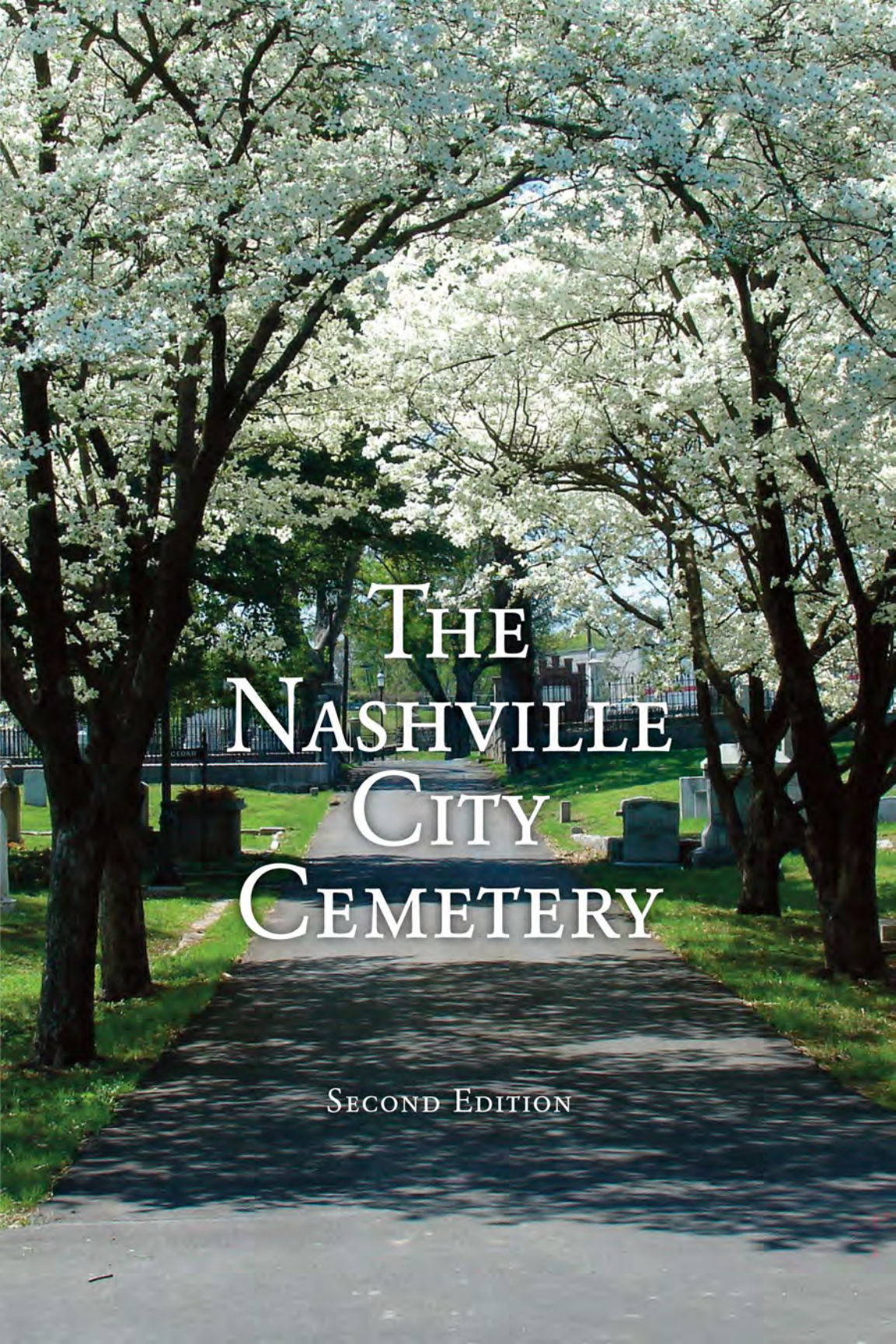

The Nashville City Cemetery

Second Edition

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Nashville, Tennessee
The Nashville City Cemetery Association, Inc.

The Nashville City Cemetery Association

MISSION STATEMENT
OF THE
NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Nashville City Cemetery Association, Inc. is a membership organization that works to protect, preserve, restore and raise public awareness of the Nashville City Cemetery in collaboration with the Historical Commission and the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County.

NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY STATEMENT.
METRO HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Metro Historical Commission is responsible for managing and establishing the policies for the Nashville City Cemetery. The Nashville City Cemetery is a locally designated National Historic Landmark and all repairs and alterations at the site require permitting from the Metro Historic Zoning Commission. Metro Board of Parks and Recreation is responsible for maintenance of the site.

Additional photographs and paintings provided by Cheekwood Museum of Art, Tennessee State Museum, Tennessee Portrait Project of the Colonial Dames (NSCDA-TN), Tennessee Historical Society, Metro Historical Commission, Metro Nashville Archives and Nashville Public Library, Special Collections, Tennessee State Library & Archives.

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The Nashville City Cemetery

Second Edition 2010

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I

A Public Graveyard for Nashville

When Nashville opened the new public graveyard in 1822, the growing city was surrounded by farmland. The coming of the steamboat, allowing easy exchange of Eastern goods and local farm products, had transformed Nashville from a remote frontier outpost into a thriving commercial center. People came from everywhere to the bustling city, including the Eastern seaboard states, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, and Italy, but most came directly from North Carolina and Virginia.

In 1822, there were two major public projects in the city of Nashville: the $85,000 stone bridge across the Cumberland and the City Cemetery. The first known public burial ground had been above the river, on the north side of the public square across from the Courthouse and near the site of the Nashville Inn. No records were retained for this cemetery. Because the ground at this site was hard and the soil was shallow, a second site was selected on a hill overlooking the French Lick in the area later known as the Sulphur Spring Bottom. Burials took place in many family graveyards on farms throughout Davidson County. Some country churches had graveyards on their property. In 1815 Rev. Thomas B. Craighead deeded the meeting house and ten acres to the Spring Hill neighborhood to be used as a place of worship, a school and burying ground. Mill Creek Baptist Church was also providing burial space in the early

1820s. In 1811, *The Clarion* newspaper invited citizens to come to the office and sign a subscription for a public cemetery in Nashville. *Nashville Whig* and *Tennessee Advertiser* ran a notice on March 27, 1819 announcing "A meeting of the citizens of Nashville and its vicinity is requested at the Courthouse on Saturday next, at four o'clock, p.m., to adopt some measures for procuring a public Burial Ground near this place." The Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Nashville purchased four acres, running south of Nashville from Cherry Street, for $1,200.00, for "the use of a Burying ground forever. " The deed of sale by Richard C. Cross, the land owner, was registered June 12, 1820.

The decision to locate this new Burial Ground outside the center of the city represented a new view. Up to this point, urban graveyards were generally located in churchyards or in bleak municipal locations near the heart of a city. No consideration was given to the appearance of a graveyard and burials were placed side by side without consideration of later burials for other family members. In the 19th century, the word "cemetery," a derivation of the Greek word for sleeping chamber, replaced the terms "graveyard," "churchyard," or "burying ground." A cemetery gateway established separation from the everyday world. One would enter a cemetery and travel down a winding drive which slowed progress to a stately pace.

"A sexton is wanted, to take care of the burying ground, to whom a valuable lease will be given. Apply to James Condon, Mayor of Nashville," read the public notice that appeared in *The Clarion* during July 1821. Captain Alpha Kingsley applied for the position and a short time later was named Sexton of the cemetery. Kingsley, a captain in the U. S. Army, was the paymaster in Nashville and also a Davidson County justice. He served for the next 25 years as the Agent and Superintendent of the City Cemetery until his death in 1846. **Alpha Kingsley** and **his son William Bissell**, who died ten years before his father, are buried in the cemetery.

By 1836 the cemetery had outgrown its original four acres of land. At that time, the Corporation of the City purchased 2 and ½ acres of land from John Cockrill and two years later purchased another 2 acres from Peyton Robertson. Over the coming years additional acres were bought and some were sold. On September 26, 1849, the Corporation sold 3 acres of the City Cemetery property for $1,350.00, to the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church "for the use as a burying ground." In 2010, according to the Metro Property Assessor, the acreage of the City Cemetery was recorded as 28.24 acres.

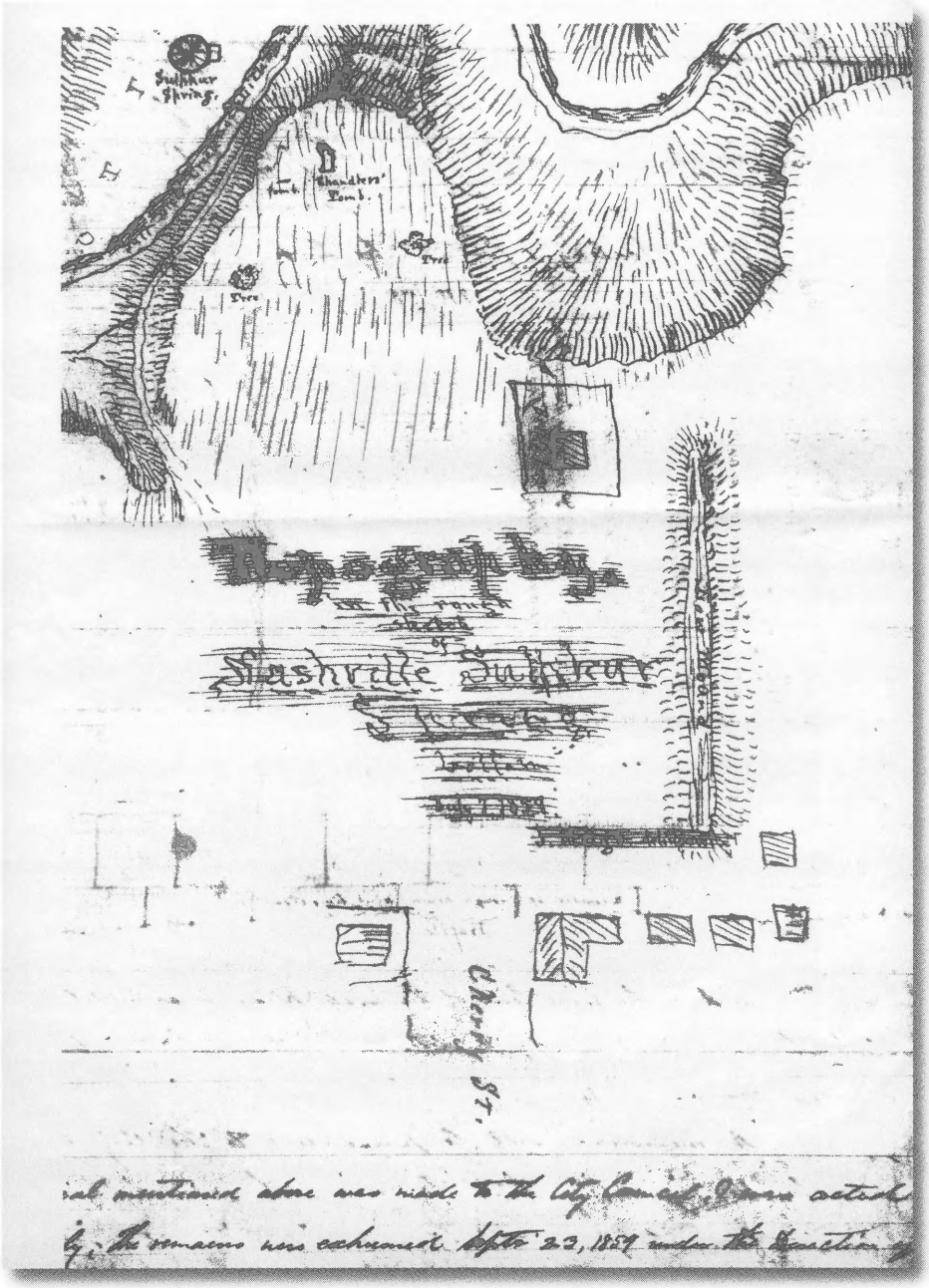
The first 24 years of the City Cemetery Interment Books are no longer in existence. The records for the Years 1846 to 1979 contain the names of 19,745 persons buried in City Cemetery. Burials continue to the pre-

sent day. Permission is granted for descendants to be buried on lots owned by their forebears. The number of Catholic burials prior to 1846 is unknown. The records contain only the names of three individuals, Michael Kennedy in 1849, Mr. M. Flanigan in 1850 and a 16 year old female named Hellen in 1854, who were buried in the Catholic burying ground. The primary interment records for Catholics buried in this graveyard, near City Cemetery, would have been kept by the church. In 1868, the Catholic Church opened Calvary Cemetery on Lebanon Pike.

Beginning in 1843, Alpha Kingsley, the sexton, laid out the cemetery avenues and divided the cemetery into family lots. The decision to sell family lots also provided needed funds for cemetery maintenance. The City Cemetery Deeds, which date from 1843 to 1874, were recorded in three volumes. "Names of individuals who have purchased lots in the Nashville Cemetery and are exempt from paying for a grave providing such grave is made on his, her, or their lot" reads the preface to the list of transactions for the purchase of lots. Captain Kingsley signed the first 95 transactions which included sales to such well-known Nashvillians as **Wilkins Tannehill**, **Francis B. Fogg**, **Septima Sexta Rutledge** and **Dr. Charles K. Winston.**

The cemetery continued to grow during the years preceding the Civil War. Under the supervision of the conscientious sexton, Alpha Kingsley, the grounds improved. Gravel was purchased for walks, culverts were covered, trees removed, a cedar wall was built to enclose the cemetery. Kingsley kept careful accounts, recording payments of $7.50 for the cedar rails, $4.50 for 2 scythes, a rake and a shovel, blank books and stationery, $25.50. The laborers were paid also, R. Laslee $122.00 for putting up 2400 ft. of fencing, John L. Stewart $131.00 for stonework, and Huff & Chisholm $185.00 for the brickwork. Several of the workers were partially paid by giving them burial lots in the cemetery. The average laborer received slightly less than a dollar a day. In 1843 mowing the grass, weeding, pruning and cleaning cost $42.75, building the "necessary house" was $14.00.

The cemetery was financed by the sale of burial lots and by fees for digging and "furnishing" graves. Prices were based on lot size, John Seabury's 5ft.x 10ft. lot was $14.00, Septima Sexta Middleton Rutledge's family lot, which measured 50ft. x 80ft. cost $150.00. William Driver's 40ftx10ft. lot cost $20.00. Cumberland Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons purchased one lot in 1845 and a second lot in 1851, for burial of Masonic members. The Corporation of the City of Nashville set the fees. The fees included $2.00 for the grave of a child under five, with a free cedar marker, a child age five to twelve was $3.00, and 80 cents for the marker, all others were



1859 Map - Chandler, last tombstone at cemetery near Sulphur Spring.
Tennessee Historical Society Collection

$4.00 with a charge of $1.20 for the grave marker. The cemetery provided for the burials of "Strangers" and "Paupers." The burials of these individuals were underwritten by the Corporation. In the years before the Civil War, "free people of color" purchased their own lots. During these same years before the Civil War, the lots and costs for slave burials were paid for by owners. Baptist preacher and "free man of color" **Rev. Nelson Merry** paid $20.00 for a lot in 1850. The burial lot was used for his family for many years. Rev. Merry was buried there in 1884 but later removed to Mt. Ararat. In 1869, Mt. Ararat, the first African-American cemetery, opened in Nashville.

There was a penalty of $5.00 for any driver of a carriage to go faster than a walk, and a $50.00 fine for those defacing the property.

There was never enough money to properly maintain the cemetery. Sexton Kingsley reported to the Mayor each year on the expenditures required and the income received. In 1845, the income was $5,368.00, expenditures, $5,673.00. He explained that the "propriety of keeping the grounds clean from weeds and brambles...which very much mar the beauty of the place," and also the necessity of repairing some of the Avenues had caused the extra expenses. The 66-year-old Kingsley, whose salary was $400.00 per year, added a sad little plea, "a reconsideration" of salary, for "he cannot support himself and little family." The "little family" consisted of Alpha Kingsley, his wife Catherine and the three children of their deceased daughter **Eugenia Moore.** There is no record of whether he received more money for his services in 1845. Kingsley died the next year.

By 1850, more than 11,000 people had been buried in the City Cemetery. During the first year that the cemetery was opened, only 69 burials were recorded; the largest number of burials occurred in 1849 and 1850, the years of the cholera epidemic. In 1849, there were 739 burials, including President James K. Polk. In 1850, the number of burials was 838. The number of children under ten was often equal to all other burials per year. Childbirth, or its complications, caused the death of many women. **Louisa Pocahontas Gordon Zollicoffer**, wife of Felix, died in 1857 at the age of 38. Although her death was reported as "sudden" in the local newspaper, she had died the year following the birth of her thirteenth child. At the time of her death, the Zollicoffers had already buried five sons and two daughters as infants. Five of their six daughters, who lived to adulthood, were buried at City Cemetery: **Virgina Zollicoffer Wilson, Ridie Zollicoffer, Octavia Zollicoffer Bond, Mary D. Zollifcoffer Gaither, Loulie Zollicoffer Sansom.**

By 1860, Nashville was a busy and prosperous city. The Davidson County population included 25,000

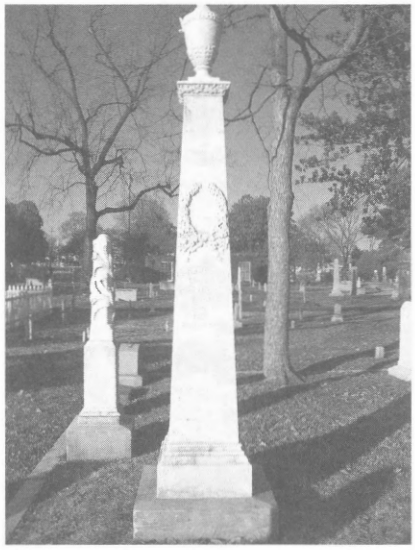
whites, 1,000 free blacks, and 5,000 slaves. There were five railroads, eleven banks, breweries, flour mills, and publishing houses. The Nashville Gas Light Company now provided light for the city. Manufacturers produced wood products, leather goods, carriages, rail cars, and farm implements. The fields surrounding the City Cemetery were being developed. The Cherry Street Depot, for the Nashville & Decatur Railroad, lay just to the south of the City Cemetery. Warehouses and mills surrounded the cemetery, producing a "constant roar of business." In 1855, Mt. Olivet Cemetery opened on Lebanon Pike. After the Civil War, some people chose to remove the remains of family members to Mt. Olivet Cemetery and its peaceful hillsides far from bustle of traffic.

The cemetery did not fare well during the war years. Its sexton, Martin Cotton, was replaced in 1862 after the occupation of the city with a Union man, Thomas H. McBride. McBride had married New York native Elizabeth Seabury in Nashville in 1859, and was a brick-mason. His years at City Cemetery were sad ones. Two of the family's babies died in the next two years; Thomas and Elizabeth took their third child and moved to Illinois in 1864. Another sexton, George Norvell, served until January 1865.

St. Cloud Hill, the property of Col. John Overton, located just over the hill from the City Cemetery, had been a favorite picnic site for families before the Civil War. During the occupation of Nashville, the hill had been confiscated by the Federal Army and

Fort Negley constructed on its crest. The City Cemetery grounds suffered from the large number of burials of war casualties and from the general lawlessness and vandalism in the area. There was very little money for upkeep, and the families which once had cared for their lots had left the city or were afraid to visit. Gone were the days so fondly remembered by May Winston, later Mrs. James Caldwell. Little May remembered going every Saturday in the pre-Civil War years with her mother and Peter, the gardener, to the cemetery. They cared for the graves of her sister and brothers, with Peter pruning and planting while May and her mother watched. May's parents, **Ann and Dr. Charles K. Winston**, are buried at City Cemetery. In 1912 May Winston Caldwell was a leader in plans to restore and care for the cemetery grounds.

Federal and Confederate soldiers were buried in the City Cemetery during the Civil War. W. R. Cornelius was employed by the Federal Army as the undertaker to bury soldiers from both armies. After the war, between October 1867 and January 1868, the remains of 3,021 Federal soldiers were removed from the City Cemetery and reburied at the new Nashville National Cemetery on the Gallatin Pike. Confederate soldiers remained. *Nashville Daily Press and Times* on Monday, May 11, 1868, reported that the previous day more than 10,000 people had visited Mt. Olivet and City Cemetery to decorate the soldiers'



Monument of Louisa Pocahontas Gordon Zollicoffer

graves with flowers. Confederate bodies, not claimed by family members, remained in the southwest corner of the cemetery. Marked by wooden headboards painted white with the names of the soldiers in black letters, the graves were a source of much anxiety for many supporters of the Confederacy in Nashville who feared that soon nothing would remain to locate these soldiers. Out of concern for what they felt to be proper respect for those who had fought for the Confederacy, the Tennessee Memorial Association was organized. In March 1869, the Association purchased a burial ground, within Mt. Olivet Cemetery, for the re-interment of Confederate soldiers. The reburials took place from May 1869 until May 1870. A Nashville newspaper, the *Republican Banner* reported on May 17, 1870, that 1,360 CSA soldiers had been buried within the Confederate Circle. By some accounts, 1400 CSA soldiers were finally reburied in the Confederate Circle.

Ann Rogers Winston - Private Collection
Tennessee Portrait Project (NSCDA-TN)

2

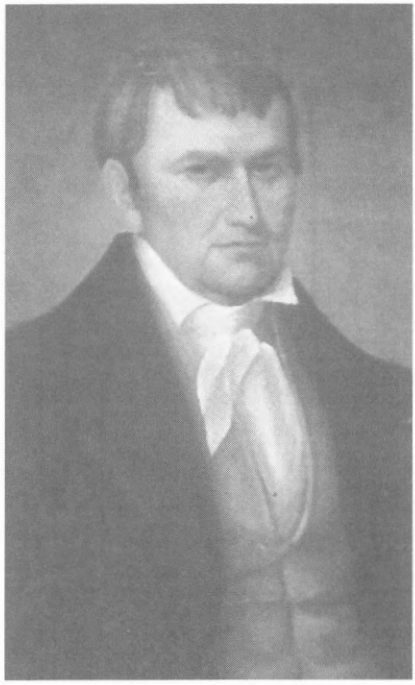
A Frontier Town

"The Cumberland Settlements and the Birth of Nashville," by John Egerton, published in *The Nashville Retrospect*, July 2009. Following is a partial copy of this article concerning the arrival of the Long Hunters and then the permanent settlers.

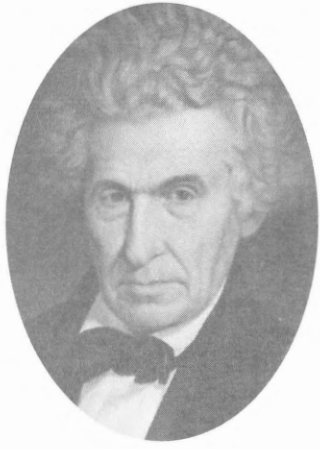
"Just as the region's natural resources had drawn the Native Americans, they would also attract the explorers, traders and settlers from the colonies to the north and east. French trappers from the Illinois Territory came by canoe as early as 1690, and in time the woodsmen were bartering with the Indians at a trading post they called the French Lick, near the sulphur spring and creek north of the bluff. The only one of these upcountry trappers about whom much is known was Timothy Demonbreun, who did not arrive until about 1770 – but died an honored citizen here fifty years later. It was in the 1770s that more and more men ventured west from the North Carolina-Virginia frontier to hunt, trade and scout out favorable locations for new settlements.

These Long Hunters, as they were called, spent the winter months on foot and on horseback in the forests. They, too, discovered the river, the French Lick, the bluff. To one and all – Indians, hunters, trappers, traders, would-be settlers, free blacks, slaves – this peaceable wilderness landscape offered much to please the eye.

It was the river, more than any other feature, that made this area attractive to prospective settlers. The



James Robertson



Dr. Felix Robertson

Cumberland River was both a way into and a way out of the wilderness. To the Long Hunters, streams were highways, boundary markers, compass points.

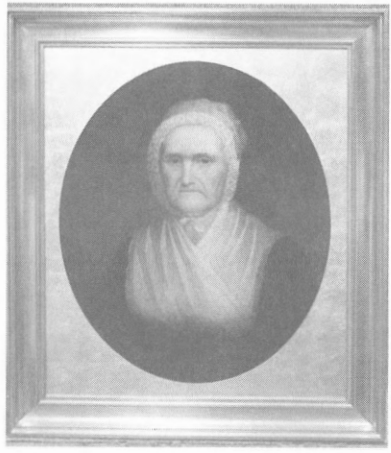
James Robertson with ten companions had visited the area in early 1779, cleared some land, marked cabin sites and planted for a fall harvest. In the fall of 1779, Robertson formed a larger group from Watauga to drive herds of livestock here. Their winding 500-mile trek through Kentucky that fall took two months, but by late December, about 200 settlers had reached here safely. They built small clusters of cabins nearby, chiefly in a fort on this bluff.

Meanwhile in the winter of 1779, some 300 men, women and children, included about fifty slaves, followed John Donelson on a harrowing, thousand-mile journey along the Holston, Tennessee, Ohio and Cumberland rivers to this place. Their flotilla of about forty flatboats and canoes, led by Donelson's boat, Adventure, endured a four-month ordeal of raging rivers, Indian attacks, disease, hunger and bitter cold. For the final 200 miles the boats had to be poled upstream against the current. Nearing the point of exhaustion and mourning the deaths of at least thirty of their number, the new settlers finally reached the Bluff and reunited with the Robertson party on April 24, 1780..."

The arriving settlers had two concerns: to protect their claims to the land and to protect themselves from

the Indians. In May of 1780, at Fort Nashborough, 244 of the men signed the Cumberland Compact, forming a civil government. Two signers of the Cumberland Compact are buried at City Cemetery, **James Robertson** and **Andrew Ewing.** The first clerk of the County Court, Ewing, educated in the "Quaker persuasion," had brought his wife and six children from Pennsylvania to the settlement. One of Ewing's sons, Nathan, succeeded his father as court clerk. **Andrew, his wife Susannah Ewing and his son Nathan Ewing** are buried at City Cemetery.

Robertson and his group chose the site of their settlement carefully. It must have "everlasting water," a spring to provide water for family and animals. Several families had brought sheep, oxen and cattle for labor and food; a place was needed to build a springhouse to keep milk, butter and perishable foodstuffs, and a place to do laundry. The land had to be "rolling," fertile and not on the flood plain. A river to carry their crops to market was necessary. The most vital items the settlers brought with them were the seeds for corn, oats, hemp, flax, cotton, vegetables (beans, pumpkins, sweet potatoes). Planting these seeds would insure that the families would have food and clothing, and that there would be more than enough to send down the river to New Orleans. Salt was another necessity; James Robertson took seven weeks to bring salt from Kentucky in the winter of 1780-1781. Charlotte Robertson,



Charlotte Robertson, at 84 years
Collection of the Tennessee State Museum

James' wife, brought flower seeds and bulbs. Similar plants grow today on the Robertson burial lot in City Cemetery.

Death was very much a part of everyday life for the early settlers of the Cumberland area. Among the first to die was Lavinia Robertson, the two-year old daughter of James and Charlotte Robertson, who made the difficult journey from the Watauga settlements by flatboat and then died shortly after their arrival in the Cumberland settlements. Lavinia was probably buried just outside the fort that sat on the bluffs overlooking the Cumberland River.

Life on the frontier was dangerous. Several Indian tribes, mainly the Creek, Cherokee and Shawnee, used the area for hunting. The transient long hunters and traders had posed no problems, but when the permanent

settlers arrived, the Indians determined to drive them away. They were skillful with firearms, having traded with the Spanish, French and English during the past 100 years. The first homes the Cumberland settlers built were log cabins linked together by fences for protection. There were eight fortified "Stations" in the area. Outside the Station walls were the corncrib, calf pens, the milk cows and the oxen. Inside were the horses, most prized by the Indians. The Indians often attacked these small Stations. These attacks killed many people, including two sons and two brothers of James Robertson. More than sixty families lost the male head of their household during the warfare with the Indians. Robertson was determined to stay, but others, including John Donelson & his family, fled to the relative safety of Kentucky.

James Robertson is called the "Father of Middle Tennessee" for his devotion to the infant settlement. He and his wife Charlotte were the parents of eleven children, the seventh was Felix, first child born at Freeland's Station (today 8th Avenue North in North Nashville). The baby was several weeks old when the Indians attacked, he and his mother Charlotte lay flat eight inches below a hole in the cabin wall. Bullets came through, not for an instant did Charlotte dare to pick up her son and dive beneath the bed, the bullets might catch them if she did. The next day the women at the fort, including Charlotte, riding sidesaddle with a baby in front and a child on the back, and surrounded by the men on horses, galloped to the slightly safer fort at the Bluffs. As a young man, Felix studied at the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania. During his studies in Philadelphia, he met Lydia Waters. Two years after his graduation, Felix and Lydia were married in Nashville in 1808. Dr. Robertson was well respected for his knowledge of the "Diseases of Children." Dr. Robertson also served as Mayor of Nashville. **Felix and Lydia Robertson** are buried in the Robertson family lot.[1]

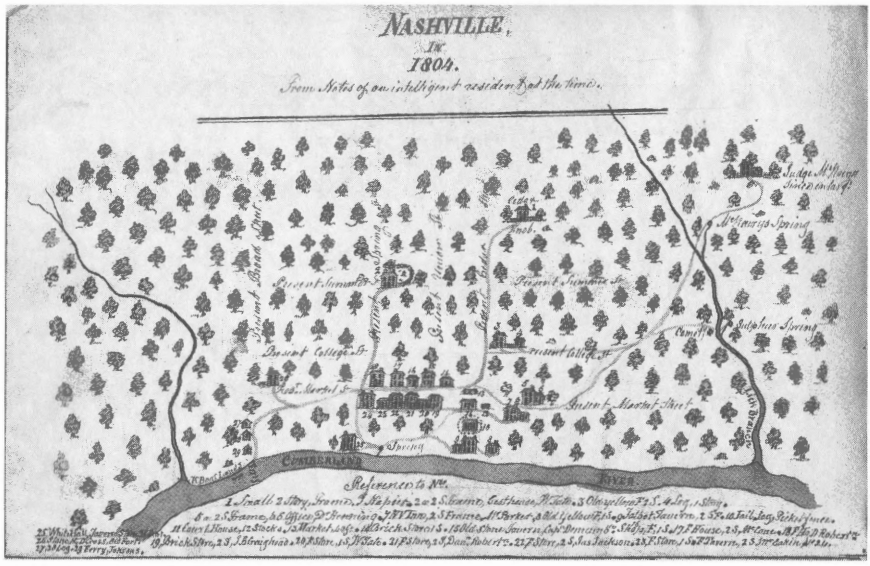
With the end of the Revolutionary War and with the growth of population in Nashville, the Indian threat decreased. **James Robertson** was appointed a brigadier general of the U.S. Army for the Mero District by George Washington in 1791, and was designated as the United States agent to the Chickasaw and Cherokee. At age 72, Robertson died in 1814, while on a mission to the Chickasaw Agency (now west Tennessee). Eleven years later, on October 15, 1825, his remains were re-interred with Masonic honors at the City Cemetery. **Charlotte Robertson** outlived her husband by 29 years, dying at ninety-two years of age in 1843, at The Craighead House, the home of her daughter Lavinia and her husband John B. Craighead. Lavinia was the James Robertson's second daughter to bear this name.

Box Tomb of Ann Robertson Johnston Cockrill

Twenty-three year old Ann Robertson Johnston, James' widowed sister, accompanied her sister-in-law Charlotte Robertson and others on the boat journey to the Bluffs. She brought her three little daughters and is said to have taught the children to read and write, using the Bible and the river sand for writing. In 1784 Ann married John Cockrill. That same year she was the only woman to receive a land grant in her own name, in the Cumberland settlements, from the North Carolina Legislature. This grant was awarded because she had been the only widow, or female head of household, who had ventured on the boat journey. In 1911, the graves of **Ann and John Cockrill** were re-interred on the Ephraim H. Foster Lot at City Cemetery from the family graveyard on the Cockill farm.

In 1784 the town was officially named "Nashville" in honor of Brigadier General Francis Nash of North Carolina. During the Revolution, General Nash was wounded at the Battle of Germantown in Pennsylvania and died three days later on October 7, 1777. Two hundred acres of land were set aside from the lands adjoining the salt lick to create the town. Thomas Mulloy drew the first plat of the town that consisted of 165 one-acre lots. These lots were sold with the condition of sale that each purchaser would erect a frame or log building on the lot. Although the lots were sold, there was a rapid turnover in the lots since most had been purchased

[1]*Today the original acres can be identified near the graves of James and Charlotte Robertson in the center of the cemetery. To the west can be seen the tall monument for Duncan Robertson. Standing near this monument, one can see how the graves were laid out in the fashion of a churchyard burial ground.*



Map of Nashville in 1804, Nashville Public Library, Special Collections

for speculative purposes. The proceeds from the sale of the town lots were to provide the funds to build a courthouse, a prison and stocks. By 1806 the population had grown to a point that it was desirable to incorporate a city.

The town of Nashville grew very slowly during its first twenty years. The population of the settlement numbered only 345, of which 151 were slaves and three were "free men of color" in 1800, four years after statehood. The earliest settlers were interested in the land, not in the building of a city. The town did not begin to grow until there was a need for a market, a place to sell and buy. As commercial routes were developed to carry goods by keelboat to New Orleans, Nashville became a trading center.

Although Nashville had been only a county seat in 1800, by 1820 it had become a mercantile town. It became the focus for shipping and distribution for a wide agricultural area of middle Tennessee. After the War of 1812, more immigrants were drawn west. When the "General Jackson " docked in Nashville in 1818, a transportation revolution began. **General William Carroll** brought this first steamboat, which cost $16,000, to Nashville. In spite of the Panic of 1819, Nashville's population began to soar. In 1822, the year that the City Cemetery opened, the city's population had risen to 3401.

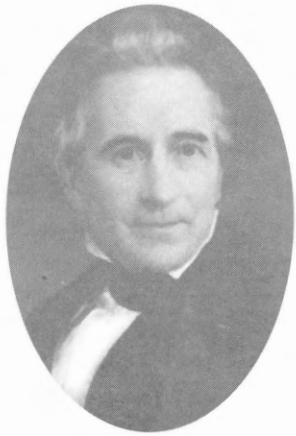
The original pioneer settlers expected to be landowners, not town builders. As the need for a town and its

Septima Sexta Middleton Rutledge
(Photo courtesy of Middleton Place Foundation, Charleston, S.C.)

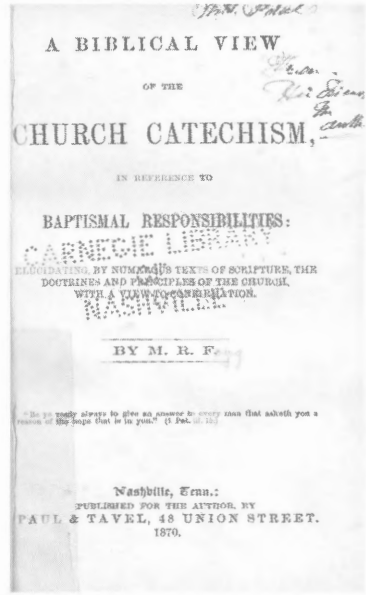
Rutledge-Fogg lot

services became apparent a new type of settler came. The second wave of arrivals included young lawyers who arrived to handle the land claims, veterans of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and merchants. These newcomers were from Philadelphia or Charleston, had seen New Orleans and Boston and expected to create a similar city here. Among this second wave came **Henry and Septima Sexta Middleton Rutledge.** Both their fathers had signed the Declaration of Independence as delegates from South Carolina. Henry had served with the U.S. legation in Paris before returning to Charleston to marry his cousin Septima. For her wedding she wore a white satin Empire dress with puffed sleeves, white silk stockings, a Brussels lace veil and a pair of green sharkskin slippers. Her unusual name refers to her position as the sixth daughter and seventh child in her family. Septima Sexta's family home was Middleton Place, near Charleston. The beautifully landscaped formal gardens remain famous today. Several years after their marriage, the Rutledges came to Tennessee, where Henry owned more than 50,000 acres in Franklin County. This land was an inheritance from Henry's father, who had received land for his Revolutionary War service and purchased the grants of other veterans. They had a summer home there, just as their families who lived in Charleston had summer homes. The Rutledge family lived in a fine house in Nashville, called "Rose Hill." After an

Mary Rutledge Fogg



Francis Fogg



A BIBLICAL VIEW

OF THE

CHURCH CATECHISM,

IN REFERENCE TO

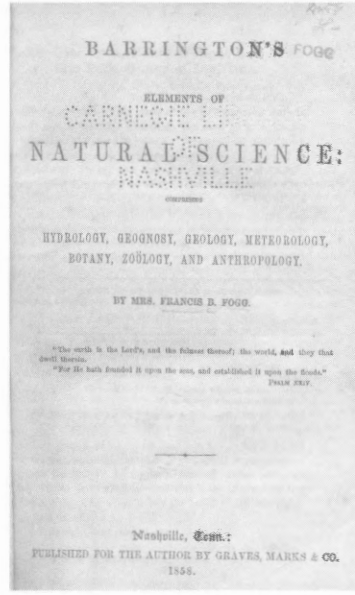
BAPTISMAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

ELUCIDATING, BY NUMEROUS TEXTS OF SCRIPTURE, THE DOCTRINES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHURCH, WITH A VIEW TO CONFIRMATION.

BY M. R. F.

Nashville, Tenn.:
PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR, BY
PAUL & TAVEL, 48 UNION STREET.
1870.

A Biblical View of the Church Catechism
by Mary Rutledge Fogg



BARRINGTON'S

ELEMENTS OF

NATURAL SCIENCE:

HYDROLOGY, GEOGNOSY, GEOLOGY, METEOROLOGY, BOTANY, ZOÖLOGY, AND ANTHROPOLOGY.

BY MRS. FRANCIS B. FOGG.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
"For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods."
PSALM XXIV.

Nashville, Tenn.:
PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR BY GRAVES, MARKS & CO.
1858.

Barrington's Elements of Natural Science
by Mary Rutledge Fogg

accidental fire destroyed the house shortly after the Civil War, the property was sold and later developed into Rutledge Hill.

When the Rutledges moved to Nashville in 1821, the town was small and lacking in the sophistication of Charleston, without an Episcopal Church or adequate schools. Septima Sexta brought all her books and her French harp and allowed only French to be spoken in her home on Fridays. In 1823 her daughter Mary married **Francis B. Fogg**, a local attorney who was born in Connecticut and settled in Nashville in 1817. For the next forty years, Mrs. Rutledge and **Mary Rutledge Fogg** recreated the institutions they had known in Charleston. In 1829, the Rutledges and the Foggs were founders of the first Episcopal church in Nashville. Two years later they helped to finance the construction of Christ Church, the first Episcopal church building in Tennessee. Mr. Fogg served as a Vestryman at Christ Church from 1829 until his death in 1880.

At Christ Church, Mary attended the funerals of her parents and all of her three children. She and her mother helped to establish the House of Industry (for young destitute women) and the Protestant Orphan Asylum. Mary Fogg was a writer, publishing seven books. They were: *A Bible View of Church Catechism, Sunday School Teaching, Poems, A Mother's Legacy, The Broken Harp, Mary Ashton* (a novel) and *Barrington's Elements of Natural Science*, a science book, which served as a standard college text. Matthew Fontaine Maury, Superintendent of the Naval Observatory and later a commander in the Confederate navy, was very impressed with its accuracy. Francis B. Fogg was one of three men who developed the plan for the public school system in Nashville in 1852. Hume-Fogg High School is named for him, and for **Alfred Hume**, who is also buried at City Cemetery.

Another civic-minded family was that of Felix & Ann Rodgers Grundy. Mrs. Grundy began the first Sunday School in Nashville, in 1820, at First Presbyterian Church. Some opposed the idea of a Sunday School since they considered that the teaching of spelling and reading as inappropriate activities on Sunday. Many of the Grundy family members were buried in the Grundy

Old Christ Church, 1831-1890, TSLA Collection

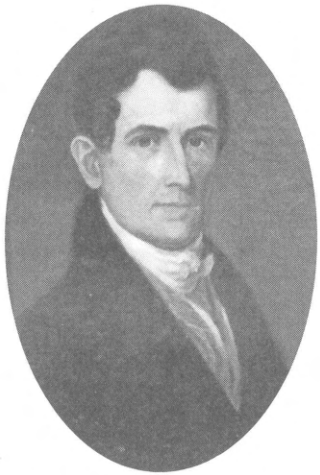
Grundy family plot

lot. The Grundys' daughter, **Martha Grundy**, **her husband Van Perkins Winder** and **seven of their children** are buried in this lot. The Interment records show that four Winder family members were brought back their home in Louisiana for burial in the City Cemetery. **William James Bass**, an 18 year old University of Nashville student, was buried here, just six years after the cemetery opened in 1828. Felix Grundy's 8 year old granddaughter **Malvina** died at "Carnton, " the McGavock home in Franklin, Tennessee, in 1848, and was returned for burial in the family lot. Felix Grundy died in 1840 and Ann in 1847. On October 16, 1890, the remains of Ann and Felix Grundy and Felix's servant Ambrose were removed from the family lot at City Cemetery and re-interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

When Lafayette visited Nashville in 1825, among the veterans of the American Revolution gathered to greet him was **John Hagey**. Lafayette immediately recognized his old comrade who had accompanied him from France to fight in the Revolution. In Mr. Hagey's obituary, it was reported that Hagey had been 77 years old when he had walked over 100 miles to see Lafayette on his Nashville visit. More than 5,000 people attended Hagey's funeral in 1841; he was buried here "with full military honors." His wife, **Catherine Hagey**, lies beside him. She died in 1861 at age 106!

Other Revolutionary War veterans at City Cemetery include **John**

Felix Grundy



Dr. John Shelby

Bradford, Samuel Chapman, Lipscomb Norvell, Anthony Foster, Joel Lewis, James Robertson, John Cockrill and **Andrew Ewing.** Ninety-three-year-old **Thomas Davis**, who had served as a Revolutionary soldier, was buried in 1846. Davis outlived all the other Revolutionary War Veterans buried at City Cemetery.

David Shelby, a member of a family of original settlers of Middle Tennessee, owned much of what is now East Nashville. His son **John Shelby**, born in Sumner County, Tennessee in 1785, inherited that land, became a physician and Nashville's postmaster. Shelby had met his wife-to-be, Anna Maria Minnick, while attending the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania. Serving with Andrew Jackson during the Creek War, in 1814, he lost an eye at the Battle of Enotachopo. He established the Shelby Medical College in Nashville. In 1855, the Shelby Mausoleum was erected in the City Cemetery. Four years later, Dr. Shelby's funeral was held at Christ Church. His obituary described that "a long line of carriages containing friends and relatives, Masonic Lodge members, the Shelby Life Guards and the German Yagers" were in the procession from the church to the cemetery.

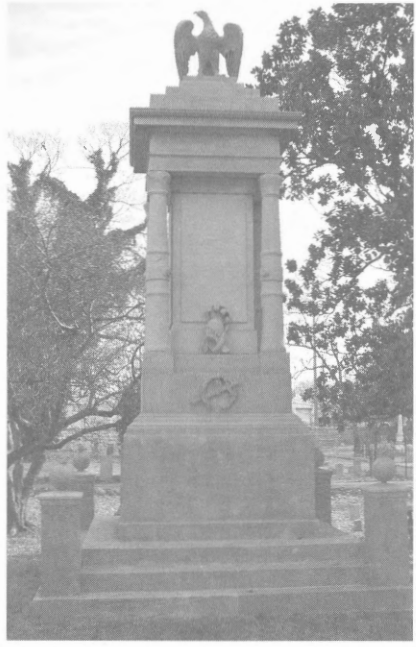
Many Nashvillians served under General Andrew Jackson during the military engagements of the War of 1812. Troops of cavalry and infantry accompanied Jackson south after elaborate ceremonies at the Cumberland River wharf. In the City Cemetery, twenty-nine men are buried who served during these wars. These Veterans include **Henry Marlin, Dr. Samuel Hogg, Gen. Robert Armstrong, Gen. William B. Carroll, Charles Maddis** (also called Longinetti, Jacksons's interpreter in New Orleans), **Ephraim H. Foster, Jeffrey Lockalier, Col. Andrew Hynes, Dr. John Shelby, Lt. William H. Bedford,** and **Pvt. Woodson Clay.** As a group, they contributed much more than military service to their city.

William B. Carroll, born in Pennsylvania, was a Nashville nail factory owner and a Major General in the militia. He was severely wounded at Horseshoe Bend during the Creek War but recovered and joined Andrew Jackson and the Tennessee Volunteers to fight at New Orleans on January 8, 1815. Carroll served as Tennessee's

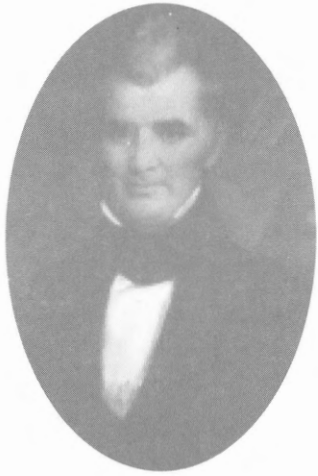
governor for twelve years, between 1821 and 1835, only missing being elected in 1828. When Carroll died, at age 56, in 1844, the State of Tennessee purchased his burial lot and his monument.

Jeffrey Lockalier, a free black from North Carolina, returned from his war service to make his home with Colonel Robert Armstrong. Given the courtesy title of "Major Jeffrey", he worked at the courthouse until his last illness. His admiring obituary tells of visits to his bedside by Andrew Jackson and John Coffee, his old military commanders.

Robert Armstrong, Lockalier's friend, was Jackson's aide in several military campaigns. He fell in love with Margaret, daughter of Josiah Nichol. Armstrong had ability and was esteemed by everyone but had little property. Nichol refused to allow their marriage. When the young couple decided to elope, they knew who would be their allies. Nashville's most famous pair of runaways, Andrew and Rachel Jackson, were on their side. When Robert and Margaret were married at the Hermitage, in 1814, Jackson himself wrote to the bride's parents. Informing the Nichols of the marriage and that Rachel was treating Margaret as a daughter, he firmly wrote that "their smiles and forgiveness" would restore family tranquility. Jackson reminded the parents that the couple was deeply in love, married, and that the parents should be reconciled. Then he invited everyone to dinner.



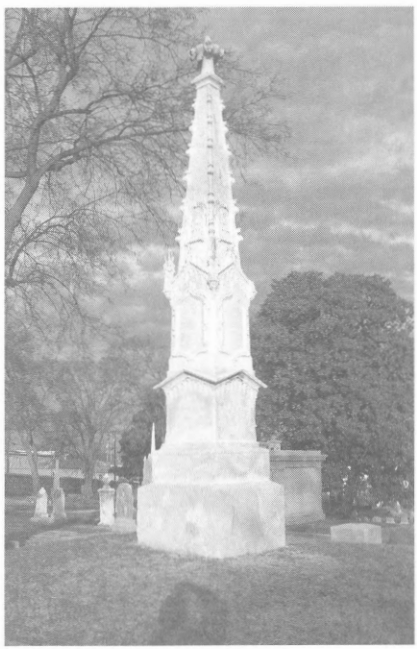
Monument of Governor William Carroll



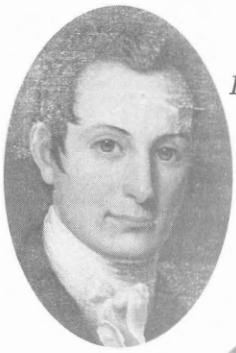
Governor William Carroll

Margaret Armstrong died in 1834. Robert became a Brigadier General in 1836. The following year, he made an unsuccessful bid for the office of Governor but was defeated by Newton Cannon. Armstrong was appointed to the U.S. Consul to Liverpool in 1845. The same year President Jackson, who loved him as a son, bequeathed his sword to Armstrong. In 1854 General Armstrong died in Washington. The next year the general's body was returned home and re-interred beside his wife in the City Cemetery.

Richard Claiborne Napier was an early iron master in Tennessee, establishing Napier Furnace in Dickson County. **His wife Charlotte**, named for her mother, Charlotte Robertson, was known for the beautiful flower gardens she created at their Franklin Pike home. The Napiers, with their oldest son, **James Robertson Napier**, who died from a diving injury, are buried here. Other men who were involved in the lucrative iron industry were Anthony Van Leer, who was first buried at City Cemetery and later moved to Mt. Olivet, and Van Leer's first partner, **Robert Baxter**, who formed the Tennessee Iron Works in the 1830's. Robert and **his wife Rebecca** are buried here at the City Cemetery. **Moses W. Wetmore** and his brother **William H. Wetmore** were earlier owners and operators of mines in Polk County. The Wetmore brothers are buried here.



Baxter and Watkins family plot

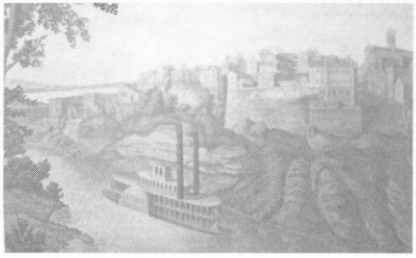


Richard C. Napier

Charlotte Robertson Napier

3

A Thriving Commercial Center

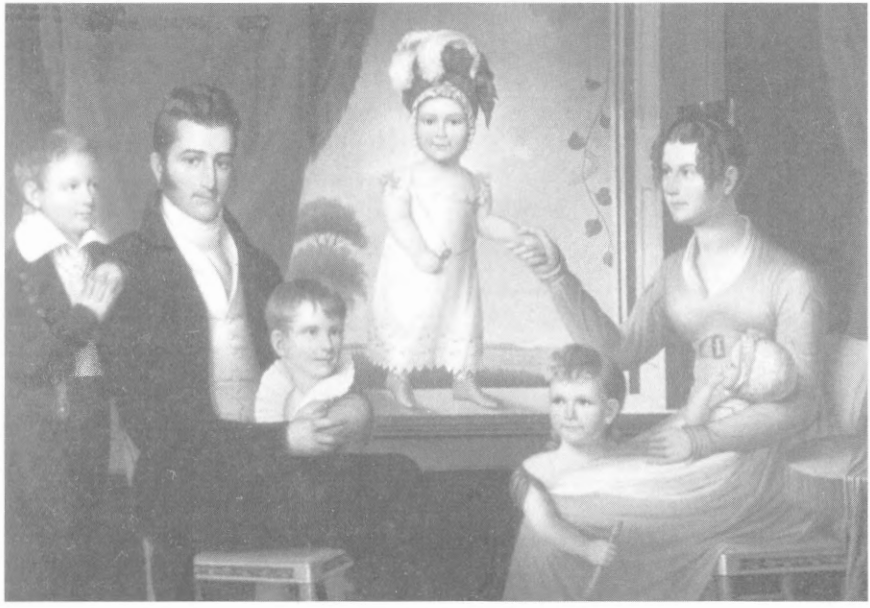


Ephraim H. Foster, law partner of Francis B. Fogg, is among the many elected officials buried in the City Cemetery. Foster, a state representative and speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives, represented Tennessee as a U.S. Senator from 1843 to 1845. A graduate of Cumberland College in Nashville, at age 19, he served as General Jackson's secretary during the Creek War. A few years later, Foster became a Whig and opposed Jackson's choice of James K. Polk for political office. Foster loved telling jokes and was a fine speaker, however, he had a quick temper. Once he threw a law book at the presiding judge, but his wit and charm saved him from punishment. The law firm of Foster and Fogg was known to be friendly to slaves wishing to buy their freedom. Foster & Fogg advanced money and held the ownership so that the owner could not change his mind before the legal process was completed. Many said that Foster and Fogg were "absolutely trustworthy."

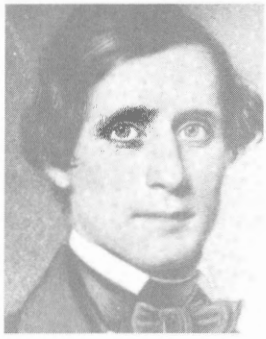
Other men served their country and city in different ways. **Rev. William Hume**, native of Scotland, was the first Presbyterian minister in Nashville. His son **Alfred** was the "father of the public school system." William Hume was universally respected by the community. On his handsome box tomb, the epitaph conveys the many deeds of his life's work and reveals that "The Citizens of Nashville have erected this simple monument."

Ephraim H. Foster monument

Wilkins Tannehill, born in Pennsylvania, was elected Mayor and served as a member of the University of Nashville Trustees. During his eight-year tenure as trustee, he never missed a meeting. Elected seven times as Grand Master of the Masons of Tennessee, he also wrote *Tannehill's Free Mason's Manual*, a standard work on Masonry, led the Masonic processions to greet President Monroe in 1819 and Lafayette in 1825 on their visits to Nashville and presided over the cornerstone ceremonies for the State Capitol building. Tannehill, who loved to read and to write, was totally blind the last years of his life. His wife, Eliza, died in 1843. Fifteen years later, Tannehill died at age 71.



Ephraim H. Foster and family. (Photo courtesy of Cheekwood Museum of Art.)



Alfred Hume

Wilkins Tannehill

Wilkins Tannehill Obelisk

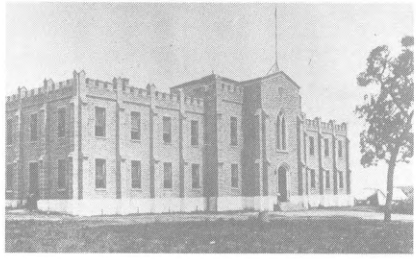
Duncan Robertson, a native of Scotland and not related to James Robertson, was called the "best man that ever lived in Nashville." He died, in his 63rd year, on May 1, 1833. The Citizens of Nashville erected his monument in City Cemetery. The inscription reads in part "...To do good to his fellow men entirely forgetful of himself seemed to be the great object of his life. In the dungeon of the forsaken prisoner, at the bedside of the wretched and friendless, and in the abode of poverty and distress, was he almost constantly found ... Such a man is among the wonders of the age, a blessing to any community..." Robertson was a bookseller and a City Alderman. His widow **Catherine Robertson** died 16 months later and was buried beside her husband at City Cemetery.

By the middle of the 1830's, Nashville was an active, busy city of some six thousand people. One visitor called it "an oasis in the desert." The University of Nashville boasted five buildings, all built of brick. Its establishment brought several scholars to the city. The first president, Philip Lindsley, came from Princeton and found Nashville society exasperating. In 1832, the *Nashville Herald* printed his article, signed with a pseudonym "an Old Field Pedagogue." "Nothing in Tennessee ever reached perfection, there was only cotton, tobacco, whiskey and swine, not worth growing...doctors are made by guess...lawyers by magic...parsons by

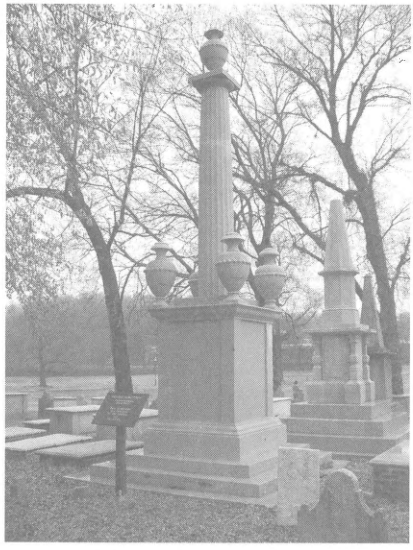
inspiration...legislators by grog...editors and schoolmasters by St. Nicholas." Dr. Lindsley died in 1855. On May 31, 1882, the remains of Dr. Lindsley, his first wife Mrs. Margaret, who had died ten years before her husband, and his grandson Philip Lindsley, who had died in 1847, were re-interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Gerard Troost was the most famous of the faculty of the University of Nashville who was hired by Dr. Lindsley. One of America's premier scientists, he had degrees from Amsterdam, Leyden, and Paris. Louis Bonaparte, king of Holland, was his patron, sending him on a mission to Java. When Louis was overthrown, he settled in Philadelphia. After the death of his first wife, Troost, his two children and second wife tried the New Harmony communal living experiment. Soon unhappy there, the family came to Nashville in 1827 and Troost became professor of Chemistry and Geology at the University of Nashville. With a salary of $1000 per year, he taught but was exempt from the routine duties required of other teachers. Eccentric and open-hearted, energetic, domestic and hospitable, the rosy-cheeked scientist lived in rooms full of snakes, fossils, rocks and Indian relics. In 1831 he was appointed the first State Geologist of Tennessee. Traveling across the state, Troost detailed the natural resources and commercial assets and collected specimens of everything, including two rattlesnakes which he carried home in

Early drawing of the campus of the University of Nashville



University of Nashville

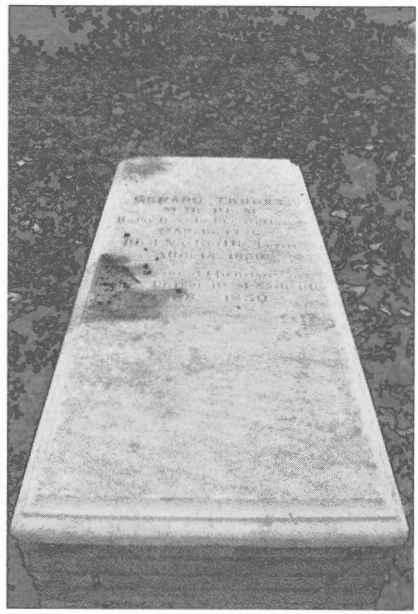


Duncan Robertson Monument

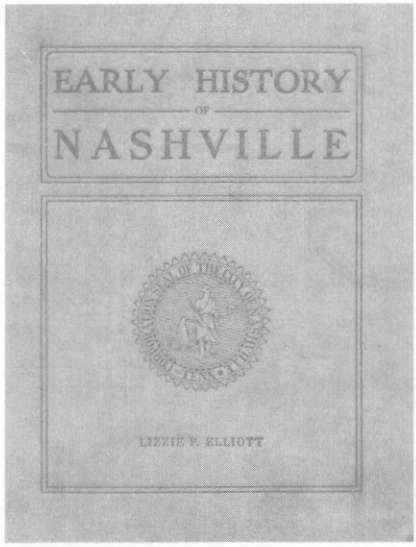
Dr. Philip Lindsley

a basket. The other passengers on the stagecoach were hardly reassured when Troost covered the curious snakes with his coat. His "specimen" collection was unequalled, but when the professor died in 1850, neither the city nor state would buy it. Eventually his collection went to Kentucky for perhaps a third of its value.

The University of Nashville admitted only young men, but a school for young ladies, the Nashville Female Academy, which first held classes in 1817, educated several generations of Nashville's daughters. Dr. Daniel Berry, the first principal for two years, was followed by **Dr. William Hume** who served as the principal until his death in 1833. *Tennessee Gazetteer 1834* described the Academy as "a flourishing institution, situated in the western suburbs of the city, near Spring street (now called Church) in a handsome bowling green." For more than twenty years the principal of the Female Academy was Collins D. Elliott. He married Nashvillian Elizabeth Porterfield in 1837 and two years later began his management of the "Old Academy." The Academy was heated with steam, had bathtubs (used only with parental permission) and employed native teachers of German, French and Italian. The Academy had an enrollment of 250 young women, with that many more "ornamentals", young women studying only one language or painting, when it was closed at the beginning of the Civil War. An outspoken Southern sympathizer, Collins Elliott was arrested by the Federal Army authorities and sent to Camp Chase, Ohio. After being



Box Tomb of Dr. Gerard Troost



Elizabeth Porterfield Elliott's history of Nashville

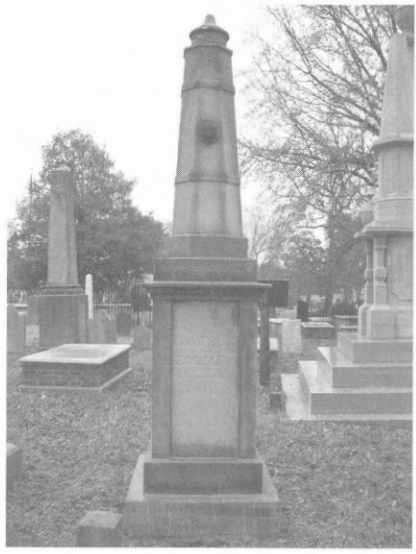
released, Elliott went to Alabama and became a chaplain in the Confederate Army. Two of his daughters, Mary and Susie, acted as spies for the Confederacy and were ordered out of Nashville by Federal Army General Mitchell. The academy buildings were used for a hospital and never reopened after the war ended. **Elizabeth Porterfield Elliott** died in 1877 and **Collins D. Elliott** twenty two years later. Both are buried at City Cemetery.

Elizabeth Porterfield Elliott, named for her mother and a teacher like her father, was an 1881 graduate of the State Normal College (now Peabody). She was a teacher for more than fifty years. An avid historian, she was an officer in the Tennessee Historical Society and a leader in the movement to construct a replica of Fort Nashborough on the banks of the Cumberland River. Her children's textbook, *Early History of Nashville*, is still read today.

Most people buried at City Cemetery were not famous, yet the epitaphs on their tombstones reflect the love that their families and friends had for them. **David Jenkins** of County Tyrone Ireland, dying in 1840 at age 24, has a monument "erected by a few of his friends." When **William Henry Sumner**, a delegate from Louisiana to the Nashville Convention in 1840, died here, his monument was paid for by his "brother and partner T.P.L. Sumner of Pawtucket, R.I." For Oliver Colwell, only 18, who drown "while bathing near the city" in 1829, inscribed on his tomb: "A Mother and Brothers and Sisters who smoothed for him no dying pillow, bade him no last adieu, nor wept over his distant grave, place this memorial." Poor **Adam Henderson**, a Scotsman who had become an American citizen and had a wife and baby, was killed in 1852 when the soda fountain at the Union Street confectionery shop exploded. **Alex C. Brown**, a law clerk in the office of Foster & Fogg, died at the residence of Ephraim H. Foster, of bilious fever in 1839. Only nineteen years old, he was also a member of Nashville Fire Co. No. 1. Local members of his company raised funds to mark his grave with a monument that was designed to resemble a fire hydrant.

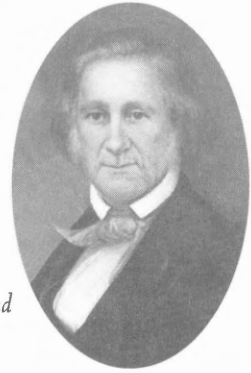
Two of Nashville's premier architects designed tombstones at City Cemetery. Adolphus Heiman designed four monuments at City Cemetery: An obelisk for **William Harris**; a cenotaph, a marker for someone who is buried elsewhere, placed for Governor John Sevier; a monument for **Nancy Maynor** and a tall handsome tombstone for Benjamin Sharpe. Nancy Bailey married painter Pleasant Maynor in 1828 and died eight years later. Having left Prussia in 1834, this would be one of Heiman's first commissions in Nashville. The monument, signed "A. Heiman," is marked with a butterfly. Benjamin Sharpe was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on February 21, 1800, son of Benjamin and Barbara Slater Sharpe. He came to Tennessee about 1834 and six years later married Ann Morehead in Nashville. He was drowned in flood waters on March 17, 1848. Sharpe was a Justice of the Peace. Invoices for the Harris and Sharpe monuments are in the collection of the Metro Nashville Archives. Adolphus Heiman was in Confederate service and died during the Civil War. He is buried in the Confederate Circle at Mt. Olivet.

The Tennessee General Assembly named William Strickland, of Philadelphia, to be the architect for the proposed State Capitol. In 1845 he moved to Nashville to be in charge of the construction of the Capitol. While in Nashville, Strickland designed First Presbyterian Church in



Alex C. Brown Monument

Adolphus Heiman



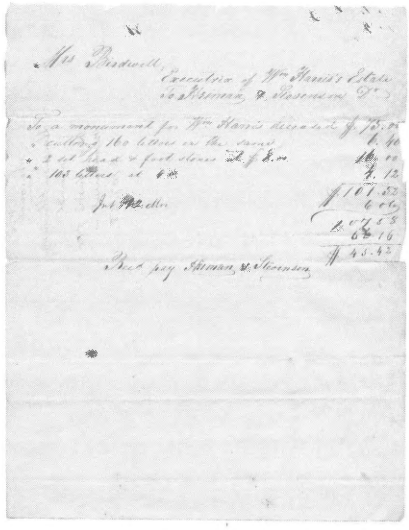
William Strickland

the unusual Egyptian Revival style. Built between 1849 and 1851, the church is still an active congregation as The Downtown Presbyterian Church and has been recognized as a National Landmark.

Strickland and Heiman were both members of Cumberland Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons and marched in the funeral procession for President James K. Polk in Nashville. Polk having died only a few months after he had retired from the presidency, was first buried, on June 16, 1849, in the family lot of Felix Grundy at City Cemetery. On May 22, 1850, Strickland supervised the removal of the remains from City Cemetery to the new tomb he had designed for the lawn of "Polk Place," the Polks' home in Nashville. In 1893, the remains of President and Mrs. Polk and their Tomb were relocated to the grounds of the Tennessee State Capitol.

Strickland designed two monuments for the City Cemetery. The first was for **Sarah Ann Gray Walker**, wife of John W. Walker. Mrs. Walker, a native of Florence, Alabama, was 28 years old at the time of her death. In July 1846, Strickland prepared a description of this monument for his friend and fellow Mason Wilkins Tannehill's publication *Orthopolitan* in which he wrote "very elegant ... constructed of pure white marble from Baltimore...the lachrymal vase is an exact copy of vases found in the ruins of Pompeii." Lachrymal vases were found in the tombs of ancient Romans to hold the tears of mourners. The Latin word "lacrima" translates to "tears."

William Harris Obelisk



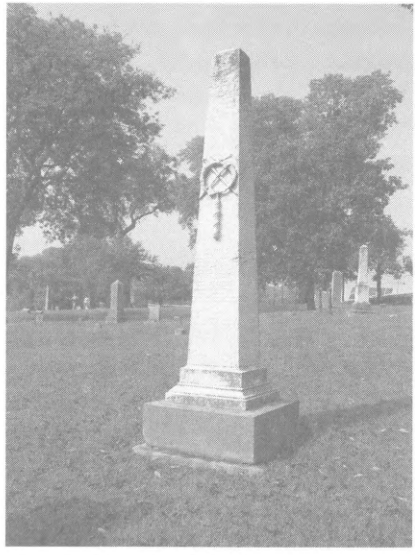
Invoice. Chancery Court Records (Collection of Metro Nashville Archives)

The other Strickland monument at City Cemetery honors **John Kane**, one of the 50 stonecutters who worked to build the State Capitol. When Kane died of consumption on July 1, 1848, his fellow workers cut the monument at the quarry, the superintendent bought the lot, and Strickland himself contributed the design. On top are the "banker blocks" and the stone being finished for the "capstone." This was Kane's last job, and his tools are carved there, just as he left them for the last time.

William Strickland died, in 1854, prior to the completion of the State Capitol. The Tennessee General Assembly honored the architect's wish to be buried in a niche in the north portico of the State Capitol. Five years later the Capitol construction was completed.

Four companies of Davidson County men served in the Mexican War, including the Nashville Blues, commanded by Captain B.F. Cheatham, and the Harrison Guards, whose commander was Robert C. Foster, III. They were part of the First Tennessee Regiment, which left Nashville in June, 1846. Disease and death from the Mexican climate soon decimated their ranks, and many were discharged to come home. Some young men never made their destination. **Charles C. P. Conway**, "on his way to Lincoln County," was so weak that he could go no farther and died here in October 1846. He was twenty-

Tombstone for Benjamin Sharpe

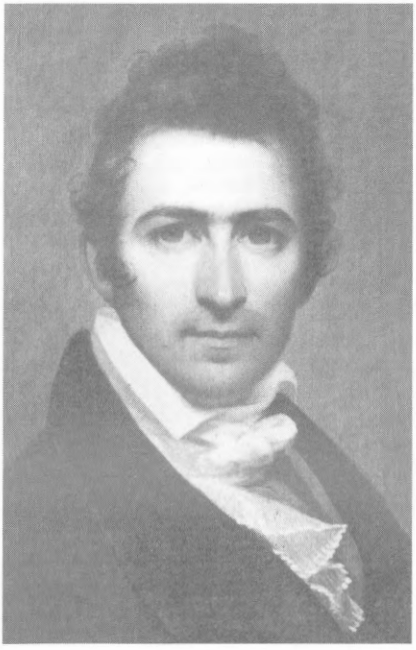


John Sevier Cenotaph

Nancy Maynor Monument (detail inset)

Sarah Ann Gray Walker Monument

James Hart Allison Obelisk

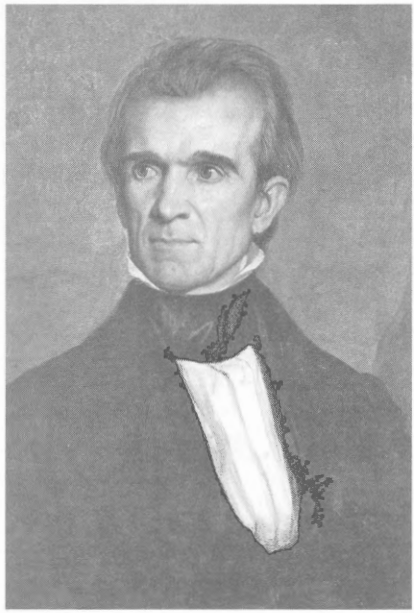


William Edward West

two years old. **Lt. W. W. Marshall**, aged 25 years, a citizen of Monroe County, was buried, in 1848, in the Cumberland Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons lot at City Cemetery and his tombstone reads "Served in the Mexican War and died on his Return." The City Cemetery Interment records reveal that James Hart Allison, in his 22nd year, was "killed at Monterey on September 21, 1846," and was "buried on January 7, 1847," in the Alexander Allison family lot. **James H. Allison** was a private in the 1st Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers. The family would have arranged the return of their son's remains.

William Edward West, who was born in Lexington, Kentucky in 1788, would become one of the most

famous American artists of his day. West travelled to Italy to study at the Academy of Florence in 1819. There he met and painted portraits of Lord Byron and his mistress, Teresa Gamba. These much admired works led to West's acceptance by the Royal Academy in London. West returned to New York in 1837 and the next year, after the request of Mrs. Lee, he painted U.S. Lt. of Engineers Robert E. Lee, his best-known American portrait. The last two years of his life were spent at the home of his sister Sarah and husband Robert Woods in Nashville In 1857 William E. West died and was buried in the Woods family lot.



James Knox Polk, President, 1845-1849

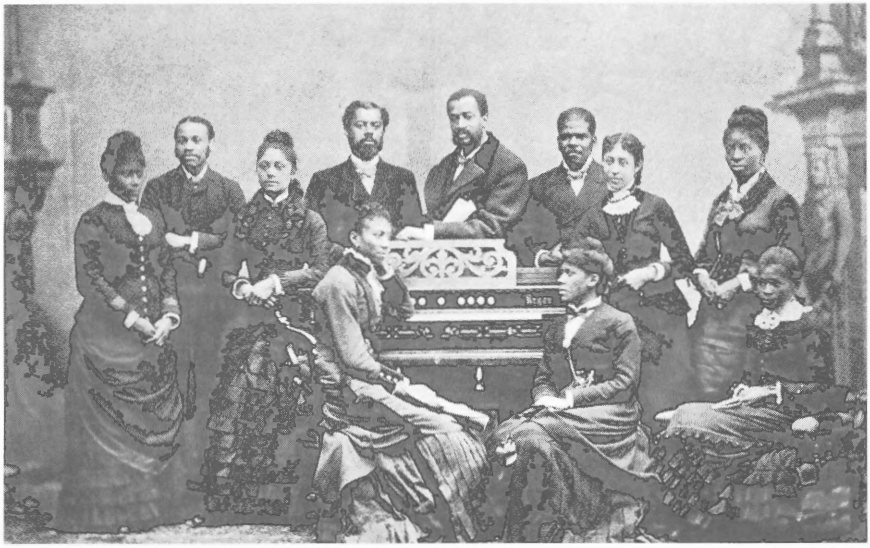
Gravestone of John Kane, showing his stone-cutters tools

4

African-Americans of City Cemetery

The City Cemetery was created as a burial place for all Nashvillians in 1822. Until investor owned cemeteries began in the mid-19th century, black and while people alike found their final resting place here. Private Mt. Ararat Cemetery opened after the Civil War, yet prominent African Americans, including Jubilee Singers Ella Sheppard Moore and Mable Lewis Imes, politician Elias Polk, and philanthropist Lucinda Bedford all chose to come to City. More than 6,000 interments in the cemetery are those of African-Americans. Some were slaves, some free people, some prominent in their day, more than 2,000 are unnamed infants. Many sources, including the City Cemetery interment books which begin in 1846, court records, local histories, obituaries and early 20th century tombstone surveys, let us tell their stories.

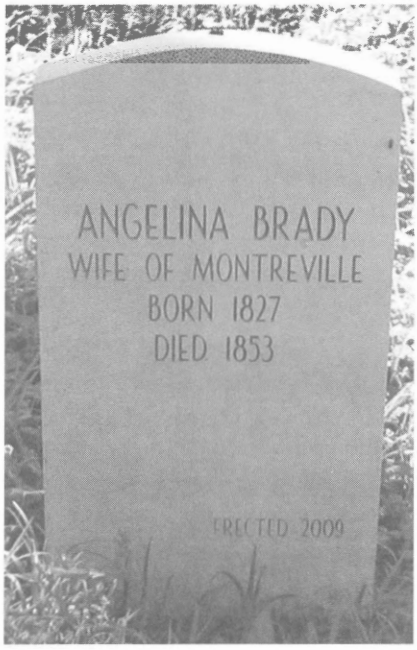
Nashville was the home to the largest free African-American population in the state. In 1840 there were 490 free households in the city and in 1850 the census counted 511. An unknown number of others lived as "semi-free", "hiring their own time". This was an agreement between slave and master, the slave chose what work he wanted to do, and paid his master part of his wages. These were city people, working as barbers, laundresses, draymen, ministers, gardeners, teachers, caterers and household workers. The children went to school, as the "Nashville Union" reported in 1850, "Until yesterday we were not aware



Fisk Jubilee Singers

that there were several schools for free Negroes in the city, and all of them in a flourishing condition". Some owners, including the "high-toned Christian gentleman" H. R. R. Hill, sent their slave children to these schools. Religious organizations were an important part of African-American life. Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian and Catholic churches operated Sunday Schools which taught simple reading and arithmetic to black and white children, and members of both races attended services. By the 1850s, African-Americans had organized their own, black churches, partly free from white interference. The community lived in two worlds, separately in a black world and also within a larger white one. This is reflected at City, where many black people are buried in the "Negro ground" and others lie throughout the cemetery.

Two of Nashville's most well-known African-American men died before the cemetery interment records exist. We know about them because they were prominent enough to be written about in other sources. One was the patriot soldier **Jeffrey Lockalier**, who was born free in North Carolina in 1788. A young man looking for adventure, he came to Nashville in 1807. The life of a soldier appealed to him. Lockalier joined the militia and fought at the Battle of New Orleans and the Seminole Wars. As his admiring obituary states: "His military services terminated only when his country ceased to have enemies". Known as "Major Jeffrey" and his military service over, Lockalier purchased the freedom of his wife Sabina in



Replacement Tombstone 2009

Marker for Jerry Porterfield

1817. She had been a slave of Thomas E. Summer of Williamson County where her petition for emancipation was filed in July 1817 by her husband. They are recorded in the census as the household of "Major Locklun". Lockalier's health began to fail and he endured a "long confinement" at the home of Robert Armstrong in Nashville. Armstrong had been one of his officers during his military career. Others remembered Lockalier also. "He enjoyed, in a high degree, the good opinion and friendship of his old commander, Gen. Jackson, and now the President, hearing of the sickness of his fellow soldier, with General Coffee, visited and spent an hour in his company". Jeffrey Lockalier died the 23rd of September, 1830. His admiring obituary, from which these quotes have been taken, appeared in the *National Banner & Nashville Whig*, 27th September 1830. The writer closes with this plea" one should not soon forgotten who bestowed his best days to the service of his country; who lived a life of active benevolence, and died praising the goodness and mercy of his God". He was not forgotten by the city planners who named Locklayer Street for him. His marker at City Cemetery, crumbled away by the elements, will be replaced as part of the restoration program.

Middle Tennessee was a center for thoroughbred horse breeding and racing in the early 19th century. By 1807, jockey clubs existed in Nashville, Clover Bottom, and Gallatin. African-

Three obelisks for Lucinda, Wm. H. & W. H. H. Bedford

Tombstone for Ann Matilda Bedford

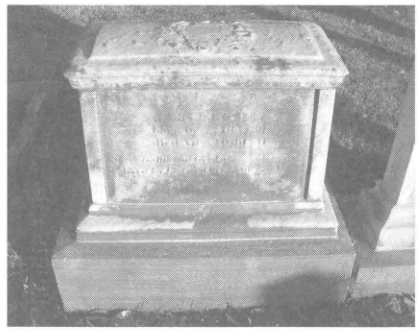
Tombstone for Emily Person

American jockeys dominated the sport and none was more successful than slave "Monkey" Simon. He was the "coolest, bravest, wisest rider" of them all, famous for his witty repartee as much as for his riding skills. It is said that he never lost a race, and that one of Andrew Jackson's greatest regrets was that his horses never won against those ridden by Simon. Simon died at the age of 52 in the cholera epidemic of 1833. His death was reported in the "Knoxville Gazette" of June 19th 1833.

While these two men achieved fame, many lesser known souls share these burial grounds. Interment book entries give much information about African Americans, both free and enslaved. The sexton in charge of keeping books recorded the name, age, if the person was free or enslaved, owner's name and occasionally "notes". These notes mentioned occupation or family relationship. Some people lived a long life. Letty, a slave of Thomas Garrett, was 101 when she died in 1850, Lydia, slave to John Spain, was 100 in 1857, Lucinda, slave of John Bass, died in 1848, age 110, and free woman Unity Bradley was 103 when she died in 1854. Some are identified by family, as was 3-year-old Mary who died in 1849. Although she was a slave of James Savage, the entry notes her father was named Ned, and Emmaly, age 6 when she died in 1849, was the free daughter of Mary Lowe. Fogg family slave Fanny died in 1847, age 23, and her entry notes her

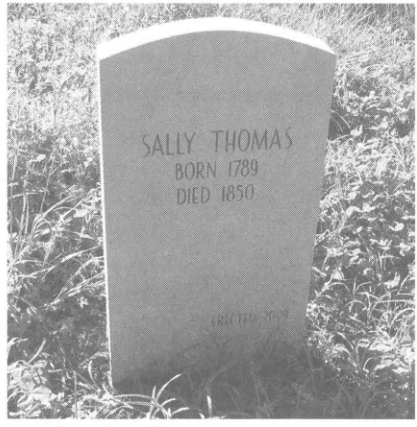
husband was A. Wilson. Andrew Allison paid for the burial of the slave **Angelina**, and her marker, replaced in 2009, tells more about her. Her last name was Brady, she lived 1827-1853, and her husband was Montreville. Was he also a slave and was it he who erected the original marker? This is a mystery still to be solved. Polly Hill's inscription says she was "mother of Sarah Estell", and probably her daughter, a free caterer in Nashville, erected that stone for her mother. The Reverend John Pinchum's marker bears this inscription "He was minister of the gospel 40 years of the Methodist Church". **Rev. Pinchum** died of apoplexy in 1855, age 85. He and his wife Linsey gained their freedom in Smith County in 1832.

"Dr. Jack" Macon was well-known in Nashville, where he had an office on Water Street, and advertised in the city directories as an "Indian Doctor". This meant that instead of treating patients with the violent purges, bleedings and other extreme treatments common at that time, Dr. Jack used herbs and other Native American remedies. Macon was a slave for most of his life, earning money for his owner. When finally he managed to receive freedom, the law stipulated he must leave Tennessee. His loyal patients, including many women who appreciated his gentle medicine, petitioned successfully for him to be exempted. **Jack Macon** died at the age of 80 in 1860, his interment record noted he was "known as Dr. Jack".



Tombstone for John Bosley

Tombstone for Samuel Bentley Bosley



Tombstone for Sally Thomas

Sally Thomas' life has been written about extensively, including by John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger in their book, In Search of the Promised Land. Her journey from Virginia slave to Nashville business owner, always with the goal of freeing her three sons before herself, has made her Nashville's most well known enslaved woman. **Sally Thomas** died in the cholera epidemic of 1849 and her marker was replaced in 2009.

The epitaph on **Jerry Porterfield's** tombstone reads "faithful servant, honorable man", and that is a true description of the life of this African-American man. Born into slavery in 1781, he served the Porterfield family all his life. His wife Martha was a slave on the Hadley plantation and their three sons, Thornton, Henry and Samuel, all kept the Hadley surname.

When Elizabeth Porterfield married Collins Elliott in 1817, Jerry went with her to "Boscobel" their home west of Franklin Pike near Wedgewood Avenue. Elliott was the superintendent of the Nashville Female Academy in downtown Nashville on McLemore Street. Described as "absent-minded, near-sighted and absorbed in thought", Elliott required a driver and Jerry, more than 30 years his senior, was given the job.

The hill on Franklin Pike near the tollgate was much steeper than it is today, and a deep gully ran alongside to drain rainwater. Jerry was driving a young sorrel horse he described as "fast and strong, with not much sense". The horse shied, the buggy overturned, the men fell into the ditch, Jerry underneath. Elliott was unconscious, but soon revived. Jerry Porterfield was killed instantly. He was buried with all honors on July 12, 1859. In the language of that time "his funeral was attended by a large number of his friends – white and colored. Among the white people were many of the best and most prominent citizens of the city and county. The epitaph on Jerry's tomb was known by all to be a true estimate of his life and character". Porterfield's large marker, erected by a grateful Elliott, has been refurbished in 2009.

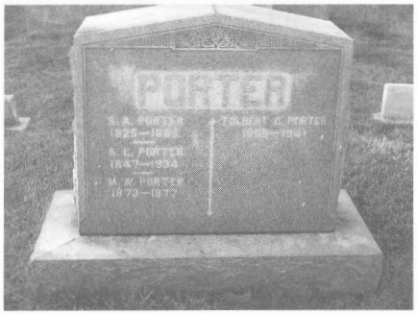
Marriage between black and white people was forbidden by law, but love knew no boundary for two families at City Cemetery. Lucinda and William Bedford's family was one of these. William Bedford was a Nashville merchant and War of 1812 veteran. His life-long love was Lucinda, a free black woman. Wealthy William gave Lucinda a separate household in her own name on Demonbreun and South Vine Streets. The home had originally belonged to Sam Houston's mother. In this home Lucinda collected furniture, paintings and her especial favorite books. The couple had two children, Ann Matilda, who died at age 8 in 1843, and William Henry Hill, 1840-1862. This son was killed in a hunting accident while visiting in New Jersey. He lived long enough to make his will, leaving his "dear mother" all of his

property, including stock in Nashville Gas Company and property in Nashville and Philadelphia, amounting to $12,000. Young William was buried near his sister Ann; both are shown on the interment record as "white" children of William Bedford.

William Bedford died in 1869, leaving his "housekeeper" Lucinda all his property, making her a very wealthy woman. She claimed for herself the respectability she had been denied; in the 1870 city directory she is "Lucinda, widow of William". She lived a life of benevolence with her niece and companion, Emily Person. Emily was killed and Lucinda barely escaped in 1889 when her former cook tried to poison the new one. The trial was a sensation, the former cook sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary. Lucinda Bedford died in 1892. Among other bequests, she gave $1,000 to Fisk University. Her obituary in the Nashville Banner on 19th December 1893 described her as "one of the richest Negroes in the city who spent much in the cause of charity, and many is the heart that will ache with pain at the announcement of her death". **William, Lucinda, young William, Ann Matilda Bedford and Emily Person** are all together in the Bedford family plot.

John B. Bosley was born to wealth and privilege in 1808, the descendant of a pioneer Nashville family. His love for a young slave woman caused him to renounce that life. The woman's name was Ailsey, and when John's father Charles learned of their relationship, he took Ailsey to Memphis to sell her away from his son. John followed, purchased her and freed her. An infuriated Charles Bosley rewrote his will to exclude his son, a moot gesture, as John Bosley predeceased his father. The couple moved to northeast Davidson County, far from his west Nashville inheritance, and John built his own estate, worth more than $50,000 in 1860. He and Ailsey lived as husband and wife for 28 years. They had two daughters and seven sons. Two of the boys, Samuel Bentley and John, died as small boys. Their tombstones are still readable in Section 20. John Bosley loved his family and sought to protect them and insure their inheritance by transferring his entire estate to Aisley. She was younger and expected to outlive John. Sadly, she died first, in 1863. Because there could be no legal relationship between John Bosley and his children, their guardian was their sister Laura's husband, George Trimble. This son-in-law was considered by Bosley to be "extravagant and shiftless" and so he petitioned the chancery court to declare him the manager of the estate. His petition, March 23rd 1866, explains in his own words "respondent would state that in truth it was his painful misfortune to become enamored with Ailsey although she was a woman of color, and so strong did his attachment for her become, that he purchased her and caused her emancipation, and lived with her, and had by

Tombstone for Sidney and Eli Merry



Marker for Sandy Porter, his wife Sarah Elizabeth, son Tolbert and daughter Mary Ann

her the children who survived her, and Laura Trimble, at the cost of the estrangement of his father and family from him. And although the early indiscretion and subsequent course of conduct has been a painful reflection to him, yes, the children were his, he had no other and never had, and he has endeavored to do all that he could for them, under the circumstances. He gave Ailesy her entire estate, but has always managed the same and hopes to be allowed to manage his children's estate. He knows that such is their desire and if necessary he can manage it under the supervision of this court". John Bosley died in August 1867. He, Ailsey, and their children Medora, Laura, **John**, **Samuel Bentley**, Hockett and James lie in Section 20, a family together in death as they were in life. The only child buried elsewhere is John B., who was sent by his father to Wilburforce University and became a leader in African-American life in Nashville. He was married to Catherine, daughter of prominent hotel owner Henry Harding. Harding was himself originally buried at City in 1888, and later removed to the more fashionable Greenwood.

One of the saddest stories at City Cemetery is that of the enslaved Susan and her children. Susan was 27 years old in 1861 and the mother of three children. She belonged to the Jetton family in Murfreesboro, and her strange behavior there caused concern. Hoping that she might be happier living in Nashville, Susan and her

Marker for Mabel Lewis Imes

Cynthia Porter Obelisk

children were sent to the household of Mrs. James K. Polk. Mrs. Polk and the Jetton family were Murfreesboro neighbors. Susan did not improve and her "conduct had been so mysterious that suspicion was excited and she was attentively watched", but with that "secretiveness which attends insanity, she procured a knife and effected her bloody purpose". Susan killed her three children and then slit her own throat. The coroner ruled she was laboring under a "fit of insanity from congestion of the brain". Mrs. Polk and the Jetton family "regarded her as a trusty, good and faithful servant" according to the *Nashville Union and American* on November 15th 1861.

Cynthia Porter's lovely stone has this inscription "My nurse Cynthia Porter Col'd, October 10, 1866. Aged about 60 years. ARH". Was ARH the person who erected this marker to remember the woman who had cared for him/her? Research has failed to identify this person, but someone loved Cynthia Porter enough to make certain she was not forgotten. Ambrose Grundy lived as a slave all his life and when freedom came, he remained with the Grundy family. When he died in 1875 at the age of 105, Ambrose was buried in the family plot. Many of the Grundy family members were removed to Mt. Olivet in later years. Ambrose was included and now lies in the Grundy lot there.

Nelson Merry was the most successful African-American minister of the nineteenth century. His First

Colored Baptist Church was the state's largest church, with more than 2,000 members in the 1870s. He organized at least fourteen churches and founded the Tennessee Colored Baptist Association in 1866. Reverend Merry was buried at City Cemetery July 15, 1884. He was later removed to Mt. Ararat where he has a large monument. Merry family members who remain at City are Claricy Cousins, his sister who died in 1850 at age 18, Mrs. Sidney Merry, age 101 when she died in 1873, two infants, **Eli and Sidney Merry** and daughter Mary who died at age 10 in 1855.

Frank Parrish, according to his obituary in the *Republican Banner*, June 1st 1867, "was by far the most widely known colored citizen of Nashville" when he died at the age of 63. He was the most prominent barber, had been employed by the "Banner" as a pressman, and as valet to Edwin Ewing, traveled to Europe, Asia and Africa. Parrish brought souvenirs from his travels to be displayed in a small museum in his barber shop. For most of his life Frank Parrish was a slave. When he married another slave, Fanny Dismukes, in 1829, the county court clerk issued a marriage license to them, at the request of their owners. This was very rare, and speaks to the high regard in which Parrish was held. **Fanny Parrish** died in 1846 and her marker identifies her as the "fond wife of Frank". Pieces of this marker have been located in the 2009 restoration and it will be replaced. Frank purchased his freedom from Ewing, whose life he had saved during an "attack by Arabs", in 1853. In addition to his wife, these family members are buried on the Parrish lot: Frank's mother Cleracy, his infant son, his sister Mary and his brother C.L.

Elias Polk was the slave of President James K. Polk. Gracious and dignified, he accompanied the president to Washington and served as the White House butler. He remained in the service of Mrs. Polk after the president's death in 1849, and like Sarah Polk, kept a neutral stance during the Civil War, polite to Confederate and Union supporters alike. When the war was over and Elias was free, his knowledge and interest in politics earned him the job of porter at the State Senate and on the census of 1870, his property was worth $5,000. In politics, Elias followed the path of his president and remained a Democrat, a conservative and officer in the "Colored Democrat Club". He died at the age of 81 in 1887.

The Napier family, free for two generations before the end of slavery, was perhaps Nashville's most prominent African-American family. William Carroll Napier and his wife Jane were the parents of four children. The oldest child, James Carroll Napier, became Nashville's most influential African-American citizen. His greatest political accomplishment was serving as Register of the United States Treasury 1911-1913. James Napier is not buried at City Cemetery,

but other members of the family are interred here. Among them is the youngest son, Henry Alonzo, born in 1851. His death in 1882 was cause for much grief in Nashville, for as his obituary said "he had given already promise of a life of usefulness and honor". "Mr. Napier was naturally bright and intelligent, a good conversationalist, and won the esteem of all with whom he came in contact". Alonzo Napier had begun his education at Fisk University, and in 1875 became one of only 12 African-American cadets to be admitted to West Point between 1870 and 1887. He spent a year at Howard preparing for the academic examinations, which included mathematics, grammar, United States and world geography. The physical and mental abuse suffered by the black cadets has been well documented and the subject of Congressional inquiries, one of which took place while Napier was a cadet there. Only three African-Americans graduated from West Point Academy during its first 130 years of existence. Alonzo Napier left the Academy after two years to serve as Clerk to the Florida Secretary of State. He caught a "deadly fever" while there and returned home to Nashville to recover. He graduated from Meharry Medical College, but had not begun to practice medicine. He liked teaching and had the reputation of being "an energetic and successful instructor". Napier was the principal of Vandeville School in East Nashville, and was on his way to the school when he was thrown from his buggy, fracturing his leg. The L&N railroad furnished a special car to bring him home, where "all was in vain. Nothing could do more than alleviate the pain or delay the fatal result". **Henry Alonzo Napier's** funeral was held at "Nelson Merry's Church", December 17th, 1882. Napier School was named for him in 1898.

The Sandy Porter family created one of the most important milestones in African-American education in Nashville. Public education for white children began in the decade before the Civil War, and after the war, elementary schools for black children were established. The city high schools admitted white students only. **Sandy Porter** and his wife **Sarah Elizabeth** had two sons, Tolbert and James, and in 1886, sent them to Hume High School to register. They were turned away, and the school board dismissive, but newspaper accounts, petitions and public opinion forced the issue. Black parents paid taxes and their children were entitled to education. It was decided by the Board of Education that Meigs School, which ended after the 8th grade, would add the 9th and 10th grades one year, and the 11thand 12th the next. Classes began on September 20th, 1886. Subjects offered included history, Latin, science, music, bookkeeping, philosophy and composition. Both Tolbert and James were enrolled, and Tolbert, the elder, was in the first graduating class

Tombstone for Etta Sheppard & George W. Moore

Marker for George C. Moore

Marker for Henry Stevenson

in 1888. **Tolbert** Porter, who died in 1941, was buried with **his parents** and sister **Mary Ann Porter** in Section 8.

Two of the original members of the Jubilee Singers are buried at City Cemetery. They are **Ella Sheppard Moore** and **Mable Lewis Imes**. Mrs. Moore died in 1914 and lies in an area surrounded by her family, her husband **George W.** and her son **George C. Moore**. Mrs. Imes was 75 years old when she died in 1935 and is buried on the Fisk University lot.

The last African-American name found in the Interment Records was that of **John Henry Stevenson**, buried January 31, 1945.

Information about the African-Americans of City Cemetery was extracted from the original Interment Records in 2008, a joint project of the Metro Nashville Archives and the National Society of the Colonial Dames in America in Tennessee. The database can be accessed on Nashville City Cemetery Association website.

5

The Cemetery During the Civil War

At first unwilling to consider secession from the Union, by the summer of 1861 Tennessee had joined the Confederacy. Nashville, with its railroads and location on the Cumberland River, was an early target of the Federal Army. The city began to prepare for war, establishing hospitals and organizing relief organizations. The plow factories became makers of sabers and swords and the T. M. Brennan, an ornamental iron company, manufactured cannons for the Confederacy.

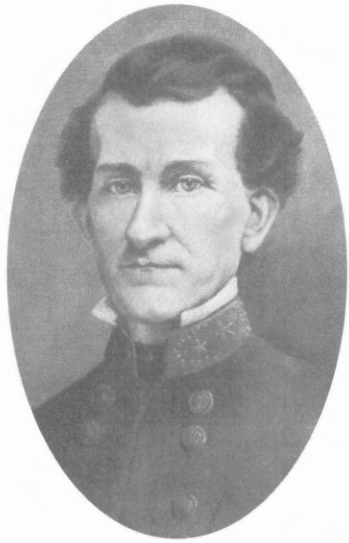
When the Union Army occupied the city in early 1862, a series of strategic fortifications were built on hilltops surrounding the city in an effort to prevent the Confederates from retaking the city. One of these forts was built on St. Cloud's Hill adjacent to the cemetery.

Two of the daughters of Revolutionary War veteran John Bradford were widows, Evelina Nichol and Louisa Hume. Both of the sisters' husbands died in 1853, and the two widows and their children made a home together. In late 1861, when sick and wounded Confederate troops were brought to Nashville hospitals, Evelina and Louisa were volunteer nurses. They caught pneumonia and died within days of each other in December 1861. Separated in death as they never were in life, Evelina was buried at Mt. Olivet. **Louisa Hume** was buried beside her husband, **Alfred**, at City Cemetery.

The first Nashville general to be

killed was Felix K. Zollicoffer, who was shot at the Battle of Fishing Creek (Mill Springs) in Kentucky, on January 19, 1862. He was a newspaper editor and Whig politician and served as State Adjutant General and Comptroller, a State Senator and U.S. Congressman. A supporter of the Constitutional Union party, Zollicoffer had urged loyalty to the Union, however, when Tennessee seceded, he followed his home state. His only military service had been thirty years earlier, as a lieutenant in the Second Seminole War. Sent with raw recruits to East Tennessee and then to Kentucky, the General could not stop the Union forces and was killed early in the battle. When C.S.A. General Zollicoffer's body was brought back to the city along with his pistols, sword, and horse, an elaborate funeral service was held. Wounded in the ear, the horse recovered to walk in the funeral procession from the Capitol to the cemetery along with Zollicoffer's six daughters, the youngest only five. Buried beside his wife, Zollicoffer has a simple marker inscribed "Our Father."

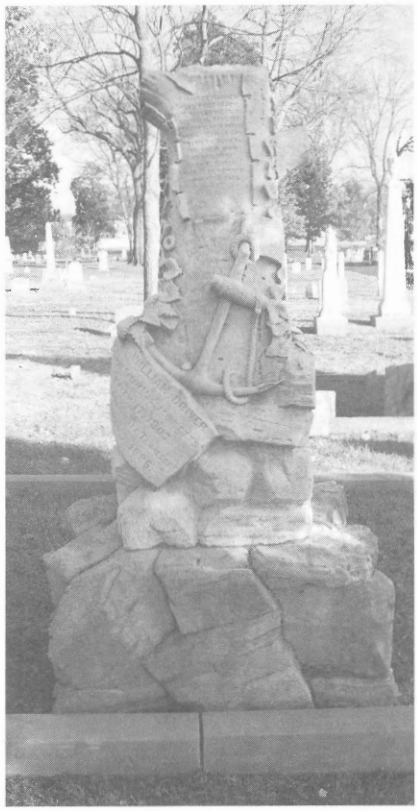
Along with General Zollicoffer, two young men from prominent Middle Tennessee families, Bailie Peyton of Sumner County and Henry Middleton Rutledge Fogg of Nashville, were also killed at Fishing Creek. Both young men were in Confederate service. Their parents had stayed loyal to the Union. Henry Fogg was the only surviving child of Francis and Mary Fogg. Henry's body



General Felix Kirk Zollicoffer, C. S. A.

was returned by the Nashville and Chattanooga train to Nashville for burial. On January 30, 1862, Henry's funeral was held at Christ Church with Rt. Rev. Otey, first Episcopal Bishop of Tennessee, conducting the divine service. Louisa Pearl of Nashville expressed her profound sympathy to the Foggs in her diary saying, "Poor heartbroken parents – God hath written you childless." After the funeral, Louisa Pearl commented on a kind of serenity or peace that she observed in Mary Fogg that she could not see in her husband:

> *"I think I never saw such grief and sorrow in any one's face as in Mr. Fogg's. I fear his strong mind will give way before this heavy blow. His mother was wonderfully sustained by the hope she has in his death and by her abiding faith in God. She sang at the funeral of her lost child."*

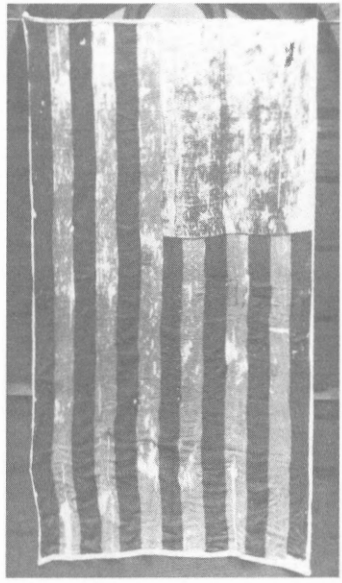


Captain William Driver Monument

With the Federal occupation of Nashville in February, 1862, the city's Union supporters came forward. One of these was **William Driver**, originally a sea captain from Salem, Massachusetts. During his career he had sailed twice around the world, rescued the survivors of the "Bounty" from Pitcairn Island, and visited Australia. When he began his first voyage as captain, his mother and the girls of Salem had made him a U.S. flag. Called "Old Glory," the flag flew on all Driver's voyages, and, when he retired to Nashville, the flag flew on every Fourth of July, Washington's Birthday and St. Patrick's Day. Although Driver's sons enlisted in the Confederate Army, their father remained staunchly Union. His neighbor hid the flag in a quilt while the Confederacy controlled Nashville. Driver greeted the Federal Army with joy, his flag in his arms to fly over the State Capitol. "Thank God I lived to raise Old Glory on the dome of the Capitol of Tennessee: I am now ready to die and go to my forefathers," he said, and he watched all night to see it was not stolen or torn. William Driver died in 1873. "Old Glory" is now in the Smithsonian in Washington, D. C. An American flag always flies at City Cemetery to honor Captain Driver.

Paul Shirley was a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, stationed in San Francisco at the beginning of the Civil War. Twice promoted during the war, he was promoted to Commander in 1863. In late 1864 he was given command of the double-ender side wheeler, the *U.S.S. Suwanee*, then fitting out at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. He was sent in pursuit of the Confederate raider, the *C.S.S. Shenandoah*, and sailed through the Straits of Magellan to the Pacific where he was at the end of the war. Paul Shirley died in 1877 and is buried beside his father of the same name.

Nashville became a center for the sick and wounded Federal soldiers and their Confederate prisoners. Twenty-five hospitals were created from schools, churches, public buildings and



"Old Glory"

Captain William Driver

private homes. After the Battle of Shiloh, in April 1862, more than 14,000 men poured into Nashville's hospitals. The death rate was 60-100 deaths daily. Undertaker W.R. Cornelius had the government contract for burials and a character recommendation from Governor Andrew Johnson. Cornelius would embalm and ship bodies home in zinc caskets, but he buried many of them at City Cemetery. Carefully listing each soldier's name, rank, and company, Cornelius buried Union and Confederate men separately, numbering and marking each grave with wooden headboards. The boards were painted white, with the lettering in black. In City Cemetery, 3,021 Federal soldiers were buried. In the U.S. Burial Grounds, located due west and south west of the City Cemetery, 8,593 Federal soldiers were buried. Between October 1867 and January 1868, the remains of these Federal soldiers were re-interred at the new Nashville National Cemetery on Gallatin Pike.

C.S.A. Lieutenant A. W. Gould died June 26, 1863 at the Nelson House Hotel, Columbia, Tennessee. An altercation with Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, on June 13th, resulted in Gould's death. Lt. Gould did not die in battle; he was stabbed by General Nathan Bedford Forrest. Thinking that Forrest had accused him of being a coward, Gould entered the room with a pistol in his pocket. Before he could speak or take the gun out, Forrest lunged at him, stabbing him and chas-

ing him into the street. Gould fired without removing the gun from his pocket and slightly wounded the general. General Forrest, thinking that he was mortally wounded, chased the bleeding Gould. After Forrest's friends stopped the chase, Lt. Gould was carried to a room on the second floor of the Nelson House, the leading hotel in Maury County. According to Columbia residents at the time, Forrest never visited Gould and they were not reconciled during the thirteen days before his death. Columbia undertakers Lamb & Barr were paid $128.00 for the coffin and he was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Columbia. After the war was over, on February 9, 1866, his family brought Lt. Gould home and he was re-interred in the Gould family lot at the City Cemetery.

White Turpin of Jefferson County Mississippi was a member of Darden's Battery, C.S.A. The almost twenty-two year old soldier died one month after being wounded at the Battle of Nashville. Turpin died in Hospital No. 1, on January 17, 1865, and he was buried the next day in City Cemetery by W. R. Cornelius, the undertaker employed by the Federal authorities. After the war ended, on November 3, 1866, his mother had his body re-interred from its original burial site to a new location. She placed a marker over his grave on which she had recorded his death with the epitaph "Thou shalt be missed because thy seat will be empty (1 Samuel Chapter 20 Verse 18). During

View of cemetery during Cival War
Courtesy of Deborah Cooney

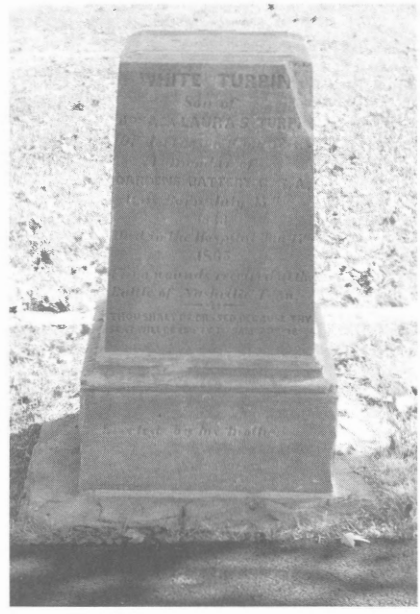
Portrait image of W. R. Cornelius
Collection of the Tennessee State Museum

the Civil War, a song "The Vacant Chair," composed to honor one soldier, words by Henry S. Washburn and music by George F. Root, became a beloved song commemorating the loss of young men in battle.

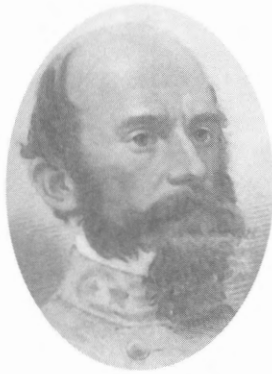
One Confederate general came home to Nashville more than ninety years after his death. **Bushrod R. Johnson**, an Ohio native and a graduate of West Point, was head of the Military Department at the University of Nashville before the Civil War. His wife **Martha** died and was buried in the family lot in 1858. After the Civil War, the general moved to Ohio where he died in 1880 and was buried under a beautiful monument given by his friend, Union Colonel Jonathan Miles. In 1975, volunteers began the process of bringing General Johnson back to Nashville to lie beside his wife. After much paperwork, the remains were disinterred and brought back, along with the monument. Martin Bracey Welch Funeral Home provided the lying-in-state and the grave was dug using the tools and techniques of the mid-19th century. The funeral included an honor guard, drums, taps and a firing squad of 21 muzzle loading black powder rifles.

George Washington Campbell, native of Scotland, Princeton graduate, congressman, senator, Secretary of the Treasury, Judge of U.S. District Court of Tennessee, was one of Nashville's most prominent men. In 1812 he married **Harriott**, daughter of Benjamin Stoddert, 1st Secretary of the Navy. An astute politician and brilliant attorney, Campbell was appointed Minister to Russia in 1818. Accompanying him to Russia were Harriott and their three children, George, Benjamin and Elizabeth. A typhus epidemic in St. Petersburg took the lives of all the children, all younger than six years old. The devastated Campbell resigned his appointment and made preparations to bring the children's bodies home to Nashville. Before leaving Russia, Harriott gave birth to a daughter. Because Elizabeth, the wife of Emperor Alexander I, had been so kind and also to honor the memory of their lost daughter, the new baby was given the Russian diminutive Lizinka.

On returning home to Nashville, George Washington Campbell was



White Turpin's Tombstone



General Richard Ewell, C. S. A.

Lizinka Campbell Brown Ewell

George Washington Campbell

honored with a public dinner on January 7, 1821. The family lived in a house on Cedar Street, atop Campbell's Hill. In 1843, Campbell sold this tract to the State of Tennessee for the new State Capitol building. The Campbells spent summers at their country home on Franklin Pike. He retired from politics and died in 1848. Harriott died the next year.

Richard Stoddert Ewell was a graduate of West Point who served in the Mexican War and was a general in the Confederate Army. He is buried beside his **wife Lizinka Campbell Brown**, on the lot of her parents, George Washington and Harriott Campbell. Lizinka's first husband, **James Percy Brown**, died within five years of their 1839 marriage. He and their young son Percy Brown are also buried in the Campbell lot. Lizinka was a wealthy widow with two children, Campbell and Harriott, living in Nashville and Washington when the Civil War began. When Ewell lost a leg at Second Manassas, Lizinka, his distant cousin, went to care for him. Her son Campbell was serving as the general's aide. Ewell, recovered from his injuries, was promoted to lieutenant general on May 23, 1863. Two days later in Richmond, Ewell and Lizinka were married. After the war, they settled in Spring Hill, Tennessee. Lizinka died on January 22, 1872, and the general followed her three days later. Their funerals were held at Christ Church. They are buried side by side.

Gravestone of Richard and Lizinka Ewell

Campbell-Ewell Lot

6

Preservation Efforts 1907-1998

THE OLD CITY CEMETERY

Interesting History of the Silent City of the Dead and Its People---Dust of Men Once Famous in the City and Nation Rest There.

BY EMMA LOCK SCOTT.

ENTRANCE TO OLD CITY CEMETERY.

First Burial in this Historic Plat of Twenty Acres Probably that of a Young Girl in 1804---Pathos and Romance Out of the Ordinary Suggested by Inscriptions on Monuments and Headstones.

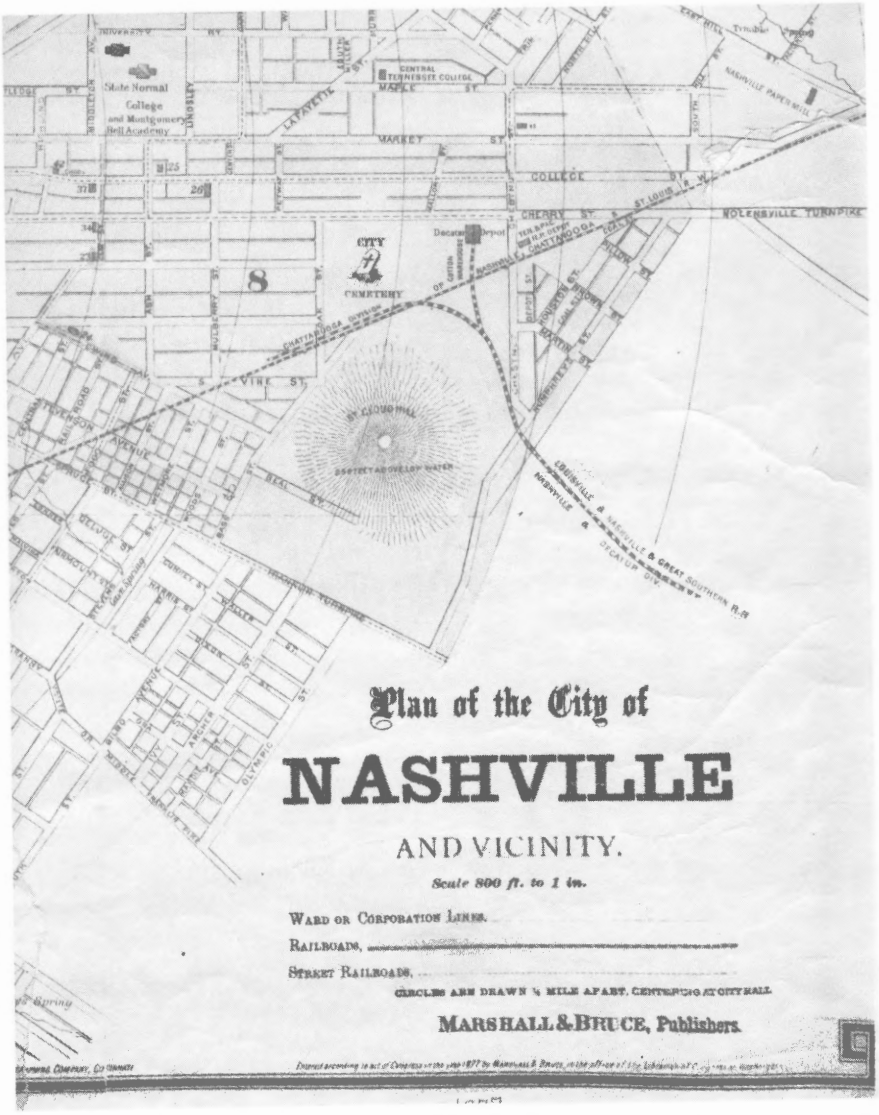
A Legal Controversy.

Early Nashville newspaper article about the history of the Cemetery

Following the Civil War years, the City Cemetery was in poor condition. There was no public money available for needed improvements at the cemetery .

Saving and caring for the City Cemetery became the purpose of several groups. In 1903 the Tennessee Women's Historical Association was organized, with its specific purpose to preserve the cemetery. Sumner A. Cunningham, editor of the *Confederate Veteran*, claimed credit for suggesting its formation and was the only male member. Women members included Louise Lindsley and Mary Hannah Johnson, Carnegie librarian. Other organizations were asked to join them, "to assist in improving and preserving the old city cemetery, to dispel the spirit of vandalism and promote civic pride." The Ladies' Hermitage Association, Daughters of the American Revolution, United Daughters of the Confederacy and Colonial Dames all cooperated under this umbrella. Their successful project was the construction of a Memorial Gate at the 5th Avenue entrance to the cemetery. Dedicated in 1909, this entrance exists now only in pictures because of its destruction in a car crash in the 1930s.

The South Nashville Federation of Women was another group which worked to care for the cemetery. *All About Nashville* in 1912 reported that "with the cooperation of 400



Map of Nashville 1877, Marshall & Bruce, Publishers, Metro Nashville Archives

Nashville Mayor Ben West

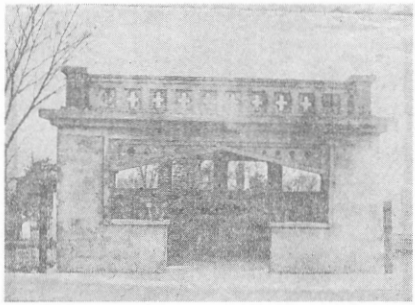
Masonic section of the cemetery

1959 Dedication cemetery

members, they have cleared away the rubbish, pruned trees, graveled the walks and planted a line of memorial elms and lastly, are in the process of erecting a handsome memorial gateway." These stone gateposts, on 4th Avenue South, are still in use today. One of their members was May Winston Caldwell whose parents and young siblings are buried here. In pre-Civil War years she had helped her mother care for the family lot.

In 1927, the James Robertson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution adopted the gravesite of James and Charlotte Robertson as a special project and appealed to Nashville Mayor Hillary Howse to secure public funds to restore the lot which contained the graves of James and Charlotte Robertson, their son, Dr. Felix Robertson and his wife Lydia Waters Robertson. The DAR project beautified the lot by placing an iron fence around the graves, by building a brick lined walkway bordered by boxwood and by planting an oak tree and a willow to provide shade for the graves.

After World War II, in 1946, the City of Nashville appropriated funds to build an office building for the Sexton. Mayor Tom Cummings appointed a city cemetery commission to oversee the building project. Nashville architect Edwin A. Keeble designed the brick building in the center of the cemetery. Today this building is known as "The Keeble Building."



Memorial gate destroyed in 1930s

View of the Cemetery entrance and sexton's home

At the urging of Mayor Ben West in 1958, the City Council appropriated $75,000 for restoration of the cemetery. The work included resetting and repair of tombstones, improvement in the roadways and walkways, installation of new light poles and water mains, painting of iron fences and the planting of new trees. Mayor West's efforts were greatly appreciated by the community.

On October 17, 1959, two dedication ceremonies were held. At the restoration dedication in the morning, the Mayor and many visiting dignitaries were present. In the afternoon, American Legion Post No. 5 dedicated the flagpole which they had erected in honor of Captain William Driver, the man who named the flag "Old Glory." Col. Campbell H. Brown, a descendant of Lizinka Campbell Ewell and George Washington Campbell, was the featured speaker. He reminded his audience that for the cemetery to survive continued cooperation between the City of Nashville and the families of those buried in the City Cemetery would be necessary.

In 1963, with the formation of the Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Government, the Nashville City Cemetery was placed under the joint responsibility of the Metropolitan Nashville Historical Commission and the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Parks.

In 1998, a group of citizens, led by Jodie Wallace and made up of historic preservationists, descendants of those buried at the cemetery, representatives of the academic community, and others interested in the cemetery, met with staff members of the Metropolitan Historical Commission and the Metropolitan Board of Parks to discuss what could be done to preserve the cemetery and prevent further deterioration. Out of this series of meetings, the Nashville City Cemetery Association was formed. The Association is a not-for-profit membership organization with 501(C)3 status that works to protect, preserve, restore and raise public awareness of the Nashville City Cemetery.

7

Metro Historical Commission's Restoration Project

In the year 2000, Metro Historical Commission (MHC) Director Ann Roberts met with Mayor Bill Purcell to explore funding for critical repairs at the City Cemetery. The last time the Cemetery had undergone renovations was in 1959, and the site had deteriorated significantly in the subsequent four decades. After considering the magnitude of the project, Mayor Purcell concluded that a master restoration plan should be prepared before funding was appropriated for any work at the site. Purcell and Roberts agreed that a comprehensive plan was needed, rather than a piecemeal approach. In 2005, Mayor Purcell and Metro Council allocated funds for a master plan to be prepared, and gave the Historical Commission oversight of the project. After reviewing several proposals, Metro Parks, in coordination with MHC staff, contracted with Wyss Associates, Inc., a landscape architecture and preservation firm based in Rapid City, South Dakota, for the plan.

Beginning in late 2005, Wyss Associates spent a year in Nashville preparing the preservation plan. During that time, the company undertook a comprehensive investigation of the Cemetery's physical environment, as well as historical documentation. They also sought and received public input from Nashville City Cemetery Association (NCCA) members, business and property owners surrounding the cemetery, and staff members of

the MHC and Metro Parks. A public forum was held on March 15, 2006 to present a preliminary report of the plan, and solicit additional comments. Wyss Associates also received comments on the plan from a project questionnaire that was distributed to interested parties.

The 200-page Master Plan was completed and submitted in mid-December 2006. It included analyses of the gravestones, ironwork, buildings, vegetation, roads and pathways, lighting, drainage, security, and interpretive signage. Included in the plan was a section by section analysis of the needed repairs, and estimates of the cost of resetting gravestones, vegetation management, and public safety issues. When the plan was presented to the Metro Historical Commission, the board voted to ask Mayor Purcell and the Metro Council for three million dollars for City Cemetery restoration. In May of 2007, Mayor Purcell and Metro Council approved the project which was included in the 2007-2008 Capital Improvements Budget.

In July of 2007, implementation of the plan began with tree maintenance, which involved removal of free-growth Hackberry trees and deadwooding of otherwise healthy trees. Approximately twenty gates and thirty sections of ornamental fencing, which had been stolen in 1997 and subsequently recovered by the Metro Police Departments, were repaired and reinstalled. A security fence was installed at the west and south boundaries of the Cemetery to replace an aged and damaged chain link fence. In late fall, Cumberland Research Group, a local gravestone contractor, was hired to systematically clean, repair and photograph more than 3000 headstones. Repairs to larger cemetery monuments required skilled craftsmen, and A & S Restoration was brought on to evaluate both cosmetic and structural issues in making those repairs. Their scope of work included stabilizing the wide collection of box tombs and subterranean family vaults at the Cemetery.

As work progressed in early 2008, extensive repairs were made to the Keeble Administration building and the existing maintenance building at the southern end of the site. Brick sidewalks, as well as the 2000 feet of stone wall bordering the north and east sides of the Cemetery, were repointed or reset. The Metro Water Services Department restored the failed drainage system in the west and south quadrants of the cemetery, including replacing four hundred feet of 24" diameter concrete pipe that had been buried in an open-face ditch sometime early in the 20th century. In the course of drainage work along the west border, three graves that were known to be in the area, but lost over time, were rediscovered beneath the adjoining parking lot and repaired.

All existing streetlights, many damaged beyond repair, were removed and replaced with period appropriate streetlights. During the work several new locations were sited to increase

the total number of streetlights to fifty-four. In addition, four security cameras were installed across the site to discourage future vandalism. The roadway system within the Cemetery was repaved. Approximately fifty percent of the roadway was designated as pedestrian pathways and closed off to vehicular traffic with removable bollards. Additionally, three previously long-abandoned lengths of road were unearthed to their gravel base and repaved to further define Sections 15, 29, 31, and 32.

More than ninety trees and shrubs were planted to line the streets in the central and southern portions of the cemetery, completing a program of tree introduction that began several years earlier using historic photos from the 1880s. Mature landscape foliage was also introduced along the southern boundary to help screen the site from neighboring industrial and commercial property.

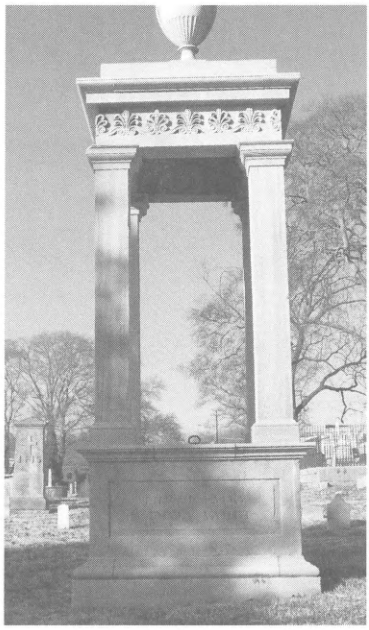
At the same time, the University of Tennessee's Archaeological Research Lab conducted on-site tests, using multiple geophysical technologies, to help determine the location of other lost graves and features. A ground-penetrating radar unit, a gradiometer, and a soil resistivity meter were employed to analyze the sub-surface characteristics and features of a defined survey area. These multiple graphic results were then compared to an existing historic map of interments, increasing the knowledge available from all resources. As a result of this work, a program was initiated to locate and mark some of the formerly lost graves. The dignity of a clearly-marked grave was restored to thirty-six individuals, adding to the rich, historic tapestry of the Cemetery.

As the project entered its final phase in 2009, Ashworth Environmental Design was contracted to develop a new program of interpretive signage throughout the cemetery, which would replace the aging cast aluminum plaques that were installed in the 1950s. Thematic series of interpretive panels were designed. An on-site computer map kiosk and stamped, stainless steel section markers were installed to help visitors navigate the cemetery and its monuments.

The Restoration Project was completed in the fall of 2010 with the printing of a brochure which complements the newly-completed interpretive signage. The entire project took thirty months and involved twenty-two contractors. The project cost came to 2.25 million dollars, $ 750,000 less than originally allocated by Mayor Purcell and the Metro Council.

By Tim Walker, Executive Director, Metro Historical Commission. Special thanks to Ann Roberts and Yvonne Ogren.

JOHN MCNAIRY'S FAMILY VAULT



McNairy family vault

John McNairy

The imposing McNairy family monument, with its underground burial vault, has inspired many stories. John McNairy, Andrew Jackson's friend and a Superior Court Judge, came to Nashville in 1788 and died here in 1837. He and his wife lived in a fine house near the old Sulphur Springs. His younger brother, Dr. Boyd McNairy and his family lived in a very fine house on Summer Street (now called 5th Avenue North). Here Lafayette was entertained on his 1825 visit to Nashville. Dr. Boyd died and was buried at City Cemetery in 1856.

Among the legends about the vault is one which has Confederate prisoners escaping from nearby Fort Negley by digging a tunnel. Prisoners were not kept at Fort Negley, the limestone would have required dynamite, the diggers would have found themselves inside a crowded, locked underground chamber, and the cemetery was a busy place during the war. There is no mention of such an escape in the military records.

Another tale has a band of robbers hiding their ill-gotten gains in a cave under the Monument. Although the story was told in an 1867 newspaper article in the Philadelphia Inquirer and repeated by an English author, there is no contemporary Nashville corroboration.

8

Restoration Photos

William Smith - Before

William Smith - After

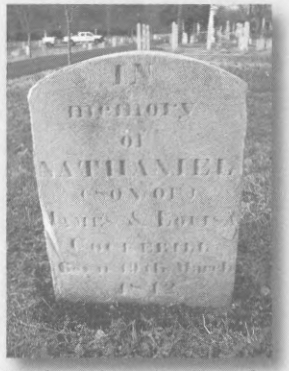
Fanny and Allen Foster - Before

Fanny and Allen Foster - After

John F. Hawkins - Before

John F. Hawkins - After

Nathaniel Cockerill - Before

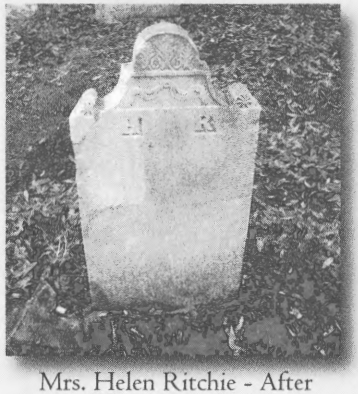


Nathaniel Cockerill - After

Mrs. Irena Alloway - Before

Mrs. Irena Alloway - After

Mrs. Helen Ritchie - Before



Mrs. Helen Ritchie - After

De Witt C. Morrison - Before

De Witt C. Morrison - After

William Henry Sumner - Before

William Henry Sumner - After

Mary Diana McDaniel - Before

Mary Diana McDaniel - After

Cornelia Cockrill - Before

Cornelia Cockrill - After

Oscar Gray - Before

Oscar Gray - After

Margaret Pickett - Before

Margaret Pickett - After

D. Robertson/S. Smith - Before

D. Robertson/S. Smith - After

Shelby Vault - Before

Shelby Vault - After

9

Master Gardeners at Work

During 1997, Tim Walker, Metro Historical Commission, asked the Master Gardeners if they could help with controlling weeds around the gravestones. Mr. Walker also asked if Vinca Minor could be planted in some of the oldest lots in the cemetery. Vinca Minor is known as periwinkle or "the cemetery vine." These two initial endeavors led the Master Gardeners toward major projects to beautify the City Cemetery.

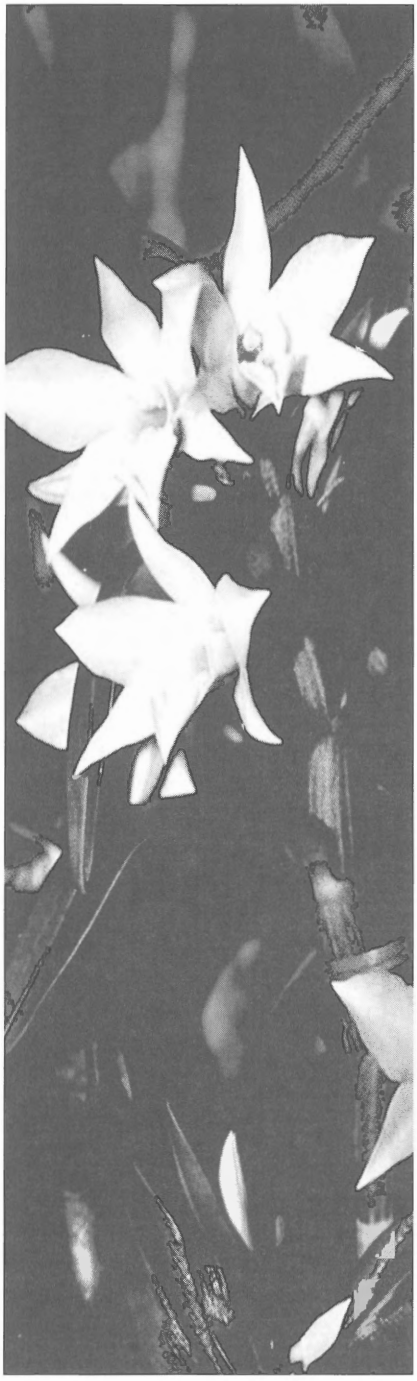
An Outline of the Work Accomplished by the Master Gardeners:

Annual Projects:

Boxwood pruning every February, maintenance of the perennial flower beds around the circle in front of the Keeble Building and the annual planting in seventeen family lots.

Special Projects:

Tree planting with Boy Scouts. Historic trees planted include Native Poplar, Eastern Red Cedar, Weeping Willow and Southern Magnolia. Landscape design for the planting along the railroad fence has contributed to the future beautification of the grounds. Identification and documentation of trees in the cemetery is an on-going project.



Spring Garden Tour conducted by the Master Gardeners:

Free to the public. This Tour encourages the community to visit the historic cemetery and to appreciate the beauty of the grounds and especially the flowers planted and cared for by the Master Gardeners.

Volunteers and Hours:

Over 80 Volunteers a year for a total of more than 500 volunteer hours each year.

Historic Plant Material:

Flowers that are planted in the City Cemetery would have been seen in gardens during the 1860s. In the spring, English Lavender *(Lavandula angustifolia)*, Blue Bearded Iris *(Iridaceae)*; in the summer, White Yarrow *(Achillea millefolium)*, Orange flowered Chinese daylily *(Hemeroclais fulva)*, Bee Balm or Monarda *(Monardo didyma)* and Lambs Ear *(Stachys lanata)*; and during the fall, Blackberry Lily *(Belamcandra chinesis)*.

Master Gardeners Co-Chairs of the Nashville City Cemetery Project: Lou Anne Williams, Catherine Atwell and Robert Mather.

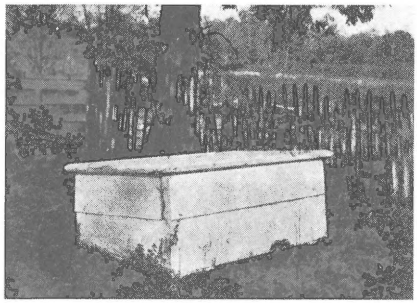
10

Reburials at City Cemetery

Since the cemetery opened in 1822, there have been reburials from other graveyards. Today there are tombstones that give the death dates of people prior to 1822, such as **Dr. Anthony Coleman**, January 25, 1816, **Ann W. Beckwith**, March 31, 1818 and **Nathan Adams**, August 21, 1821. In the historical literature, there are references about removals from the old Sulphur Spring graveyard to City Cemetery but no re-interment records exist to provide additional documentation.

Andrew Ewing, first County Court Clerk, his wife **Susannah** and his son **Nathan** were removed from their Ewing family graveyard, near present day Granny White & Woodmont, to City Cemetery in 1935. Col. Joel Lewis, a Revolutionary Soldier, was re-interred, in 1912, from "Manchester" his family place on Murfreesboro Pike. In 1924 **Captain John Bradford**, a Revolutionary soldier, and **his wife Elizabeth** were reburied at City Cemetery from the Bradford farm located four miles south of town.

On May 30, 1806, Charles Dickinson was killed in a duel with Andrew Jackson at Harrisons Mills, on Red River, in Logan County, Kentucky. Mr. Dickinson's body was returned to Nashville and he was buried on the home place of his father-in-law Joseph Erwin. He left behind his young widow Jane and his baby Charles Henry Dickinson. When the son was 22 years old, he left Nashville and moved to Louisiana. Prior to leaving, it is believed that he was responsible for the placement of a box tomb over the grave of his father. The farm passed out of the Erwin family hands into the ownership



Charles Dickinson's original Box Tomb, 1911
Beautiful & Historical Homes In & Near Nashville, Mrs. James E. Caldwell

Charles Dickinson's new Box Tomb, 2010

of the Bosleys and the Whitworths. A large box tomb marked the site of Mr. Dickinson's burial site for many years. In 1926, during development of new houses on a newly created street, one night the slabs of Mr. Dickinson's box tomb mysteriously disappeared. Even though State Archivist John Trotwood Moore offered a $500 reward for the return of the box tomb slabs, they were never recovered. As the years went by, the exact location of the gravesite for Charles Dickinson was lost to memory. In August 2009, Dan Allen, Archaeologist, located the gravesite and remains in the front yard at 216 Carden Avenue. Historical research had pinpointed this property as the most probable burial site. With permission from property owners, Mr. and Mrs. James Bowen, the archaeological investigation had gone forward and was successful. After the discovery, Charles Henry Miller, great great great grandson of Charles Dickinson, requested reburial at City Cemetery on the Andrew and Ann Hynes family lot. Jane Erwin Dickinson and Ann Erwin Hynes were sisters. Hynes family members in Louisiana were contacted and permission was given for reburial on the Hynes lot. The Metro Historical Commission approved the re-interment and was responsible for the dedication service held at City Cemetery on June 25, 2010. At the service Charles Henry Miller and Andrew Jackson VI, the great great great grandson of Andrew Jackson, and his daughter Rebekah Jackson were present. To read more about this event, attended by 300 people, visit the Nashville City Cemetery web site.

II

Mayors of Nashville Buried at City Cemetery

Mayors listed with their terms of office.

For additional information about these Mayors, visit the NCCA web site and view their tombstone inscriptions and photographs.

www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org

Dr. Felix Robertson	**1818-1819; 1827-1829.** Died 10 July 1865
Thomas Crutcher	**1819-1820.** Died 8 March 1844
John Patton Erwin	**1821-1822; 1834-1835.** Died 26 August 1857
Robert Brownlee Currey	**1822-1824.** Died 8 December 1848
Wilkins F. Tannehill	**1825-1827.** Died 2 June 1858
Charles Clay Trabue	**1839-1841.** Died 24 November 1851
Samuel Van Dyke Stout	**1841-1842.** Died 8 August 1850
Thomas B. Coleman	**1842-1843.** Died 5 December 1848
Powhaten W. Maxey	**1843-1845.** Died 8 August 1876
Alexander Allison	**1847-1849.** Died 3 November 1862
Williamson Hartley Horn	**1853-1854.** Died 8 March 1870
William B. Shapard	**1854-1854.** Died 19 July 1870
Robert Bell Castleman	**1854-1856.** Died 29 July 1886
Andrew Anderson	**1856-1857.** Died 15 April 1867
Raphael Benjamin West	**1951-1963** Died 20 November 1974

12

Nashville City Cemetery Association Web Site Index

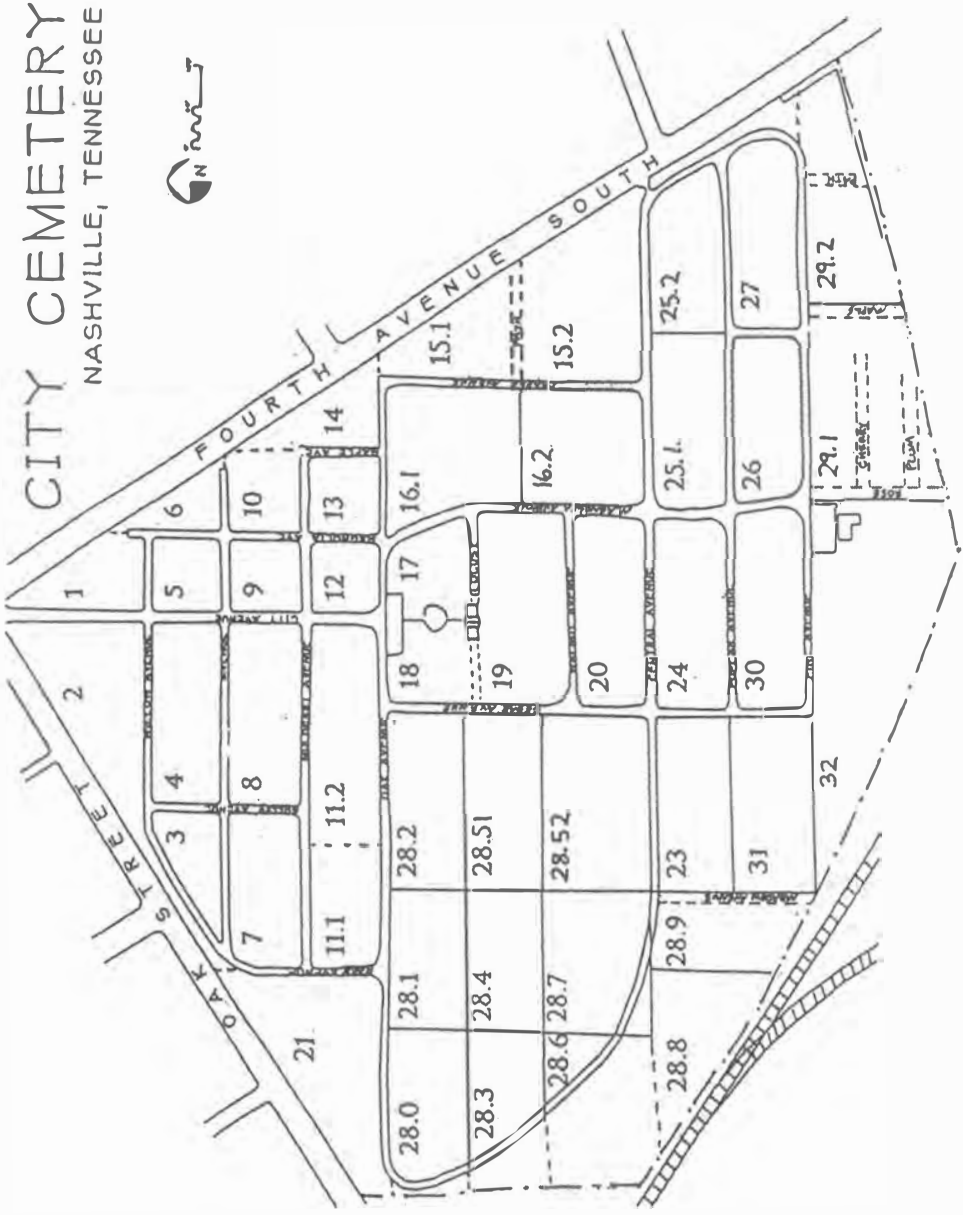
The NCCA Web Site is one of the projects undertaken by the Board of the Nashville City Cemetery Association. The NCCA web site makes available, free to the general public, historical information for study by students, scholars and family historians. Other projects include Tours of the Cemetery, two Newsletters a year, Publications, an Annual Memorial Day Dash, Memorial Day Commemoration for the Veterans at City Cemetery, Living History Tours in which re-enactors portray individuals who once lived in Nashville and are buried at City Cemetery. NCCA works closely with the Metro Historical Commission toward the continuing restoration of the City Cemetery. Research data, developed for the NCCA web site, has been donated to the collection at Metro Nashville Archives.

NCCA Web Site.
Established 2005

Research:
Fletch Coke (2005-2010)

Web Master:
Alice Swanson (2005-2010)

www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org


CITY CEMETERY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
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FOURTH AVENUE SOUTH
OAK STREET
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Founded in 1822, the City Cemetery is more than the oldest burial ground in Nashville. This sacred place is an outdoor museum that honors both the heritage of Nashville and the lives and memories of its early citizens. This plot of ground is where the early stories of Nashville are... not forgotten... come alive... live again. The story of the cemetery chronicles the traditions, triumphs and tragedies of the community. Egalitarian from the founding, both influential and average citizens as well as persons of different religions and races are buried here. Visitors are invited to learn about the men and women who established and nurtured this pioneer community and began the process of growing Nashville into a great city. Citizens who want to know the history of our city are invited to hear the stories "told by the tombstones." Welcome to the Nashville City Cemetery... welcome to the history of Nashville.

Dr. Bill McKee, Chairman
Metro Historical Commission

"The City Cemetery is, in my opinion, one of the most important historic shrines in the Nashville community. Here lie the mortal remains of generations of public and private citizens who contributed so much to the establishment and development of our city, county, and state. It is not only our duty, but our privilege to maintain it with loving care as a perpetual memorial to those who have gone before us." -Stanley E. Horn