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HISTORIC NASHVILLE ANNOUNCES 2014 NASHVILLE NINE

Historic Nashville joined by Mike Wolfe of *American Pickers* to announce the nine most threatened historic properties in Davidson County

NASHVILLE, TN, Sept. 23, 2014 – Historic Nashville, Inc. (HNI) today announced its 2014 Nashville Nine at a press conference held at RCA Studio A on Music Row. Mike Wolfe joined HNI representatives to reveal the Nashville Nine properties and to underscore how vital preservation is in maintaining Nashville’s unique character. Wolfe, who now calls the Nashville area home, is the star of History Channel’s hit show *American Pickers*, a member of Historic Nashville and a passionate preservationist.

The 2014 Nashville Nine is nominated by the community and represents nine historic properties threatened by demolition, neglect or development. These properties are then the focus of Historic Nashville’s advocacy and outreach throughout the year.

The organization works to drive recognition of historic places and the impact they have on the culture, commerce and creativity of the city. Over the years, Historic Nashville has successfully advocated for the preservation of landmarks such as the Ryman Auditorium, Union Station and the Hermitage Hotel.

Several properties on the 2013 list have been, or in the process of being saved. The Cordell Hull State Office Building has passed the first hurdle for a reprieve from the wrecking ball approved last year by the legislature. Friends of Kellytown is a non-profit created to purchase and preserve the land.

For buildings on this year’s list, Historic Nashville will work with the owners, government agencies, and the public to educate, evaluate and create solutions for preserving these important elements of Nashville’s unique history.

“Historic Nashville believes historic preservation is an essential part of our community,” said Melissa Wyllie, president of Historic Nashville. “This year, the community has said loud and clear that, as a city, we need to find a way to grow that also preserves the historic places that make Nashville unique.”

(more)

The Historic Nashville 2014 Nashville Nine:

Albert Samuel Warren House – 1812 Broadway, built around 1888



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

This two-story brick building is one of the few remaining grand residences located near Music Row. A native of West Tennessee, Sam Warren (1851-1922) owned a wholesale dry goods business that operated on the Public Square. In 1900, he lived in Nashville with his wife Luella (1860-1929), son, mother-in-law, two boarders and an African-American house servant. In the modern era, the well-preserved Richardsonian Romanesque-style dwelling has housed offices, including the architectural firm of Taylor & Crabtree from the 1950s through the

1980s, Atlantic Records in the 1990s and currently houses attorney's offices. The building was restored in 1974 and nominated for a Metro Historical Commission Preservation Award the following year. Due to the immense redevelopment pressures in Midtown and Music Row, members of the community have expressed concern that this house may be demolished for condos or a high-rise hotel.

Belair Mansion – 2250 Lebanon Road, constructed from 1832-1838

Located at the Lebanon Road and Briley Parkway interchange in Donelson, this is one of the city's few remaining examples of a Greek Revival-style antebellum mansion. The large 30-room brick home was modeled after Andrew Jackson's Hermitage located a few miles down Lebanon Pike. Originally known as "Belle Air," the home was built for John Harding of Belle Meade for his daughter Elizabeth V.



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

Harding (1812-1836) who married Joseph W. Clay of Nashville. After Elizabeth's death in 1836, the unfinished house was purchased by William Nichol (1800-1878) and his wife Julia Margaret Lytle (1808-1890); they added the wings. Nichol was a merchant and steamboat owner who served as the first president of the Bank of Tennessee and mayor of Nashville from 1835-1837. As mayor, he and business partners purchased Capitol

Hill and offered it to the State of Tennessee for construction of the new state capitol. In 1850, the 1,250-acre Belair plantation was worked by 73 slaves. Belair was documented by the Historic American Building Survey in 1940 and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. The 4.55-acre property is currently on the real estate market.

Coca Cola Bottling Plant – 1525 Church Street, built in the 1920s

Known to many as the Old Jim Reed Showroom, this brick warehouse building was originally part of the Coca Cola Bottling Works. In the 1970s, the soft drink bottling plant was converted for use as Jim Reed's automobile dealership. Located in Midtown, the building is an excellent example of ornate industrial architecture from the early twentieth century and perhaps Nashville's last remaining historic soft drink bottling plant. Members of the community are worried that this unique historic landmark could be demolished for new development. In the 1990s, part of the building was converted into a nightclub.



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

Hamilton Church Cemetery – 3105 Hamilton Church Road, dates from 1831

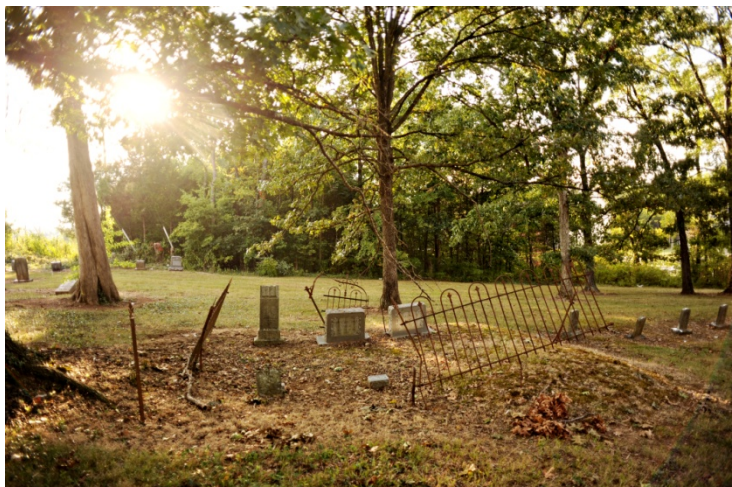


Photo: Stephanie Saujon

This historic cemetery is one of several in Davidson County threatened with lack of maintenance and vandalism. Located just off Murfreesboro Road in Antioch, this cemetery dates from 1831 and contains the graves of many prominent community leaders. Several graves were located here when the Cherokee Trail of Tears passed within feet of the headstones in 1838. One headstone in particular, that of George McCullough who died in 1831, was seen by the Cherokee as they passed. At that time, the associated Methodist Church was a

log building, which was burned during the Civil War. This is one of the rare historic places in Davidson County that witnessed the Cherokee Trail of Tears. In the early 2000s, the Colonial Dames and Metro Archives documented the cemetery as part of the Davidson County Cemetery Survey. Containing 95 tombstones and a dozen fieldstones, the cemetery is currently in a state of disrepair with trash and fallen trees.

Hillsboro High School – 3812 Hillsboro Pike, built 1954

Located in the heart of Green Hills, this large public high school has served the community since 1954 after the original 1939 school was destroyed by a fire in 1952. Constructed of white brick trimmed in green, the unique school complex is an excellent example of Mid-Century Modern civic architecture in Nashville. The school was designed by Nashville architect Edwin Keeble, who is best known for designing the downtown L&C Tower. The Hillsboro campus was expanded in the 1950s and 1960s and the school underwent a renovation in 1995. A large gymnasium was constructed along Hillsboro Pike in the modern era. Notable alumni include artist Red Grooms and Major League Baseball player Mike Willis. Located across Hillsboro Pike from the upscale Green Hills Mall, the school complex is threatened with suburban retail redevelopment.



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

Printers Alley Historic District – 200 block of 3rd Avenue North and 4th Avenue North and 300 block of Church Street, represents buildings built from 1874-1929



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

This historic district includes 15 buildings in the heart of Nashville's downtown commercial business district. Located adjacent to the 2nd Avenue Historic District, Printers Alley contains a variety of commercial buildings constructed from 1874-1929, ranging from one to twelve stories in height. The Printers Alley Historic District includes the 1926 Noel Place Garage, 1929 Noel Hotel, 1905 First National Bank (now Marriott Hotel), and the 1895 Southern Turf Saloon, which Historic Nashville owns a Preservation Easement on. The district also includes the 1891 Utopia Hotel, a six-story Romanesque-style hotel first included on the Nashville Nine in 2012, and the 1887 Climax Saloon – both of which will soon be redeveloped as part of a six-story luxury hotel. Since the late nineteenth century, the service alley has served as the entrance to legendary watering holes, bars, restaurants and entertainment venues. The community has expressed concern that development in Printers Alley could have an adverse effect on the setting and integrity of this historic district, and may ultimately result in buildings being removed from the National Register of Historic Places.

RCA Studio A – 30 Music Square West, built in 1964

Located in the heart of Music Row, this legendary recording studio was constructed by Chet Atkins and Owen Bradley adjacent to RCA Studio B, which opened in 1957. The Mid-Century Modern studio and office building became a destination for musicians from both the country and pop music industries and the building played a vital role in the development of the renowned Nashville Sound of the 1960s. In



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

the past 50 years, countless artists of a variety of genres have recorded hits in RCA Studio A, which is the only remaining active studio of four RCA studio spaces designed by Bill Putnam, the “father of modern recording.” The building was recently sold to a developer, and a demolition permit has been filed. If executed, this building will remain standing for less than 90 days. On Sept. 19, a plan was released that showed luxury condominiums and a restaurant taking Studio A’s place on Music Row.

Sunnyside Outbuildings – 3000 Granny White Pike, built in the early 19th century



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

Located in the 12th South neighborhood, Sunnyside Mansion is the home of the Metropolitan Nashville Historical Commission and the centerpiece of Sevier Park. The mansion has been restored by the city, but the rear ell, which contains a nearly 200-year-old log cabin and several outbuildings, has not been restored and is in a state of extreme disrepair and deterioration. Metro Parks and Recreation, which is responsible for the buildings, has a master plan that – if funded – would include renovation for the outbuildings.

Trail West Building - 217-221 Broadway, built early 1900s

This three-story downtown commercial building is located on historic Lower Broadway and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Broadway Historic District. Since construction at the turn-of-the-twentieth century, this commercial building has housed various stores. Since 1997, the building has been home of the Trail West clothing shop. In recent years, the building has been proposed for several new uses including high rise luxury hotels and a Walgreens drugstore.



Photo: Stephanie Saujon

Historic Nashville documented these buildings in the 1990s as part of its Downtown Historic Architecture Survey. Members of the community worry the historic building could be demolished or inappropriately altered as part of a new commercial development. It is also possible that demolition of these historic buildings could have a negative impact on the National Register listing of the Broadway Historic District.

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About Historic Nashville, Inc.

Established in 1968 and renamed in 1975, Historic Nashville, Inc. (HNI) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 membership organization with the mission to promote and preserve the historic places that make Nashville unique. Over the years, HNI has successfully advocated for the preservation of such historic places the Ryman Auditorium, Union Station, Hermitage Hotel, 2nd Avenue & Lower Broadway and Shelby Street Bridge, as well as neighborhood historic districts throughout the city.

In 1982, HNI established the state's first Preservation Easement program and currently owns easements on 16 historic landmarks with a market value of over \$30 million. HNI hosts an annual membership meeting, publishes an Annual Report, maintains a website, hosts educational programs such as Behind-the-Scenes tours, an annual fundraiser called the Brick & Mortar Bash and the annual Nashville Nine list of the city's most endangered historic places. For more information, visit www.historicnashvilleinc.org, connect with us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on twitter: @historic_nash.