



SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

August 2019

www.franklin-stfb.org

Dedicated to the Preservation, Protection, and Promotion of
Civil War Sites in Williamson County, Tennessee

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Mark Your Calendar

STFB Annual Meeting and Dinner – will be held at St Paul's Episcopal Church Otey Hall on Thursday, November 21, 2019. Details to follow.

Middle Tennessee Civil War Show at Ag Center Dec 7 -8, 2019 – Mike Kent's 33rd Middle Tennessee Civil War Show is set for Saturday & Sunday December 7 & 8 at the Williamson County Ag Center at I-65 Exit 61. STFB will have our usual booth at this gigantic 1,000 table show. Details later. See you there. www.MKShows.com

Crossroads: A Symposium September 13 – 14, 2019

The **Historic Franklin Masonic Hall Foundation** will host a two day symposium September 13 and 14, with optional walking tours on September 12, exploring the complex historical relationships between Native Americans and African Americans and seeking a better understanding of how their intertwined stories are a significant part of our American identity.

The symposium will focus on asking specific questions about the complexities of Native American and African American identity, offering new considerations on our shared histories, and holding meaningful dialogue—particularly on the difficult topics of removal, enslavement, freedom, and citizenship politics.

This professional and scholarly gathering, sponsored by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, features two full days of presentations by regional and national scholars, public historians, anthropologists, archivists, and genealogists, along with a special keynote speaker and cocktail event Friday evening. Specialty tours of the historic Hall (c1823) and of historic Franklin are offered September 12, 2019.

Early registration for the symposium is \$125! One day and discounted college student rates are available as well. For all registration, hotel, speakers and additional Discounted rates for college students and educators are also available.

To register, please go to our website:
www.hfmhfoundation.org/crossroads

For questions, call 615-584-4523

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Battle of Franklin Trust reclaims portion of Franklin battlefield Land donated by William David Dozier family

Herald Reports

Aug 5, 2019 Updated Aug 5, 2019

The Battle of Franklin Trust announced on Monday that through the generosity of a Williamson County neighbor — William David Dozier — another piece of the Franklin battlefield has been reclaimed.

The small tract of land has been donated to the Trust. It connects the Carriage Park neighborhood to the Eastern Flank Battlefield Park. The Trust will begin to use it almost immediately, allowing guests on battlefield tours to get an altogether different perspective of this important part of the battlefield.

At the time of the battle, fought on Nov. 30, 1864, the piece of ground was part of Carnton and had been used as farmland. Nearby McGavock Creek is fed by several springs, one of which is under the Carnton springhouse, and it empties into the Harpeth River.

During the Battle of Franklin, the right wing of Maj. Gen. William W. Loring's division moved through the Carriage Park area, plowed across the creek and then across the Eastern Flank. His three brigades, under the command of Brig. Gens. Winfield S. Featherston, John Adams and Thomas M. Scott, took significant casualties from incoming artillery fire as they advanced toward the Federal line.

A portion of Scott's Brigade — Alabamians, Tennesseans and Louisianans — swept over this newly acquired battlefield property. Loring's men took heavy losses, and nearly 1,000 were killed, wounded or captured by the conclusion of the fighting. Gen. Scott was among the injured. Many of the soldiers who perished during the battle are buried in the McGavock Confederate Cemetery, which is just west of the tract.

Many more interpretive opportunities exist across the Franklin battlefield. The Trust is seeking other historically minded community members, like the Dozier family, to donate or sell property or to allow interpretive markers to be placed on land they own. Those interested in helping to further interpret the community's role in the conflict that redefined America should contact Battle of Franklin Trust Development Director Laurie McPeak at laurie@boft.org or CEO

Eric A. Jacobson at eric@boft.org.

With the 155th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin just around the corner, anyone can leave behind a legacy that future generations can enjoy and appreciate. For more information, visit www.boft.org.

Report: Williamson visitors spent \$1.3 million per day in 2018

**Emily R. West, [Nashville Tennessean](#) Published
12:00 p.m. CT Aug. 6, 2019 | Updated 12:06 p.m.
CT Aug. 6, 2019**

A report commissioned by Tennessee's tourism department showed visitors to Williamson County spent on \$1.3 million per day in 2018.

The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development also released figures showing visitor spending at the county's all-time high of \$479.5 million. This figure placed the county as the sixth best in the state's tourism economy.

"The diverse communities and attractions we have across Williamson County continue to be a place visitors know they will experience incredible history, world-class entertainment, remarkable food, and unquestioned southern hospitality," Visit Franklin President & CEO Ellie Westman Chin said. "It is the incredible work these hospitality partners and local officials do to make this a premier destination that allows the impact of tourism to grow each year. The renovations, capital investments and other commitments communities make to tourism allow us to attract more visitors each year."

These economic impact accomplishments come just weeks after the Williamson County Convention & Visitor Bureau announced the county welcomed a record 1.7 million visitors in 2018.

Tourism-related spending generated \$28.59 million in state and \$9.72 million in local tax revenues in Williamson County, an increase of 4.4 percent for each over the previous year.

Travelers also created new jobs too. Tourism-related job growth in the county also grew, increasing 2.4 percent to 3,710 tourism-related jobs in Williamson County.

"The hospitality industry in Williamson County is doing a lot of things right and these numbers show that," Marshall Hospitality CEO Andy Marshall said. "Our community is one where everyone takes pride and gets involved and you see that from our local hospitality partners, too. Together we are able to employ more area residents."

Reach Emily West at erwest@tennessean.com or 615-613-1380 and on Twitter [@emwest22](https://twitter.com/emwest22).

Lotz House Lauded by TripAdvisor

The historical Lotz House Museum has reached a monumental milestone since its opening just over 10 years ago: 3,000 reviews on TripAdvisor, a 5.0 rating and a No. 1 listing out of 43 things to do in Franklin.

The Lotz House, built in 1858, has a long history of recovery. Built by German master woodworker Johann Albert Lotz through three years of his own slaveless labor, the house was nearly destroyed during the Battle of Franklin in the Civil War, requiring four years of restoration.

Much later in its life, the building was almost sold and transformed into a Mexican restaurant to be named "Lotz of Tacos," despite the proper pronunciation of the name: "Lohtz." This was before it was rescued by a Nashville family and preserved as a museum, which officially opened in 2008.

A decade later, the Lotz House Museum is one of the most popular tourist spots in Franklin, as evidenced by its TripAdvisor page. J.T. Thompson, Lotz House executive director, said this is not only good for the museum, but for the entire area.

"I'm a big believer in 'rising water floats all boats,' and what's good for the Lotz House is good for the Carter House, it's good for Carnton, it's good for downtown Franklin, it's good for restaurants. ... Everybody now lives by these things," he said, lifting up his smartphone. "That's the reality of the situation when you're looking for things to do. The Lotz House pops up — that's good for everybody."

The Civil War house's TripAdvisor reviews not only rank high in number but in positivity, with 87% reporting an "excellent" experience and 10% reporting "very good."

While the vast majority of reviews are written in

English, a handful of visitors wrote in Dutch, Italian, Swedish, French, Portuguese and Spanish. Thompson said most of the museum's guests come from out of the state or even out of the country, sharing that he has led tours with visitors from France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and China just in the past week.

"You don't do stuff in the place where you live," Thompson said. "It's amazing. We get more people from California, Canada, the West Coast in a day than we probably get from Franklin in a week." Even the group touring down the staircase as he spoke was comprised of vacationers from Florida, Alabama and one couple from England, who said they, in fact, found the Lotz House through TripAdvisor and dropped in on their way to Memphis.

Thompson said the story is best relayed by "show and tell." He begins by highlighting the ornate wooden features on the exterior of the home, explaining that the different designs were meant to show his wide range of skills. "Quite literally, 160 years ago, this is a three-dimensional, wooden catalog of what he can do," Thompson said. "And I like to stress to a lot of people — no power tools, all done by hand."

He pointed out the Carter House just down the road, where the Lotz family took shelter during the battle, as the Carter House was made of brick, not wood like the Lotz House. He said Johann Lotz with his wife and three children, including 6-year-old Matilda, hid from the battle for 15 to 16 hours in the Carter cellar.

The museum is a nonprofit organization, funded entirely by tours and the gift shop, which houses several TripAdvisor certificates for its "excellent" rating. For questions see www.lotzhouse.com or 615-790-7190 or jtt@lotzhouse.com

News in Review August 2019

Stories to be Told — Southern Exposure Magazine — August/September 2019 — Franklin — With the knowledge that, before the Civil War, Williamson County had a larger slave population than white, Tina Cahalan Jones studied the conscripted labor for Nashville's Federal Fort Negley which opened the door to the history of the United States Colored Troops and their connection to Williamson County. She has found more than 300 men who left Williamson County to fight for their freedom and believes there could be as many as 600 USCT troops who were born here or lived here.

Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

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August 2019

Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

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	Donations: Marker Fund		
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