National Association of Colored Women (NACW). Established in 1896, NACW grew to 28 federations with more than a thousand clubs and fifty thousand members. Women like Mary Church Terrell, the inaugural president of NACW, protested lynching, decried racist double standards in the criminal justice system, fought for women's suffrage, and started voter-education clubs. African American women established clubs within churches, such as the Women's Convention of the National Baptist Convention and the first woman-run society within the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (CME), called the Woman's Connectional Missionary Council. Calling out white hypocrisy, they made the protection and elevation of African American woman a chief priority as they fought stereotypes that denigrated women of their race as lacking morality. They also founded Greek-letter organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (est. 1908), and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (est. 1913).

The president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Nellie M. Quander, wrote to Alice Paul seeking assurances of racial



nondiscrimination from parade organizers who planned the march that took place the day before Woodrow Wilson's 1913 presidential inauguration. The National American Woman Suffrage Association's (NAWSA) procession was designed to help win passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment which had come up for a vote only once in 35 years and failed. NAWSA was reluctant to include African American women's concerns on their agenda or public demonstrations, due to racialist attitudes by some in their ranks and for political expediency with racist congressmen. Before the parade commenced, Ida B. Wells-Barnett was told she and her Alpha Suffrage Club could not march with the Whites from Illinois. Wells-Barnett refused to march at the rear of the line and waited on Pennsylvania Avenue until the Illinois group approached. She and two white allies stepped in front of the Illinois delegation and continued in the procession. Urged by Mary Church Terrell, author of the official oath of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., 22 members of the fledgling sorority participated in the march, while members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. did not.

The first NACW convention was held in Nashville in September of 1897, with President Mary Church Terrell presiding and Nettie Langston Napier serving as treasurer. Also present were Minnie Lou Croswaite, physicians Dr. Josie E. Wells and Dr. Mattie E. Coleman, plus Juno Frankie Pierce, Hattie S Smith Jackson, and Georgia Bradford Boyd. Pierce, a founder of the Nashville Federation of Colored Women's Club, also founded and presided over the Negro Women's Reconstruction League. During World War I, Coleman, a founder of the Women's Connectional Missionary Council, championed women's leadership positions in the CME church and led national defense fund drives and health programs for soldiers. Coleman supported the reforms of white activists, reminding them that "12,000 negro [sic] of the state are organized and are seeking a vocational school for their girls." Pierce and Coleman made girl's vocational education part of the program of the Tennessee Women's Suffrage Movement.

African American women's clubs worked with white suffrage organizations to get out the vote in municipal elections that passed in the state's General Assembly on April 14, 1919. This limited suffrage act permitted women to vote only in presidential and municipal elections. During that year they helped to get 2,500 African American women to the polls in the city's first election in which Black women were eligible to vote. The chair of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League, Catherine Kenny, was awed with Pierce's organizational skills and invited Pierce to address the first convention of the Tennessee League of Women Voters in the State Capitol's lower chamber in May 1920. "What will the Negro women do with the vote?" the daughter of a free father and an enslaved mother asked her audience. "We will stand by the white women... We are asking only one thing—a square deal... We want recognition in all forms of this government. We want a state vocational school and a child welfare department of the state, and more room in state schools."

After the resolution passed the Tennessee State Senate, both Suffragist and Anti-Suffragist desperately lobbied to secure votes in the House of Representatives, where the vote was

close. Speaker of the House Seth Walker, originally thought to be a supporter of women's suffrage, changed his position and announced his opposition. Playing the race card, Walker exclaimed, "This is a white man's country!" and further proclaimed that if women won the vote, southern Blacks would also demand the vote. Representative Harry T. Burn of Niota made history by changing his vote to support ratification and breaking the tie. The Tennessee General Assembly passed the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 18, 1920, and on the 24th, Governor Albert H. Roberts certified Tennessee's ratification. Tennessee provided the 36th and final state needed to ratify the Constitutional amendment.

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TENNESSEE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT SITES

by Kerri Ross, Claudette Stager, Linda Wynn, Holly Barnett, Rebecca Schmitt, Christopher Kinder, Graham Perry, and Susan McClamroch

The Tennessee Historical Commission is honored to support the on-going preservation of Suffrage Movement history across the state, through programmatic management of National Register nominations, THC historic marker approvals, Federal Historic Preservation Fund Grants, and our new Tennessee Historic Cemetery Preservation Program. In 2019, the Tennessee Historical Commission received a \$250,000 pass-through appropriation from the Tennessee General Assembly to make a grant to the Tennessee Historical Society for Women's suffrage centennial commemorations.



A display of artifacts from 1920, when suffrage leaders--pro and anti--were headquartered in the Hermitage Hotel are on view in the hotel lobby through the centennial year.

The Hermitage Hotel, A New National Historic Landmark

This summer, on July 28, the federal government designated the Hermitage Hotel as a National Historic Landmark. While the Hermitage Hotel has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since July 24, 1975 for its Beaux Arts Classicism architecture, this new designation recognizes that the Hermitage Hotel is an exceptional nationally significant building that played a decisive role in the Women's Suffrage movement. National Historic Landmark status is the highest federal historic designation that a property may receive, and the Hermitage Hotel is one of only 30 National Historic Landmarks in Tennessee.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES SITES

Crosthwaite Hall

1046 Dr DB Todd Jr Blvd, Nashville, TN

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 as a non-contributing resource to the Fisk University Historic District. Suffragist, Minnie Lou Crosthwaite served as Fisk University Registrar.

Guilford Sr. & Anne Dallas Dudley House

5401 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. Anne Dallas Dudley was the president of the first Nashville Equal Suffrage League and is credited for bringing the National Suffrage Convention to Nashville in 1915.

Tennessee State Capitol

600 Dr. MLK Jr. Drive, Nashville, TN

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970 for architectural, military, and political significance and designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1971. The final vote for ratification of the 19th Amendment occurred at the TN State Capitol on August 18, 1920.

Woman's Club of Murfreesboro

221 East College Street, Murfreesboro, TN

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the North Maney Avenue Historic Overlay District in 1985. Built in 1856 and purchase by the Woman's Club in 1916, the year of the club's establishment, Murfreesboro's Equal Suffrage League also used the facility for meetings and social events.

NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED SITES FEATURING SUFFRAGE SCULPTURE

The "Equality Trailblazers" Memphis Suffrage Monument, at the University of Memphis Law School

The Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument, on the Centennial Park Walking Trail, Nashville

The Tennessee Woman Suffrage Memorial, in the Market Square Mall, Knoxville



Detail of the Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument located on the Centennial Park Walking Trail in Nashville. THC Ex. Dir./SHPO, Patrick McIntyre, was among the dedication speakers, August 18, 2020. Sculptor: Alan LeQuire.



HISTORIC MARKERS

Camden

Mary Cordelia Beasley-Hudson East Main Street
Senator Mildred Jolly Lashlee East Main Street

Chattanooga

Abby Crawford Milton Georgia Ave. @ McCallie Ave.

Clarksville

Austin Peay North 3rd Street

Livingston

Kate Bradford Stockton 701 Byrdstown Highway

Memphis

Marion Scudder Griffin 165 Madison Avenue
Elizabeth Avery Meriwether (formerly located) N. Front St.
Mary Church Terrell Church Park
Ida B. Wells Beale Street @ Hernando Street

Nashville

Anne Dallas Dudley West End Avenue
Nettie Napier 4th Avenue South
Frankie J. Pierce 2700 Heiman Street

Niota

Harry Thomas Burn, Sr. U.S. Highway 11

HISTORIC CEMETERY GRAVESITES

Camden

Camden City Cemetery *Mary Cordelia Beasley-Hudson* (1851-1920)

Chattanooga

Forest Hills Cemetery *Abby Crawford Milton* (1881-1991)

Clarksville

Greenwood Cemetery *Austin Peay* (1876-1927)

Jamestown

Stockton Cemetery *Kate Bradford Stockton* (1880-1969)

Memphis

Elmwood Cemetery *Marion Scudder Griffin* (1879-1957)

Nashville

Greenwood Cemetery
 Georgia Bradford Boyd (1884-1952), Mattie Eliza Howard Coleman (1870-1943), Hattie S. Smith Jackson (1855-1946), Nettie DeElla Langston Napier (1861-1938), Juno Frankie Seay Pierce (1864-1954), and Josie English Wells (1878-1921)

Mt. Olivet Cemetery *Anne Dallas Dudley* (1876-1955)

Niota

Niota Cemetery *Harry Thomas Burn, Sr.* (1895-1977)



PHOTO BY SUSAN McCLAMROCH

Memorialized as the first president of the Women's Missionary Council, Dr. Mattie Eliza Howard Coleman is honored on a tombstone that marks the 75th anniversary of the Council that was formed in 1918. Birth and death dates of the revered female leader, educator, and physician who was laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery in 1943 are recorded on the reverse side. Greenwood, the second African American cemetery in Nashville, was established in 1888 by Preston Taylor, who was born into slavery in 1849.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NEWS

By Christopher Kinder and Rebecca Schmitt

Nine Tennessee Properties Added to National Register of Historic Places



Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Synagogue *Memphis, Shelby County*

The Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Synagogue was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 24, 2020. The synagogue was listed for its significance in the areas of Jewish Ethnic Heritage and for its Modernist Architecture. Descended from nineteenth-century Memphis Jewish congregations of Anshei Sphard and Beth El Emeth, the synagogue is a significant physical representation of the culmination of Jewish ethnic heritage in Memphis. The building was designed in a Modernistic style by renowned Memphis architects Francis Mah and Keith Kay, receiving numerous awards for its design.



Arch Bridge *Olive Hill, Hardin County*

The Arch Bridge was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 20. It is locally significant in the area Transportation. The bridge is associated with the “Good Roads Movement” of the late nineteenth and earlier twentieth centuries. The “Good Roads

Movement” improvements, also referred to as “farm to market” roads, was an outgrowth of late nineteenth century populism and emphasized giving farmers wider, and easier, access to markets. The Arch Bridge, and Arch Bridge Loop, is one of the last remaining original sections of State Route 15/U.S. Highway 64, the main route between Memphis & Chattanooga in the first half of the twentieth century. The Arch Bridge is also significant at the local level for its engineering. Constructed from 1925 to 1926, the Arch Bridge exemplifies the single span, closed spandrel reinforced concrete arch bridge design. The entirety of the bridge’s design is extant including its arch form, concrete deck, concrete rails, and abutments. The Arch Bridge is the only extant example of its design in Hardin County.



Downtown Chattanooga Historic District *Chattanooga, Hamilton County*

Listed on July 23 the Downtown Chattanooga Historic District is locally significant for commerce & trade for its role as the center of the city’s principal downtown business district. The district is also locally significant for its excellent examples of late-19th to late-20th century commercial architecture. The period of significance for the Downtown Chattanooga Historic District extends from 1875, the date of construction of its earliest surviving resource, the Fischer Evans Building, through 1971, reflecting the district’s historic development era.

Dixie Mercerizing Company *Chattanooga, Hamilton County*

The Dixie Mercerizing Company complex was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 20. It is locally significant for its Art Deco architecture and for its local significance in the textile industry in Chattanooga. Dixie is the only mill or factory in Chattanooga that is of concrete construction and a good representation of the Art Deco style. The mill building served as the yarn mercerizing building for Dixie, with the spinning mill located across town in Lupton City. In 1970, Dixie Yarns Inc, was reported to be the nation’s largest producer of “yarns only” for the textile industry,





and in 1988, Dixie became the largest locally based manufacturer in the City of Chattanooga. The period of significance includes the initial construction of the mill in 1920 through the construction of the new headquarters building in 1951 with a later 1967 addition which symbolizes the company's growth and success.



Sulfur Fork Bridge
Adams, Montgomery County

The Sulphur Fork Bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 20. It was listed for its local significance in engineering and its metal truss bridge design. The Sulphur Fork Creek Bridge is historically significant as it represents the evolution of safe conveyance across the Sulphur Fork Creek. bridge was constructed in 1890 by the Converse Bridge Company out of Chattanooga, one of only two major bridge companies in Tennessee at the time specializing in metal truss bridges. In 1955 the bridge was adapted to meet modern infrastructure safety standards.

Higginbotham Turnpike
Van Buren & Warren Counties

Listed on July 20 to the National Register of Historic Places, this 4.7-mile segment of the Higginbotham Turnpike is significant at the local level in the area of Native American Ethnic Heritage for its association with the Trail of Tears. In the 1830s the United States government forcibly removed thousands of Native American people from their homes and ancestral lands in the southeast United States. They traveled along multiple routes westward, which collectively became known as the Trail of Tears. In October 1838, nine detachments of almost 10,000 people traveled along the Higginbotham Turnpike as part of the Northern Removal Route. The Period of Significance is limited to 1838 when it was associated with the Trail of Tears.



Ebenezer Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Jasper, Marion County

Ebenezer Cumberland Presbyterian Church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on June 15. It is locally significant for its vernacular architecture and retains a high degree of historic integrity. Built for a small, rural congregation, the church has double-hung wood sash stained-glass windows with decorative gothic arches. The simple rectangular plan with weatherboard siding, exposed rafters with a notched geometric detailing, pyramidal roof, overhanging eaves and a top finial exhibit a high degree of craftsmanship. The period of significance in 1914 corresponds to the year the church was built in its current design with no significant alterations outside of that period.



Ward School

Hartsville, Trousdale County

The Ward School was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 20. It is locally significant for its role in African-American, social and ethnic history. It is the third and only extant building to serve as a school in the historic African American neighborhood on the hill just west of Hartsville's National Register-listed historic downtown, and the only building in Trousdale County to serve as a high school for African American children. The Ward School also served as community center for the African American neighborhood during the Jim Crow era. Ward School's Period of Significance begins in 1948 when the building was completed and opened to students and ends in 1966 when Ward's last class of seniors graduated and schools were integrated.



Wayne County Courthouse

Waynesboro, Wayne County

The Wayne County Courthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 29. It was listed for its architectural significance as a good local example of the Brutalist style. The courthouse was designed by the Nashville architectural firm of Yearwood and Johnson and completed in 1975. Taken in the local context, the large-scale angular building is notable for the exposed "raw" concrete exterior, large areas of formed concrete, and limited fenestration. The combination of voids and solids of the design give the building a unique appearance.

Two New Commission Members Appointed by Governor Lee

Mr. Cato Johnson is Senior Vice President of Public Policy/Regulatory Affairs & Chief of Staff for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare System in Memphis, providing leadership within the system since 1985. Prior to Methodist, Johnson was Vice President of Corporate



Affairs at Regional One. At the University of Memphis, he earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees. Married, this proud father and grandfather is a member of Grace Celebration Lutheran Church.

In addition to his appointment to the Tennessee Historical Commission, Mr. Johnson's community commitment is evidenced in decades of activity in legislative affairs and leadership service to numerous professional and civic organizations, including: Chairman, TennCare Medical Advisory Committee; Alumni, Leadership Tennessee Class IV; Former Chair, Tennessee Higher Education Committee; Former Member, Tennessee State Board of Education; Executive Committee, University of Memphis Board of Trustees; Co-Chair, Memphis City Mayor's Community Engagement Committee; Executive Board, YMCA Cordova; and South City Executive Committee.

Mrs. Doris H. McMillan is Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management at New Hope Academy in Franklin and owner of Seams by Doris, LLC. With wardrobe credits for Hallmark Channel movies and the Oprah Winfrey Show, Mrs. McMillan has

worked with Country Music icon Naomi Judd for over two decades and helped to outfit numerous celebrity shows—including performances by Beyoncé, Lady Gaga, Tim McGraw, Sheryl Crow, and Tyler Perry.

Married, she is the proud parent of three adult daughters and one granddaughter. Mrs. McMillan's advocacy work for women and children has earned her awards and the title, "Williamson County Trailblazer." In 2002, the Ford Motor Company's annual report paid homage to her preservation efforts in behalf of the African American Heritage Society and McLemore House Museum in Franklin. A 2013 CABLE Athena Nominee, Mrs. McMillan



established the "The Black Tie Affair" dinner program to celebrate African American contributions in Williamson County. She has served on the boards of Herstory, Mercy Children Clinic, African American Heritage Society, Haiti Hospital Foundation, Inner City Coalition, Franklin Tomorrow, 4H of Williamson County, and the Williamson County Library. She is

a Jack and Jill of America Associate. The National Federation of Colored Women, National Council of Negro Women, Top Ladies of Distinction, Golden Hour Bible Study Club, and the Mt. Zion Church of God Holiness Young Ladies Christian League also benefit from her community service.



A CONSIDERABLE COMMUNITY TOOL: *The Section 106 Review Process*

By Claire Meyer

With passage of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in 1966, a partnership between the federal government and state, tribal, and local governments was established to support historic preservation activities.

The NHPA created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the first and only federal agency created solely to address historic preservation issues, and created a funding framework from the National Park Service to provide matching grants-in-aid from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) to State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO), and local governments certified as having qualified preservation programs (CLG).

Along with larger, overarching goals for preservation of historic resources in the United States, the Act also created the Section 106 review process. Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, assist, fund, permit, license, or approve throughout the country. If a federal or federally assisted project has the potential to affect historic properties, a Section 106 review will take place. The ACHP, interested parties, and the public may comment on projects before they start, making the Section 106 process a tool for citizens to participate in protecting a community's historic properties.

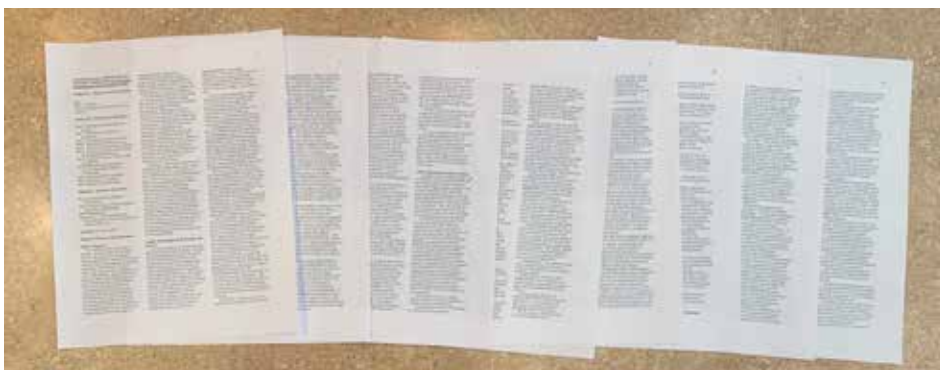
Based in the Tennessee Historical Commission's SHPO office, Section 106



Section 106 staff members (left to right) Casey Lee, Jennifer Barnett, and Claire Meyer.

staff, Casey Lee and Claire Meyer, along with Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Archaeology Supervisor, Jennifer Barnett, review and comment on any project in the state that has federal government involvement. Projects can be as simple as the FDIC licensing a new bank branch or complicated as TDOT and the Federal Highway Administration building a new bridge. Working with approximately 60 federal agencies, they review around 2,300 projects annually.

Now updating and digitizing resources, the department is developing a database for electronically logging Section 106 reviews completed by any state agency, a project aligned with the Governor's goal to digitize resources and reduce paper record-keeping.



The Section 106 review process is laid out in eight single-spaced, double-sided pages of federal law.



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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 Claudette Stager, 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, 4,500 copies promulgated at a cost of \$0.56 per copy, 06/30/20.



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ON THE COVER: Since August 2020, guests entering the Hermitage Hotel, Tennessee's only National Historic Landmark Hotel, are greeted with the new historic plaque featured left of the grand structure's entrance. (designation details, page 6) Opened in 1910, this iconic hotel was named 2020 Historic Hotel of The Year by Historic Hotels of America, a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. *Photograph by Keith Wood*