



# Monuments & milestones

VOL 1 NO 2 FALL 2005

## EARLY PHOTOS INVALUABLE

James Hoobler

Recently, Deborah Cooney sent a Xerox of a photograph of City Cemetery, from her personal collection, taken during the Civil War. It appears to be the earliest known view of the cemetery. But the grave markers are no longer there. This is an interesting example of the relocation of graves to Mount Olivet Cemetery after it opened. Board member

Fletcher Coke is attempting to determine which graves the markers are to by going through the interment records at Mount Olivet. If she determines which graves they were, we will let you know.

The next earliest images of the cemetery were taken around 1884 by Otto Giers, and are reproduced in Nashville

From The Collection Of Carl And Otto Giers: Volume II. In these photographs is one showing the Porter, Grundy and Eakin plots. It too was one that was removed to Mount Olivet, following the Civil War. With the urbanization of the area around City Cemetery, and the development of the then

rural Mount Olivet, a large number of graves were moved there from private family cemeteries and from City Cemetery. John Overton is another example of this.

These early photographs are of use to us because they show what City Cemetery looked like before the streets were paved, and with the original plantings.



When the Giers photographs were about to be published, Randall Lantz and Tim Walker met me at Mount Olivet, and Mr. Lantz used them to determine what the original trees were in the cemetery. The wooden fence near the Felix Zollicoffer grave was also rebuilt based upon these photographs.

In the days before perpetual care, or even lawnmowers, the condition of the grounds was very overgrown in these photographs.

If you know of other photographs of City Cemetery, please contact us, and let us copy them for our files. These are some of our best documentation for the appearance of the site.

## INSIDE:

LIVING HISTORY  
TOUR ..... p.2

MEMORIAL DAY  
DASH RACE  
RESULTS ..... p.2

# RECORDING OF HEADSTONES CLOSE TO COMPLETION



## *Tombstone Days*

Top Photo: Community volunteers Shannon Cohen (left) and Jasmine Ridley (right) record transcriptions.

Bottom Photo: Lisa Pyles and her daughter Jessica make Tombstone Day a family activity.

In April, the NCCA began the process of recording all the headstones in the Nashville City Cemetery. Project coordinator and NCCA board member Fletch Coke enlisted over 130 community volunteers who spend four separate days in the cemetery recording the headstones. On several of those days, the weather failed to cooperate, but the volunteers pressed on. Before and during the project several works were referenced to help direct the survey, including the 1908 Plat Map of Sections and Lots in Cemetery, the 1909 Alphabetical List of the Dead in Cemetery, transcripts of the City Cemetery Interment Books, Inscriptions in Mrs. Acklen's Tombstone Inscriptions and Manuscripts published in 1933, tombstone Inscriptions taken by Jill Garrett between 1954 and 1971, and GPS survey maps listing every cemetery section. As of August 31st, almost all of the headstones that are still readable, and some that have required special attention, have been recorded. Later this year the information on the headstones will be made available on the NCCA website (<http://www.nashvillecitycemetery.org>). All the volunteers who helped with the survey should be applauded for the great work including, most of all, Fletch Coke for her dedication to this project.

## RACE RESULTS IN RESTORATION DOLLARS

The 2005 Memorial Day Dash was a big success. More than 275 runners and walkers participated and the NCCA raised over \$3300. The overall winner in the Men's Division was **Joseph Pair** in a time of 16:52 and the Women's Division winner was **Theresa Peacock** who ran the course in 20:01. We are already preparing for next year's race. Mark your calendars for May 29, 2006, and we hope to see everyone crossing the finish line at the Nashville City Cemetery.





## NCCA Membership Update

### NEW MEMBERS

Virginia C. Byrn  
Mr. And Mrs. Kirk Johnson  
Stephen C. Hupp  
Mr. And Mrs. W. Irwin Berry

### RENEWING MEMBERS

Nicholas D. Bailey  
Mary Batey  
Mrs. Donald Bathrick, Jr.  
Mr. And Mrs. R. E. Baulch, Jr.  
Mrs. Milbrey J. Black  
Gloria and David P. Bond  
Sally H. Boone  
Anne Bransford Wallace  
Laurence P. Brown  
Julia L. Clark  
Elizabeth Warren Connally  
David and Mary Currey  
Diane Dioguardi  
Doug Drake  
Sandra D. Duncan  
Mrs. Elaine V. Goetz  
John B. Hardcastle  
Herbert L. Harper  
Emily Young Hartman  
Jeri M. Hasselbring  
Kassie and Dana Hassler  
Virginia C. Hofstetter  
Sarah M. Howell  
Frances C. Jackson  
Ben and Charlene Johnson  
Carol Kaplan  
Lewis Laska  
Lydia Lenker  
Mr. And Mrs. W. Lipscomb Davis, III  
Kenneth B. Marcom  
Elaine M. Marra  
George F. McCannless  
Mrs. Sarah McCannless Howell  
Sterling McCann Sanders  
Mary Jane Moore  
Michael and Jill Moore  
Mr. And Mrs. Russell Oldfield, Jr.

Sam Poland  
Ann V. Roberts  
Mr. And Mrs. Robinson Neil Bass  
Elizabeth Roller  
Gayle E. Rutledge  
Julia and Carlos Sanz De Soto  
Margaret J. Slater  
Andy Sneed  
Elizabeth B. Stadler  
Meriem C. Swift  
Judith B. Thomas  
Mr. And Mrs. Blair Trimble  
Mrs. Hamilton Wallace, Jr.  
Ruth R. Warner  
Margaret Lindsley Warren  
James A. Wells  
Mr. And Mrs. Ridley Wills, III  
Juanita W. Wilson  
Clara and Leonard Wood  
Judy D. Wray  
Hugh Wright  
Douglas M. Wright, Jr.

### DONATION

In Memory of Sheffield Clark III  
From Fletch and Bill Coke

In Memory of Robert F. Jackson  
From Ellen M. Farrell and  
From The Maddin Family

### GIFT

Lankford Hardware & Supply Co.,  
Inc.  
Bill and Fletch Coke  
The Frist Foundation  
Patty Chadwell  
Paul R. Stumb  
Hugh Wright  
Kassandra and Dana Hassler

# 2005 LIVING HISTORY TOUR

We are always told that the two things we can count on in this life are death and taxes. And when we think of our own death, maybe we think of that peaceful little hillside where our mortal remains will dwell forever... HA! Not if you lived in Nashville during the Nineteenth Century. Come and hear how politics, wars, economics and even fads disturbed those who were resting peacefully at the Nashville City Cemetery. Yep, it's that time again. We are currently planning and recruiting volunteers (actors, guides, and workers) for the Annual Living History Tour. The Tour returns as a Fall fundraising event to be held on **October 22 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.** Some old Nashville heroes and legends will make appearances along with some new and maybe surprising characters. Guides and characters will entertain our visitors with Nashville history and how that history affected who

went into the cemetery and who left it — and not on their own two feet. The growth of the cemetery and sometimes its reduction in size and its important historical significance is a direct result of how our community has grown and developed during the past two centuries. Disease and wars added graves while fashion, war and the growth of religious congregations lowered the numbers of our ancestors who reside there. Old Nashville families, strangers, paupers and slaves all have a place in this landmark's history. For more information and more importantly, to volunteer your talents for this event, contact Terry Jackson at [terryberry@comcast.net](mailto:terryberry@comcast.net) or Tim Walker at [tim.walker@nashville.gov](mailto:tim.walker@nashville.gov). The rain date for this event will be the following Sunday afternoon, October 23 at the same time.

— Terry Jackson



P.O. Box 150733  
Nashville, TN. 37215-0733



Address Correction Requested

37215+4228-12 C023



# NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

David Currey  
President

Nick Bailey  
President-elect

Terry Jackson  
Treasurer

## BOARD MEMBERS

Nick Bailey  
Fletcher Coke  
David Currey  
James A. Hoobler  
Terry Jackson  
Lynn McDonald  
Ramona Rhodes  
Jim Shulman  
Jeff Thorneycroft  
Tim Walker  
Paul Wallace  
Clara Wood

Sharon Mendonso  
Association Coordinator

## JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NCCA MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Please take the time to become a member of the Nashville City Cemetery Association this year. Your membership is valuable to us and helps the NCCA offer such programs as *Tombstone Days*, the *Memorial Day Dash*, and the *Living History Tour*. You'll also receive a special invitation to our Patrons' Party in October. So sign up today and help support our effort to restore and preserve this invaluable historic resource.

I would like information about: ☐ NCCA Membership  
(check all that apply) ☐ Tax Letters

### NCCA Membership Levels (circle one)

Individual	\$20	Preserver	\$150
Family	\$35	Conservator	\$500
Protector	\$75	Restorer	\$1000

All members receive the newsletter and invitations to special events. Protectors and higher are offered tickets to the *Living History Tour*. Preserver and higher receive all the above plus tickets to the *Patrons' Party* and one copy of the book *The Nashville City Cemetery: History Carved In Stone*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_



Fill out this form, clip out and mail to: P.O. Box 150733, Nashville, TN. 37215-0733.  
The Association Coordinator will respond within 2 weeks of receipt.