



# SAVE THE FRANKLIN BATTLEFIELD, INC

May 2019

[www.franklin-stfb.org](http://www.franklin-stfb.org)

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

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## Fort Granger is getting a New Paved Entrance

If you have visited Fort Granger in the last few weeks, you already know that the entrance road from Eddy Lane is now paved, but only the first 60 yards or so. Parks manager Brian Walker recently announced that the remainder of the driveway will be paved in the coming weeks, and he plans to have the parking lot completely paved by the end of summer.

The good news is that the Franklin Parks Dept has been gradually adding improvements to our battlefield parks as they find time.



The entrance to Fort Granger from Eddy Lane is now paved.

This new pavement will be a major improvement of the entrance road. The dust from the gravel road and parking lot was a great nuisance. The entrance also constantly required maintenance to repair the deep ruts that showed up each time it rained. That is all fixed now.

## New & Renewing Members April 2019

Gary & Laura Bailey	Mentor, OH
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Rich & Teresa Shepler	Duck River, TN
Richard Simpson	Lancaster, PA
Patrick Small	San Antonio, TX
Amy & Tom Stone	Mt Airy, MD
Sean Von Loh	Greeley, CO
Kendyl Wallis	Sandwich, IL
Barry Wasser	Leesburg, VA
Steven Whitehouse	La Grange, KY

## Language for Battle of Franklin marker on square moving forward in Franklin

Emily West, Nashville Tennessean May 14,  
2019 *Reprinted with permission*

Franklin leaders mulled over two options this week for what language best represents the city's bloodiest battle for a new marker on the public square.

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A marker depicting the Battle of Franklin will stand in the center of town as part of the Fuller Story project. The initiative — generated by three pastors and a historian — would place African-American historic markers on the downtown square along with a U.S. Colored Troops statue near the historic courthouse.

The Battle of Franklin marker wasn't one of the original portions of the project, but leaders said they wanted to include the marker to contextualize the monument that sits on the square.

"The overall intent is to describe the Battle of Franklin," City Administrator Eric Stuckey said. "Sometimes people come to Franklin and have no idea a battle happened here."

### **What the markers will depict**

The group will now place five markers - instead of four - around the public square. Two will go near the roundabout, where they will tell the story of the market house that sold slaves and explain the Battle of Franklin. Those markers will stand on the concrete portion of the downtown's center.

The remaining three will stand on the portion of the square near the historic courthouse. Those markers will talk about reconstruction, U.S. Colored Troops and the riot of 1867. Pastors and historians suggested those locations because of their prominence to where events on the markers took place.

### **Process of marker installation**

The Battle of Franklin Trust will purchase the markers and the city will install them, according to city resolution. The resolution stated that the city will maintain the markers for a lifetime.

Once the U.S. Colored Troops statue is standing, the city will deed the land upon which the monument sits to the Battle of Franklin Trust. The city will also maintain the statue for a lifetime.

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

### **Carter Hill Battlefield Park Gets Display and Signage Improvements**

The cannon displays at the Carter Hill Battlefield Park are now in their permanent locations. A limber wagon

has been added to the three ordnance rifles depicting the 16<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Battery at the trench line near Franklin Pike.

The second Napoleon, donated in January 2019 by the Hinman family, completed the 6<sup>th</sup> Ohio battery section display near the cotton gin. These two guns were placed in embrasures dug into the trench. The double canister from these two guns dominated the battlefield to the front. Every veteran who wrote of his experiences near the cotton gin describes the carnage inflicted by these two 12 pounders.



**The Hinman Napoleon (far gun) completes the 6th Ohio Battery display near the cotton gin foundation, located about 15 – 20 yards to the rear of the guns.**

Yes, yes, we know the actual guns at the battle were not in front of the cotton gin, but were a few yards to the east. But we had to make do. We don't own that part of the battlefield – yet.

### **Civil War Trust Recognizes Their Franklin Donors**

The Civil War Trust (now the American Battlefield Trust) recently sponsored two markers at the Carter Hill Battlefield Park. This new signage recognizes some of their CWT members who did the heavy lifting in fundraising for reclaiming the Franklin Battlefield.

Franklin was not a spur-of-the-moment effort by the battlefield preservation organization. They were among the attendees for the 1992-1993-1994 Battlefield Preservation Conferences held in Franklin. These sessions brought together local, state, national history and preservation groups to establish contacts among the constituencies, and to examine strategies for saving Franklin.

The National Parks System assessment of the Franklin preservation possibilities at that time was not very

encouraging. NPS considered Franklin lost. The locals refused to accept that depressing assessment.

The Heritage Foundation bought the Blue House at 109 Cleburne Street as the starting parcel for the Carter Cotton Gin site [see June 1997](#) and STFB placed our first historical marker [see Dec 1998](#). Save The Franklin Battlefield then bought the Collins Farm property [see June 2001](#). Later that year, the Lorings Advance partnership bought a neighborhood 5-acre open parcel southeast of the cotton gin, and held it off the market for 10 years. A battlefield park beginning was underway.

### The Library on the Battlefield arouses the public

In 2000, Williamson County announced plans to purchase the Battleground Academy campus just south of the Carter House. STFB and Heritage Foundation, and many others, thought the BGA campus should be a Battlefield Park, and staged opposition at County Commission meetings. Over many months, this public resistance was written up in newspapers and the STFB newsletter and sent to all interested parties including the CWT.

In February 2002, the CWT scheduled a Press Conference at the Carter House with the Heritage Foundation and STFB. The CWT announced that Franklin was now on their list of the Ten Most Endangered Battlefields. They also said the CWT was going to help Franklin preservation efforts with their donors and grant writers [see March 2002](#). This was big news, the salvation of future projects in Franklin.



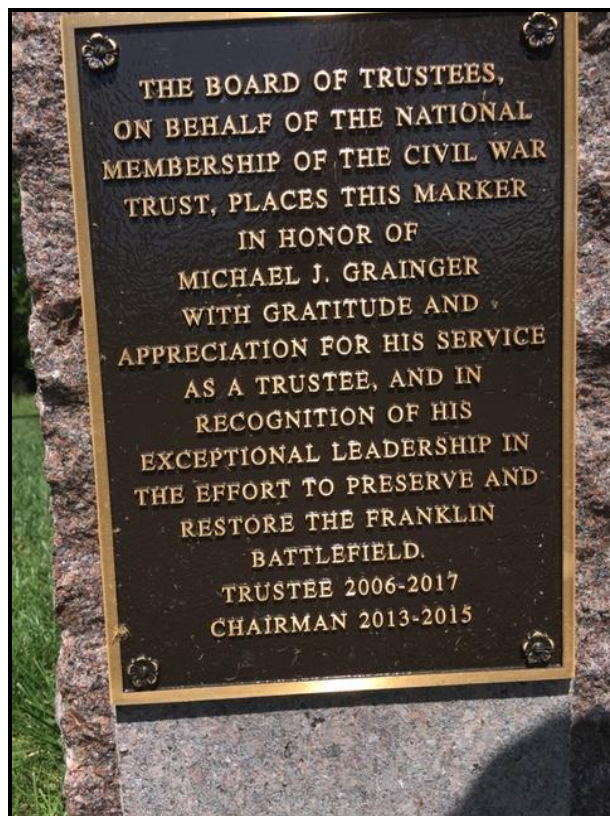
**This 3-sided kiosk near the cotton gin lists the Civil War Trust donors who helped reclaim the Franklin Battlefield.**

After the Press Conference, Jim Lighthizer met with County Executives to discuss the Library on the BGA

campus and addressed the Tennessee Legislature. These actions raised the profile of Franklin preservation. The CWT has been a very good friend to Franklin.

You can read the kiosk at [Panel A](#) [Panel B](#) [Panel C](#) STFB is listed at the top left of Panel A

A second marker near the cotton gin recognizes the selfless role Michael Grainger played in directing the CWT effort in reclaiming the Franklin battlefield.



**The new Civil War Trust plaque recognizes the leadership of Michael Grainger in the preservation and restoration of the Franklin Battlefield.**

### News In Review May 2019

**Battle of Franklin Tours — Williamson—The Tennessean — 4/21/19 — Franklin —** To understand the Civil War's Battle of Franklin and how it affected the people of the then-small town Franklin, visit Franklin's three Civil War house museums: Lotz House, Carter House, and Carnton. You will hear the historical account of this important and incredibly bloody battle from different tour guides, and you also will hear the personal side of how the battle affected three families whose homes loomed large in the 1864 battle.

# Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc

PO Box 851

Franklin, TN 37065-0851

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## May 2019

### Save the Franklin Battlefield Membership / Renewal / Order Form

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

QTY	Item	Price	Total
	Annual Membership: Individual \$20 ~ Family \$30 ~ Corporate \$50 (circle one)		
	Donations: <b>Marker Fund</b>		
	<b>Land Purchase Fund</b>		
	“Retreat from Pulaski to Nashville” ~ limited & numbered reprint edition, hardcover	\$20.00	
	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Perryville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$20.00	
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	“Eyewitnesses to the Battle of Nashville” ~ David Logsdon, paperback 8-1/2 x 11	\$20.00	
	New - 125 <sup>th</sup> Franklin Reenactment Belt Buckle – only a few left	\$25.00	
	<b>FREE Shipping</b>	<b>FREE</b>	
	<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>		

**Mail To: Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc ~ P.O. Box 851 ~ Franklin, TN 37065-0851**  
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