

# Historic Sites

## Locations

### 1. Victorian Village

Memphis, TN 38103

(901) 526-1469

In the area of Adams Avenue in Memphis, a number of landmark 19th-century homes have been saved from destruction by interested citizens. The Boyd-Massey-Maydwell House likely is the oldest of those pictured below. A neo-classic cottage at 664 Adams, it is owned by the City of Memphis and used by the City Beautiful Commission. The Harsson-Goyer-Lee House at 690 Adams was originally a small four-square cottage built by William Harsson, a lath mill operator. It was expanded in 1855 by his son-in-law, Charles Wesley Goyer, who added the present three-story front in 1871. The house was sold in 1890 to steamboat empire owner James Lee, Jr., whose



Mallery-Neely House,  
1854-1883



Mollie Fontaine Taylor  
House, 1886



Elias Lowenstein  
House, 1890



Harsson-Goyer-Lee  
House, 1848-1873

daughter later began the James Lee Memorial Academy of Art, which flourished there until the City of Memphis relocated the school to Overton Park. Currently owned by the City of Memphis, the Mallery-Neely House at 652 Adams, a Tuscan villa, was first owned by Isaac Kirtland and later by Benjamin



Boyd-Massey-Maydwell House, 1817-1849

Babb, who added the second story and sold to James Columbus Neely in 1883. The French Victorian Woodruff-Fontaine House at 680 Adams was built by archi-



Woodruff-Fontaine House, 1870

Fontaine, the third-wealthiest cotton factor in the country. The house was later part of the James Lee Academy of Art and is currently open to the public for tours. The Victorian Mollie Fontaine Taylor House was built by Noland Fontaine as a wedding gift for his daughter at 679 Adams (directly across the street from the Woodruff-Fontaine). The Elias Lowenstein House is located at Jefferson and Manassas Streets.

## 2. Hunt/Phelan House

533 Beale Street

Memphis, TN 38103

(901) 525-8225



The Hunt/Phelan House, once “a treasure trove” of 19th-century magnificence

This sixteen-room, reddish-brick house in the Federal style was built in two stages, the first in 1830 by George H. Wyatt. The second stage, circa 1851, added a two-story kitchen and service wing and a two-story porch. In the early months of the Civil War, the house served as headquarters for Confederate General Leonidas Polk. After the Battle of Shiloh, Union General Ulysses S. Grant used the house, planning the siege of Vicksburg in the parlor. The mansion also served as a Union hospital from 1863–1865. Although unlikely, it has been rumored that a tunnel under the house was part of the underground railroad through which slaves escaped and boarded boats for Illinois. At one time, a schoolhouse was located behind the mansion for the Phelan children and the family’s slave children and was the first school known to have educated blacks in Memphis. In later years, the house was occupied by Northern teachers sent to the South to educate newly freed slaves.

## 3. Graceland

3734 Elvis Presley Boulevard

Memphis, TN 38186-0508

(901) 332-3322

(800) 238-2000

[elvis.com/graceland](http://elvis.com/graceland)



Graceland, home of Elvis Presley

Home of world-famous singer and movie star Elvis Presley, Graceland was built circa 1940 by the former Ruth Fraser Brown and her husband, Dr. Thomas David Moore. The tween-room mansion was named Graceland after Mrs. Moore’s aunt, Grace Toof, whose family had built a cottage on the site earlier. Elvis bought the house in 1957, ten years after he moved to Memphis. During the 1950s, the

“King” became a national and international hero of young people as rock ‘n’ roll’s biggest star. Eventually he sold more than 500 million records, had more gold records (twenty-eight) than anyone before him, and also made thirty-three movies. Guided tours of the home—featuring the trophy room, Hall of Gold, automobile collection, touring bus, and Conair jet (the “Lisa Marie”)—also include the Meditation Garden where Elvis and his parents are buried. Elvis Presley died in 1977, but his fame lives after him as thousands visit his home each year.

#### 4. Chucalissa Prehistoric Indian Village

1987 Indian Village Drive

T. O. Fuller State Park

Memphis, TN 38109

(901) 785-3160



Thatch-roofed structure at Chucalissa Prehistoric Indian Village

Hundreds of years before Europeans came to America, Indians flourished along the eastern shore of the Mississippi River. These ancient peoples hunted; made tools of bone, stone, and wood; were capable farmers; and lived in thatch-roofed homes. They built earthworks and worshipped the sun. Chucalissa is a working reconstruction of a 1,000-year-old Indian village that flourished here, with grass thatched huts, a temple, and a ceremonial burial ground. A museum at the site helps visitors understand its history. The name means “house abandoned” or “deserted town” and was chosen for the site by its rebuilders. The original people were encountered by DeSoto in 1541, but they had deserted the town by 1673 when the French arrived. Today, Choctaw Indians live on the site and demonstrate Indian crafts. The rebuilt village is operated by the University of Memphis.

#### 5. Beale Street Historic District

168 Beale Street

Memphis, TN 38103

(901) 526-0110



A night on Beale Street, the heart of blues country

It was here in the early 1900s that W.C. Handy first popularized and published the blues, a unique African-American contribution to American music. Handy (1873–1958) was the son of an Alabama Methodist minister. He came here as a young man and played at Pee Wee’s Saloon, while another blues pioneer, Bessie Smith, was singing at area night-spots. In 1909, mayoral candidate E. H. Crump hired Handy and his band for his campaign, and Handy’s song “Mr. Crump”

made him famous overnight when Crump won the election. Handy later changed the title to “Memphis Blues,” the first blues song ever published. It was followed by “Beale Street Blues” and “St. Louis Blues.” The site includes Handy’s home at 352 Beale Street, the Palace and Daisy theaters, parks, shops, restaurants, and night clubs.

## 6. Alex Haley Home and Museum

200 South Church Street

Henning, TN 38041

(901) 738-2240



The boyhood home of Pulitzer Prize winner Alex Haley, author of *Roots*

This house, home of Pulitzer Prize winner Alex Haley, was built in 1918–1919 by his grandfather, Will Palmer, a Henning businessman. Haley lived here from 1921–1929 and spent summers here in later years. It was on the porch of this house that Haley heard from his grandmother the family stories that inspired him to write *Roots*, retelling tales of his African ancestors who were brought to America as slaves. The work won him the 1976 Pulitzer Prize, and the book was presented in an eight-part television adaptation in

1977. *Roots* has been translated into more than thirty languages and has inspired millions to search for their own roots. Haley’s boyhood home is the first state-owned historical site devoted to African Americans in Tennessee. Haley died in 1992.

## 7. Reelfoot Lake

Reelfoot Lake Chamber of Commerce

Tiptonville, TN 38079

(901) 253-8144

[tn.gov/environment/parks/ReelfootLake](http://tn.gov/environment/parks/ReelfootLake)



Sunset on beautiful Reelfoot Lake

Tennessee’s only large naturally formed lake, Reelfoot was created by the violent New Madrid earthquakes in 1811. Tremors lasted for more than a year and were felt from New Orleans to the Great Lakes. The area is steeped in the legend of Kalopin, or Reelfoot, a Chickasaw prince born with a deformed foot that caused him to walk with a rolling gait. Against the wishes of the Great Spirit, Reelfoot captured a Choctaw princess, Laughing Eyes, for his wife. In anger, the Great Spirit stomped his foot, creating a giant crater into which rushed the backwaters of the Mississippi River, flooding the Chickasaw hunting grounds and destroying Kalopin’s

aters of the Mississippi River, flooding the Chickasaw hunting grounds and destroying Kalopin’s

people. The 14,000-acre lake is twenty miles long and up to seven miles wide. Early in the 20th century, controversy arose over the private development of the lakeshore, and angry residents resorted to masks, robes, and vigilante terrorism to defend their customary hunting and fishing rights. Troops were called out to suppress these Night Riders, and several were brought to trial and convicted. Today, the area is a peaceful preserve and features year-round hunting and fishing.

## 8. Ames Plantation

4275 Ellington Road

Grand Junction, TN 38039-0389

(901) 878-1067

[amesplantation.org](http://amesplantation.org)



A scene from a National Field Trial Championship at the Ames Plantation

The 18,430-acre Ames Plantation is the site of several 19th-century cotton plantations. The Wiley B. Jones House, home of the Jones family from 1835–1846, and the Ames Manor House, built in 1847 for John W. Jones, have been restored. The plantation also includes the Mount Comfort Store, Andrews Chapel Methodist Church, and the town site of Pattersonville. The plantation was developed by Hobart Ames, an industrialist. At his death in 1945, the Hobart Ames Foundation was established, and the facilities of the plantation were made available to the University of Tennessee College of Agriculture for a demonstration farm featuring forestry and farm management projects. In 1987, the Ames History Project was begun to document the houses, grist mills, cemeteries, cotton gins, and roads that made this a thriving farming community before the Civil War brought an end to the plantation tradition in the South. The plantation is the site of the National Field Trial Championship for bird dogs every February, an internationally known competition.

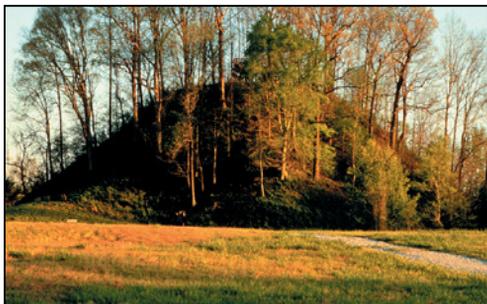
## 9. Pinson Mounds State Park

460 Ozier Road

Pinson, TN 38366

(901) 988-5614

[tn.gov/environment/parks/PinsonMounds](http://tn.gov/environment/parks/PinsonMounds)



One of the Pinson Mounds

Pinson Mounds is one of the most significant Native American archaeological sites in Tennessee. The mounds were constructed during the Middle Woodland period (circa A.D. 1–500). The Woodland Indians were the first farmers in West Tennessee, having introduced the cultivation of corn and squash into the region. The Pinson Mounds site illustrates the transition of the Woodland Indians from hunting and gathering to a more settled, agri-

cultural existence. This National Historic Landmark, which has been maintained as a state park since 1974, contains at least fifteen mounds, most of which seem to have been used for ceremonial purposes. The seventy-two-foot tall Saul's Mound is the largest, while the Ozier Mound is one of the oldest known ceremonial mounds of its type in the country. The museum offers exhibits on the ongoing archaeological work at Pinson Mounds.

## 10. Shiloh National Military Park

*Tennessee Highway 22*

*Shiloh, TN 38376*

*(901) 689-5696*

*nps.gov/shil*



Shiloh's Bloody Pond as it looks today

This battlefield is the scene of one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, where Union and Confederate casualties totaled 23,746. Fighting began April 6, 1862, when Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston attacked Grant's forces at Shiloh Church. During the heat of the battle, Johnston bled to death after a rifle ball severed an artery in his leg. The demoralized Confederates, staggered by Grant's massing artillery, ceased the attack. That night, General Buell reinforced Grant, and the Union soldiers attacked the following morning. The thin line of Confederates

under General P.G.T. Beauregard broke and retreated toward Corinth, Miss. The battle was an important step in Grant's campaign to control the Mississippi River. The 3,972-acre park includes the battlefield, National Cemetery, picnic areas, a museum, a movie of the story of the battle, and a 9.5-mile driving tour of the area.

## 11. Natchez Trace Parkway

*Hohenwald, TN 38462*

*(931) 796-2675*

*nps.gov/natr*



Natchez Trace

Before the arrival of Europeans, Native Americans established a network of trails or "traces" through the wilderness. Early hunters, settlers, and soldiers used these traces, the most famous of which was the Natchez Trace connecting Nashville and Natchez, Miss. During the late 1700s, the Natchez Trace became an important thoroughfare for French and Spanish traders and missionaries. By the early 19th century,

American boatmen were returning over the trace from New Orleans and Natchez. Circuit-riding ministers, Federal troops, and pioneer wagons increased the traffic on this busy artery. In 1809, Meriwether Lewis of the famed Lewis and Clark Expedition met a mysterious death at Grinder's Stand on the trace. His grave is marked by a monument, one of many historic sites on the trace. In 1938, Congress created the Natchez Trace Parkway, which was opened for its entire 442 miles in 1996. The Parkway provides a landscaped recreational roadway that winds its way past old iron industry villages, railroad towns, tollhouses, and the German-Swiss immigrant community of Hohenwald. One can see, at various places, the wagon-rutted early trace, especially the portions cleared by U.S. soldiers between 1801 and 1803.

## 12. James K. Polk Ancestral Home

301 West Seventh Street

Columbia, TN 38401

(931) 388-2354

[jameskpolk.com](http://jameskpolk.com)



Sitting room at the Polk Home, featuring the presidential seal table

This house was built by Samuel Polk in 1816, when his son James K. Polk was twenty-one years old. It was here that James K. Polk began his legal and political career, living in this house until he was inaugurated 11th President of the United States in 1845. He was the first “dark horse” candidate for President, and, during his term, the territory of the United States was extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. Having served in the state Legislature, in Congress, as Governor of Tennessee, and as President of the United States, Polk died in 1849, a victim of cholera. The house is built in the Federal style and is furnished with relics from the Polk White House. Nearby is the home of Polk's sisters. Tours of the homes include exhibits of Mrs. Polk's ball gown and jewels, Polk's inaugural Bible, Mexican War memorabilia, and the family gardens.

## 13. Jubilee Hall of Fisk University

1000 Seventeenth Avenue North

Nashville, TN 37209

(615) 329-8500

[fisk.edu](http://fisk.edu)



Jubilee Hall of Fisk University

Fisk University was founded by the American Missionary Association and the Western Freedman's Aid Commission in 1866 as Fisk School, a free school for blacks in Nashville. Jubilee Hall, an example of the High Victorian Gothic style, was completed in 1875, the first permanent building erected for the higher education of African Americans in the United States. Money for the building was raised by the Fisk Jubilee Singers, whose worldwide singing tours saved the school from financial collapse in the 1870s. During that time, Nashville became a center for black religious

music. A portrait of the original Jubilee Singers, painted by Queen Victoria's court painter, hangs in Jubilee Hall, now a university residence hall.

#### 14. Parthenon

*Centennial Park, West End Avenue*

*Nashville, TN 37201*

*(615) 862-8431*

*nashville.gov/parthenon*



Nashville's Parthenon, center of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, reconstructed in 1929

same size, nor are they placed the same distance apart. No two steps are the same size, and the floor is not square or level. A proud symbol of Tennessee's capital city, the "Athens of the South," the Parthenon houses the city's permanent art collection, plaster casts of the Elgin Marbles, a gift shop, and a visitors center.

Nashville's Parthenon is the only full-sized reproduction of the original Parthenon, a temple built by the Greeks in Athens during the 5th century B.C. It houses the tallest indoor sculpture in the western world, a statue of Athena, ancient goddess of wisdom and learning, the deity for whom the original Parthenon was erected. Originally built for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, the building became unsafe and was rebuilt in 1929. It is an exact replica of the Greek temple, its architecture including not a single straight line; no two columns are the same size, nor are they placed the same distance apart. No two steps are the same size, and the floor is not square or level. A proud symbol of Tennessee's capital city, the "Athens of the South," the Parthenon houses the city's permanent art collection, plaster casts of the Elgin Marbles, a gift shop, and a visitors center.

#### 15. Belle Meade Plantation

*5025 Harding Road*

*Nashville, TN 37205*

*(615) 356-0501*

*bellemeadeplantation.com*



Belle Meade Mansion, a Tennessee plantation home

Known as "Queen of Tennessee Plantations," the Harding family's Belle Meade Plantation, once more than 5,300 acres, was world-renowned as a thoroughbred stud farm in the 19th century. It was the home of Iroquois—until 1954, the only American-bred winner of the English Derby, which he won in 1881. John Harding bought Dunham's Station and the tract of land around it in 1807 and built a brick house on the site. William Giles Harding, John's son, extensively remodeled and enlarged

the house after a fire in 1853. Confederate General James R. Chalmers had temporary headquarters here while some of the fighting of the Battle of Nashville raged on the front lawn. The site includes the original Dunham Station log cabin, the mansion restored to the 1850s, stables and carriage house, and other outbuildings. Costumed interpreters give guided tours of the Greek Revival house, the grounds, and the outbuildings.

## 16. The Hermitage

4580 Rachel's Lane  
Hermitage, TN 37076  
(615) 889-2941  
[thehermitage.com](http://thehermitage.com)



Andrew Jackson's Hermitage

When Andrew Jackson died in this house in 1845, he left it to his adopted son with instructions that if he should need to sell it to offer it first to the state of Tennessee. In 1856, the state bought the home and 500 acres for \$48,000. In 1889, the Ladies' Hermitage Association was formed to preserve it as a memorial to Jackson, 7th President of the United States and hero of the Battle of New Orleans. In his public life, Jackson is best known for his fight to defeat the Second Bank of the United States and for the controversial removal of the Indians from the southeastern United States to Oklahoma. The site includes the mansion and formal gardens, tombs of Jackson and his wife Rachel, original log cabins, a smokehouse, spring house, old Hermitage Church, Tulip Grove Mansion, and a visitors center. The Greek Revival mansion, built in 1819, enlarged in 1831, and rebuilt after an 1834 fire, is furnished largely with pieces owned by Jackson.

## 17. Tennessee State Capitol

Charlotte Avenue and Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37243  
(615) 741-2692



Tennessee's majestic Capitol building

A masterpiece of Greek Revival architecture, the Tennessee Capitol was completed in 1859 and is one of the oldest working capitols in the United States. The architect, William Strickland of Philadelphia, died before the work was completed and was, at his request, buried within the Capitol walls. His son Francis and State Building Commission Chairman Samuel D. Morgan supervised the completion of the structure. The building is constructed of Tennessee marble and the labor of erecting it was performed by convicts and slaves. The building, although unfinished at

the time, was first occupied by the General Assembly on October 3, 1853. In 1953, the General Assembly appropriated funds for exterior renovation, and, in 1957, for interior restoration. On the grounds are the tombs of President James K. Polk and his wife, Sarah Childress Polk, and statues of Alvin C. York, Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson, Sam Davis, and Edward Ward Carmack.

### 18. Ryman Auditorium

116 Fifth Avenue North

Nashville, TN 37219

(615) 254-1445

[ryman.com](http://ryman.com)



Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, a cultural center since the 1890s

Known as the “Mother Church of Country Music,” Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, designed by architect H.C. Thompson, was originally built as a religious meeting hall and was called the Union Gospel Tabernacle. It was the realized dream of steamboat Captain Thomas Green Ryman, after his conversion at an 1885 revival preached by Sam Jones. Rev. Jones preached several revivals that raised money for the Tabernacle, including one in 1890 that drew 10,000 people a day. For that revival, the first meeting in the new but incomplete Tabernacle, a canvas was stretched across its six-foot-high walls to protect those gathered from inclement weather. The Ryman became the home of the Grand Ole Opry, the famous country and western music show, in 1943 and served as such until March 1974. After being closed for many years and undergoing an extensive renovation, the building was reopened in June 1994.

### 19. Mansker's Station & Bowen-Campbell House

Moss-Wright Park

705 Caldwell Road

Goodlettsville, TN 37072

(615) 859-3678 or 859-0766

[mankersstation.org](http://mankersstation.org)



The Bowen-Campbell House

These adjoining sites illustrate the early phase of Middle Tennessee exploration and settlement. Mansker's Station is the reconstructed 1779 frontier fort established by long hunter and explorer Kaspar Mansker. The fortified station is a living-history museum presenting scenes of pioneer life in the early Cumberland River settlements. William Bowen, Revolutionary War veteran and Indian fighter, brought his family here in 1785. Shortly thereafter, he built the brick house that still stands today, a two-story structure in the Federal style and one of the earliest examples of brick hall-and-parlor construction

in Tennessee. The house is furnished in the fashion of the 1790s, and interpreters dressed in period-style clothing guide visitors. The plantation grew around Bowen's original 640-acre grant to eventually encompass 4,000 acres. William Bowen Campbell, Mexican War leader, Congressman, and Governor of Tennessee from 1851 to 1853, was born here in 1807. The house was restored and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

## 20. Jack Daniel's Distillery

182 Lynchburg Highway

Lynchburg, TN 37352

(931) 759-6180

[jackdaniels.com](http://jackdaniels.com)



A scene at Jack Daniel's, showing wood piled for the charcoal mellowing process

Founded in 1866, Jack Daniel's is the oldest registered distillery in the nation, famous for its sour mash whiskey. The charcoal mellowing process has been in use here for more than 100 years. Although the details of his birth remain obscure, it is believed that Jack Daniel was born five miles from what is now Jack Daniel's Hollow around 1848. At a very young age, he began working for Dan Call, who ran a distillery at Louse Creek. A few years later, he became Call's full partner, soon buying him out and making his own whiskey. Jack Daniel wanted the bottles square because he was known as a "square

shooter." The charcoal mellowing process takes the "corn" taste out of the liquor and makes it true "Tennessee Whiskey," never called bourbon. Guided tours of the distillery begin every fifteen minutes.

## 21. Cordell Hull Birthplace and Museum

1300 Cordell Hull Memorial Drive

Byrdstown, TN 38549

(931) 864-3247

[cordellhullmuseum.com](http://cordellhullmuseum.com)



Rebuilt boyhood home of statesman Cordell Hull

This is the log cabin boyhood home of Cordell Hull, Secretary of State under Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose work toward the establishment of the United Nations won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1945. Born in 1871, Hull received his law degree from Cumberland University in Lebanon in 1891. As a member of Congress, he is best known as the author of the income tax law (1913). In 1933, he became Secretary of State and served longer than any other

man in U.S. history. He was the author of the Good Neighbor Policy toward Latin America. He

retired in 1944, after holding office for twelve years and died in 1955 at the age of 83. This site includes the cabin with many personal items, pictures, letters, and books belonging to Hull. The cabin was dismantled and rebuilt in 1957, using most of the original logs.

## 22. Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park

3370 LaFayette Road

Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742

(706) 866-9241

[nps.gov/chch](http://nps.gov/chch)



Scene at Chickamauga/Chattanooga Park, where the “Battle Above the Clouds” raged

In the fall of 1863, Union and Confederate forces met at Chickamauga Creek in one of the bloodiest battles in American history. The two armies fought for control of Chattanooga, strategic railroad center and gateway to the heart of the Confederacy. More than 48,000 casualties resulted from the battles. The grounds are now the site of the oldest, most visited national military park in the nation. In the fighting on September 19, 1863, victorious Confederates drove the Federal troops back into Chattanooga and laid siege to the city. In November, Federal reinforcements under Grant moved on Lookout Mountain, and the Confederates evacuated to keep from being cut off from the main lines at Missionary Ridge. The battle on November 25 forced the Confederates to retreat into Georgia, opening the way to Atlanta and Sherman’s “march to the sea.” The site includes the battlefields, the Fuller Gun collection, a multimedia presentation on the battles, the National Cemetery, and monuments to units on both sides.

## 23. Rhea County Courthouse

1475 Market Street

Dayton, TN 37321

(423) 775-7801



Courthouse at Dayton, site of the famous “Monkey Trial”

In 1925, the Rhea County Courthouse was the scene of the famous Scopes Evolution Trial, in which John Thomas Scopes, a Dayton high school teacher, was tried for teaching that human beings evolved from a lower order of animals. The trial (July 10–July 21, 1925) was covered by H. L. Mencken, world-famous journalist, and was reported in newspapers all over the country. William Jennings Bryan, a fundamentalist, served as prosecutor, and Clarence Darrow, well-known agnostic, served for the defense. Scopes was convicted and fined \$100. On appeal, the decision was reversed by the Tennessee Supreme Court in 1927. The trial raised issues debated for many years: the right of taxpayers to control curriculum, separation of church and state, academic freedom, and the relationship between science and religion. Built in the 1890s, the courthouse has been restored to its 1925 appearance and houses the Scopes Trial Museum.

## 24. York Grist Mill/Home of Alvin C. York

*U.S. Highway 127*

*Pall Mall, TN 38577*

*(931) 879-6456*

*tn.gov/environment/parks/SgtYork*



The grist mill where Alvin C. York worked in his last years

In this old grist mill, built on the Wolf River in 1887, and in the house across the road, World War I hero Alvin C. York spent his last years. Having been born and raised in the mountains of Tennessee, York said he wanted to be buried within sight of the Wolf River. He is buried near the mill, which he operated for twenty years after he bought it in 1943. In 1917, York enlisted in the All-American Division and became famous for single-handedly capturing 132 German soldiers and killing twenty-five in the Argonne Forest on October 8, 1918. For this accomplishment, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and

the French Croix de Guerre. The Tennessee General Assembly awarded him the Tennessee Medal for Valor. Later, he established the Alvin C. York Institute for the education of mountain children. He died in 1964 at age 77.

## 25. Rugby

*Tennessee Highway 52*

*Rugby, TN 37733*

*(423) 628-2441*

*historicrugby.org*



Christ Church at Rugby

Rugby, a rural English colony founded by Thomas Hughes in the 1880s, was established to provide homes and livelihood in the United States for the younger sons of English gentry. Hughes was a liberal member of Parliament, Queen's Counsel, author, and supporter of trade unionism in England before it was legal. He established Rugby so that younger sons of the gentry could enter manual trades without disgrace. A testing ground for Hughes' progressive ideas, he called Rugby a "cooperative colony," but private ownership soon won out. At one time, 450 colonists lived here, but an 1881 typhoid epidemic and an 1884 fire proved the downfall of the colony. Rugby was the last organized English colony in the United States. Surviving are

seventeen original Victorian buildings, including the Hughes Public Library, with more than 7,000 original volumes, and Christ Church, where services have been held since 1887. Restaurants and accommodations are nearby.

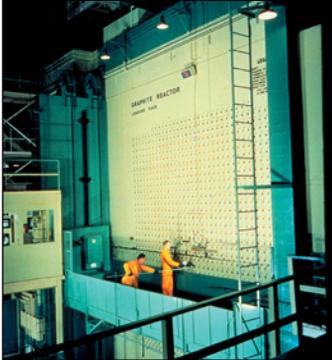
## 26. The Graphite Reactor (X-10) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

*Bethel Valley Road*

*Oak Ridge, TN 37830*

*(865) 574-4160*

*[ornl.gov/info/news/cco/graphite.htm](http://ornl.gov/info/news/cco/graphite.htm)*



The Graphite Reactor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the world's oldest nuclear reactor to operate at power

The Graphite Reactor, a National Historic Landmark, is located at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The reactor was used as a pilot plant and for producing the first measurable quantities of the manmade element plutonium. Visitors can see the control room, radioisotopes, and experiment rooms. The laboratory also features interactive videos and an exhibit area.

In 1939, German scientists succeeded in splitting atoms of uranium, resulting in an energy source capable of producing a bomb more destructive than anyone had ever imagined. American scientists, concerned that Hitler would produce and use such a bomb, urged the development of American nuclear programs. By 1942, American research had ensured the feasibility of a nuclear bomb, and the Manhattan Engineer District was born. Remote eastern Tennessee, with water, cheap land, and the Tennessee Valley Authority's hydroelectric plants nearby, was chosen as a production site. In just three short years, Oak Ridge (the "City Behind a Fence") became the fifth largest city in Tennessee. The secret "Manhattan Project" resulted in the world's first use of atomic energy as a weapon at Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945.

## 27. Cades Cove

*107 Park Headquarters Road*

*Gatlinburg, TN 37738*

*(865) 436-1200*

*[nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/cadescove.htm](http://nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/cadescove.htm)*



Cades Cove

in the 1930s, providing campgrounds, horseback riding, fishing, and 800 miles of hiking trails, including the Appalachian Trail. Cades Cove is an exception to the "naturalness" of the park itself; it is an outdoor museum of southern Appalachian life featuring reconstructed log cabins, churches, and mills. Permanent exhibits, a self-guided driving tour, and demonstrations of pioneer crafts

Cades Cove is one of several special communities in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park exhibiting reconstructions of the pioneer way of life. John Oliver, the first permanent settler to the area, arrived in 1818. Rugged mountains surrounded the little settlement, and the people and the area became self-sufficient, isolated from the development taking place in the outside world. The 20th century brought automobile roads that provided easier access to Cades Cove. Now the town is part of the 500,000-acre national reserve set aside

are offered. Residents, many the descendants of early settlers, have special permits to keep more than 2,000 acres in farmland.

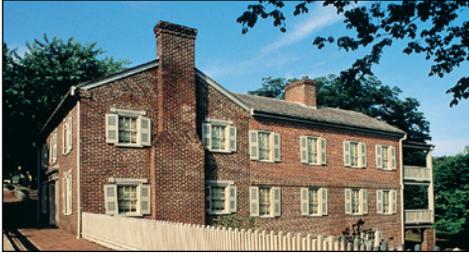
## 28. Andrew Johnson National Historic Site

*College and Depot Streets*

*Greeneville, TN 37743*

*(423) 638-3551*

*nps.gov/anjo*



One of the homes where Andrew Johnson, 17th President of the United States, lived

the 17th President of the United States, the only one never to have had formal education and the only Tennessean to have been returned to Congress after serving as President. During his presidency, he was impeached by the radical Congress for his lenient Reconstruction policies and escaped conviction by only one vote.

The Andrew Johnson National Historic Site includes the tailor shop where Johnson worked in the 1830s and two of his homes, both restored, one containing many of his personal belongings. He is buried in the National Cemetery at the site. Johnson (1808–1875), tailor, alderman, military governor of Tennessee, Congressman, and United States Senator, was Vice President under Lincoln. Upon Lincoln's death, he became

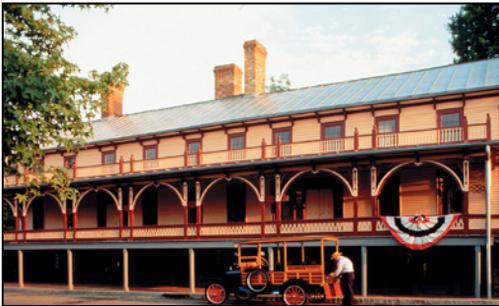
## 29. Chester Inn

*116 West Main Street*

*Jonesborough, TN 37659*

*(800) 952-8392 ext. 8208*

*tn.gov/environment/history/history\_historic-site-chester-inn.shtml*



Chester Inn

Polk, and Andrew Johnson; and John Sevier, Governor of the state of Franklin and Tennessee's first Governor. President Jackson held a reception for his friends on the porch of the inn during the summer of 1832, the year he was elected President for a second term. In recent years, the inn

The Chester Inn, built in 1797 by Dr. William P. Chester of Berlin, Pa., has earned a reputation as the first boarding house in eastern Tennessee. As the stagecoach line developed, the inn was enlarged. The porch and front facade were rebuilt in 1883 in the Italianate style, and the structure has been continuously occupied as an inn, a hotel, and an apartment building. Many famous people have stayed at the inn, including United States Presidents Andrew Jackson, James K.

has undergone an extensive rehabilitation and houses the National Storytelling Association. The association boasts a library of more than 200 hours of audio and video recordings of storytelling material and every October hosts the annual Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, the first town to be chartered in Tennessee.

### 30. Rocky Mount

200 Hyder Road

Piney Flats, TN 37686

(423) 538-7396

[rockymountmuseum.com](http://rockymountmuseum.com)



Rocky Mount, monument to Tennessee's frontier heritage

This frontier home, built circa 1770, was the Capitol of the Territory South of the River Ohio (the area that is now Tennessee) from 1790–1792. It was here that the pioneer Tennesseans known as “Overmountain Men” stopped in route to Sycamore Shoals to rendezvous for the Battle of Kings Mountain, the “turning point of the Revolutionary War.” Selected in 1790 as his headquarters by Territorial Governor William Blount, this house was the capitol of the first recognized government west of the Allegheny Mountains. It

is the oldest original territorial capitol still standing in the United States. Costumed interpreters give tours of the original main house, a reconstructed kitchen, and other outbuildings. The building also houses the Museum of Overmountain History.

### 31. Blount Mansion

200 West Hill Avenue

Knoxville, TN 37902

(865) 525-2375

[blountmansion.org](http://blountmansion.org)



Blount Mansion

In 1792, the four-room Blount Mansion became the talk of the town. Knoxvilleians were amazed as materials and furnishings were brought in over the mountains for the home of William Blount, an influential politician and businessman who signed the U.S. Constitution, drafted Tennessee's Constitution, and was the Governor of the Southwest Territory. Watching as window glass arrived from Virginia and sawn lumber from North Carolina excited Knoxville's residents, most of whom crafted their own cabins and homes with

local logs. But William Blount's wife, Mary, had insisted on a proper wooden home. The mansion featured a main room for family activities, a parlor for more formal activities, a hall, and a single

sleeping chamber upstairs. Later wings were added to the east and west sides. The Governor's Office was built on a corner of the property. By 1925, the mansion had deteriorated seriously and faced demolition to make way for a hotel parking lot, but local residents spearheaded efforts to preserve and restore the mansion, which opened for tours in 1930. Now, Blount Mansion is the only National Historic Landmark in Knoxville and Knox County. The historic site includes the mansion, the Governor's Office, a recreation of an 18th-century kitchen that sits where the original detached kitchen was, and a cooling shed, which was uncovered during an archeological dig in the 1950s. The mansion is open to the public, and tours are offered.

### 32. Fort Donelson National Battlefield

120 Fort Donelson Road

Dover, TN 37058

(931) 232-5706

[nps.gov/fodo](http://nps.gov/fodo)



Dover Hotel (Surrender House)

This 558-acre battlefield off U.S. Highway 79 in Stewart County was the site of the North's first major victory of the Civil War, ultimately opening the gate for Union invasion into the Confederate heartland. On February 14, 1862, soldiers were embroiled in fierce fighting as Union gunboats arrived and began exchanging "iron valentines" with the Confederate heavy artillery ensconced along the Cumberland River's west bank. It was a bloody ninety-minute duel that left the gunboat decks slippery with blood and forced the Union to retreat, but

only temporarily. At daybreak the next day, Southern forces launched a vigorous attack but failed to escape General Ulysses S. Grant's Union army. Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner was compelled to accept Grant's ultimatum, "No terms except an unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted," on February 16. Congress established Fort Donelson as a national military park on March 26, 1928 and as a national battlefield on August 16, 1985. About twenty percent of the core battlefield is contained within the park, including the earthen Confederate fort, river batteries, the outer rifle pits, and the Dover Hotel (Surrender House), where Generals Buckner and Grant met to work out the details of surrender.



"32 Pounder"