

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



Metropolitan Historical Commission
Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission
Sunnyside in Sevier Park
3000 Granny White Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
Telephone: (615) 862-7970

MHC Marker Committee Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 12, 2022

5:30 p.m.

Sunnyside in Sevier Park

3000 1113 Kirkwood Ave, Nashville, TN 37204
(MASKS RECOMMENDED)

- I. New Business
 - a. Review proposed historical markers
 - i. Hank Snow's Rainbow Ranch
 - ii. Merritt House
 - iii. Patton House
 - iv. Washington Junior High School
- II. Adjourn

As a notice to the public, the purpose of the Marker Committee meeting is to select language for the proposed marker. Accordingly, there will be no public comment or participation at this committee meeting. The full Metro Historical Commission will meet on July 25, 2022, to determine whether to adopt the proposed marker. Options for public comment will be made available at the July 25 meeting.



The Metro Nashville Historical Commission does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, or disability in access to, or operation of its programs, services, activities or in its hiring or employment practices. **ADA inquiries may be directed to:** ADA Compliance Coordinator, Metro Historical Commission, (615) 862-7970. **Title VI inquiries should be forwarded to:** Ms. Shirley Sims-Saldana, Title VI Coordinator, Human Relations, 800 2nd Avenue, South, 4th Floor, Nashville, TN 37210, (615) 880-3391. **Contact Department of Human Resources for all employment related inquiries** at (615) 862-6640.

Name: Hank Snow's Rainbow Ranch

Location: 312 E Marthona Rd.

Funding: MHC

Text: Clarence Eugene "Hank" Snow purchased this Madison home with his wife Minnie in 1950, not long after his first appearance on the Grand Ole Opry. He was one of the first musicians in the United States to build and use a home studio. Snow's band, the Rainbow Ranch Boys, took their name from this three-acre property, Rainbow Ranch, which was also home to Snow's horse, Shawnee. Snow was elected to Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1978 and the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1979.

483 characters and spaces

Name: Merritt House

Location: 444 Humphreys St.

Funding: Core Fund

Text: Gibson Merritt (1800-1873) came to Nashville around 1815 from North Carolina and worked as a farmer and cabinetmaker. Merritt married Sarah Raines (1793-1861) in 1828, and by 1850 he owned 44 acres and eleven enslaved persons. This c. 1870 two-story Italianate house was home to their son, state senator Alfred Gowen Merritt (1832-1908) and his wife Caroline Donelson (1841-1922) by 1880. The rear portion contains a log cabin that may date to the 1780s and the Rains family.

475 characters and spaces

Name: Patton House

Location: 1024 28th Ave N

Funding: family

Text: In 1935 Rev. John Thomas Patton (1884-1965) hired McKissack & McKissack to build this home for his family. A community leader and well-respected businessman, Patton opened his home for meetings of to improve African Americans' equal access to civil and voting rights and higher education. He served as president of the Nashville NAACP chapter (1937-41) and oversaw the move of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church from downtown to North Nashville during the Capitol Hill Redevelopment.

484 characters and spaces

The son of former slaves, J.T. Patton founded Patton Brothers Funeral Home in 1908 in Franklin, Tenn. His brothers—Jasper, Daniel, and George—joined him in business and they expanded to Nashville in 1921. By the mid-1950s, Patton Brothers was the largest black-owned and -operated funeral business in middle Tennessee. Patton's oldest son with second wife Alice Otey, Thomas—a Tuskegee Airman—headed the Franklin branch and younger son Edward ran the regional headquarters in Nashville.

486 characters and spaces

Name: Washington Junior High School

Location: 2401 Morena St.

Funding: Vanderbilt University

Text: Named for George E. Washington, former principal of Pearl High School, this grade 7-9 school opened in 1928. Principals included J.A. Galloway, Braxton Murrell and Isaiah Suggs. Students took classes in English, history, Latin, science, math, industrial arts and music, and had student-teacher partnerships with Fisk University and Tennessee A&I. Razed in the mid-1980s for Pearl-Cohn Magnet School, alumni include many significant members of Nashville's African American community.

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