



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MEETING RECORDINGS  
1954-1974, 1980**

**RECORD GROUP 276**

*Processed by:*

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## INTRODUCTION

The Tennessee Historical Commission was founded in 1919 by the 61<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, by Senate Joint Resolution number 12 as an independent committee. The purpose of the committee was to collect and preserve military records of Tennessean's pertaining to World War I. Various legislative acts, beginning in 1921, have been passed to define membership and expand the areas of responsibility of the commission. In 1937, Public Chapter 33 attached the Commission to the Department of Conservation for administrative purposes only, where it remains today. As a result of these legislative and administrative changes, the commission is now responsible for the evaluation, acquisition, and preservation of historic sites, the compilation of the Tennessee Register of Historic Places, the selection and erection of historical markers, publication of books and documents on Tennessee history, including the Biographical Directories of the Tennessee General Assembly, 1796 - 1991, and administration of all properties and programs established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

The commission consists of 24 members appointed by the Governor, and five ex-officio members, consisting of the Governor, the Commissioner of Environment and Conservation, the State Librarian and Archivist, the State Historian, and the State Archaeologist. State law states specific requirements for members, such as at least one member must be 60 years of age or older, at least one member must be of a racial minority, at least three members must have an academic background in history and/or historic preservation, membership must be divided equally between the three grand divisions of Tennessee, and members are limited on their terms of office to the age of 75, at which time their status becomes member emeritus and they lose voting rights on matters coming before the Commission. Prior to 1971, when House Bill 49 was adopted and became law, membership was for life.

Additionally, the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Environment serves as the State Historic Preservation Officer. This position has been in existence since 1989. There is not a section of the Tennessee Code Annotated dealing with this designation, only a reference that the State Historic Preservation Officer shall have some determination over the destruction of buildings built before 1865 that are condemned by any governmental authority in counties having a population of more than 300,000 according to the 1980 U.S. Federal Census.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

Record Group 276 consists of recordings of meetings of the Tennessee Historical Commission and its related committees for the period 1954 - 1974. These recordings were originally made on Dictabelts and Audograph discs. The Dictabelt recordings cover the period 1954 - 1956, with Audograph discs being used the remainder of the time. Audiocassette copies of all Audograph discs have been made. At the present time, the Library and Archives does not have the required equipment to be able to make copies of the Dictabelt recordings.

There are several committee meetings of the Commission included in this collection. Included are the Executive Committee, the Committee on Monuments and Historic Places, the Highway Marker committee, and the Historic Sites Advisory committee. The bulk of this collection consists of the Executive Committee and the full Tennessee Historical Commission. Also of interest are the recordings for the Conference on Historic Preservation, held April 13 - 15, 1964, and part of a Local History Conference held on 12/5/1980. Transcripts for the April 13 meeting of the preservation conference are available in box 16.

Box numbers 1 - 18 consist of audiocassette copies of the original recordings. Box numbers 19 - 21 consist of the original Dictabelt and Audograph disc recordings, and box 22 consists of audio reels.

Minutes for the years 1919 - 1953 have not been located at this time.

For additional information regarding the work of the commission, see Record Group 85, Tennessee Historical Commission, Historical Marker Files.

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 1

Mrs. Smiley Blanton, 1 Tape  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/3/1954, 8 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/8/1956, 2 Tapes  
Committee on Monuments and Historic Places, 9/12/1957, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/13/1957, 6 Tapes  
Highway Marker Committee, 12/5/1957, 4 Tapes  
Committee on Monuments and Historic Places, 12/5/1957, 3 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/5/1957, 4 Tapes

## Box Number 2

Executive Committee Continued, 12/5/1957, 2 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/6/1957, 8 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/6/1958, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/7/1958, 4 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1958, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/4/1958, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/5/1958, 4 Tapes

## Box Number 3

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 12/5/1958, 2 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1959, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 4/30/1959, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/1/1959, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/11/1959, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/3/1959, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/4/1959, 3 Tapes

## Box Number 4

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 12/4/1959, 3 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/4/1960, 3 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 5/6/1960, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/6/1960, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/9/1960, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1960, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/2/1960, 5 Tapes

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 5

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 12/2/1960, 2 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/2/1961, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/3/1961, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 5/5/1961, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/7/1961, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/8/1961, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1961, 3 Tapes

## Box Number 6

Executive Committee Continued, 12/1/1961, 1 Tape  
Executive Committee, 3/1/1962, 4 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/2/1962, 3 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 5/4/1962, 4 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/6/1962, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/7/1962, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/7/1962, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 5/3/1963, 4 Tapes, Tape 1 & 2 Sound is Bad

## Box Number 7

Executive Committee Continued, 5/3/1963, 2 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1963, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/6/1963, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/6/1963, 5 Tapes  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/13/1964, 3 Tapes  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/14/1964, 2 Tapes  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/15/1964, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/10/1964, 4 Tapes

## Box Number 8

Executive Committee Continued, 9/10/1964, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/11/1964, 8 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/4/1964, 8 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/4/1965, 9 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/5/1965, 4 Tapes

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box Number 9

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 3/5/1965, 7 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/11/1965, 10 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/9/1965, 8 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/10/1965, 7 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/10/1965, 2 Tapes

### Box Number 10

Executive Committee Continued, 12/10/1965, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1966, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/4/1966, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 5/20/1966, 7 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/15/1966, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/16/1966, 3 Tapes

### Box Number 11

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 9/16/1966, 4 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/2/1966, 11 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/31/1967, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/2/1967, 4 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/7/1967, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/8/1967, 5 Tapes

### Box Number 12

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 9/8/1967, 1 Tape  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1967, 7 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/7/1968, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/6/1968, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1968, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/6/1968, 3 Tapes

### Box Number 13

Tennessee Historical Commission Continued, 9/6/1968, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/3/1968, 3 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/7/1969, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/6/1969, 6 Tapes  
Historic Sites Advisory Committee, 6/23/1969, 7 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/11/1969, 7 Tapes

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 14

Executive Committee Continued, 9/11/1969, 1 Tape  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/12/1969, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 12/5/1969, 9 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/5/1970, 9 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/6/1970, 8 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/19/1970, 1 Tape

## Box Number 15

Executive Committee Continued, 6/19/1970, 9 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 9/24/1970, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/25/1970, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/4/1970, 6 Tapes

## Box Number 16

Executive Committee, 3/4/1971, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/5/1971, 6 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 6/17/1971, 4 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/18/1971, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/24/1971, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/3/1971, 5 Tapes  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1972, 4 Tapes

## Box Number 17

Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/16/1972, 7 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 10/20/1972, 6 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 10/19/1973, 5 Tapes

## Box Number 18

Tennessee Historical Commission, 10/19/1973, Tape #6  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 2/15/1974, 3 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/21/1974, 5 Tapes  
Tennessee Historical Commission, Horn vs. Droze, 1971, 1 Tape  
Local History Conference, 12/5/1980, 1 Tapes

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box Number 19

Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/11/1953, 3 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 12/3/1953, 1 Dictabelt  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/4/1953, 13 Dictabelt  
Executive Committee, 3/12/1954, 10 Dictabelt  
Executive Committee, 5/6/1954, 4 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/7/1954, 9 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 9/17/1954, 12 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 12/2/1954, 10 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/3/1954, 15 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 5/5/1955, 10 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/6/1955, 15 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 9/2/1955, 13 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1955, 14 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/2/1955, 15 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 3/2/1956, 13 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 5/3/1956, 9 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/4/1956, 15 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/14/1956, 11 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 12/6/1956, 13 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/7/1956, 13 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 3/1/1957, 10 Dictabelts  
Executive Committee, 5/2/1957, 11 Dictabelts  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/3/1957, 12 Dictabelts

### Box Number 20

Mrs. Smiley Blanton, Undated, 1 Audograph Disc  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/3/1954, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/8/1956, 2 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/13/1957, 6 Audograph Discs  
Highway Marker Committee, 12/5/1957, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/5/1957, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/6/1957, 8 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/6/1958, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/7/1958, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1958, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/4/1958, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/5/1958, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1959, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 4/30/1959, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historic Commission, 5/1/1959, 6 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/11/1959, 3 Audograph Discs

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 20 Cont.

Executive Committee, 12/3/1959, 7 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/4/1959, 6 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/4/1960, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 5/5/1960, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 5/6/1960, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/9/1960, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1960, 7 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/2/1960, 7 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/2/1961, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/3/1961, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 5/5/1961, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/7/1961, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/8/1961, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1961, 2 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/1/1962, 2 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/2/1962, 2 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 5/4/1962, 2 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/6/1962, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/7/1962, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/7/1962, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 5/3/1963, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1963, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/6/1963, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/6/1963, 3 Audograph Discs  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/13/1964, 2 Audograph Discs  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/14/1964, 1 Audograph Disc  
Conference on Historic Preservation, 4/15/1964, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/10/1964, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/11/1964, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/4/1964, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/4/1965, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 2 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 6/11/1965, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/9/1965, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/10/1965, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/10/1965, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1966, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/4/1966, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 5/20/1966, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/15/1966, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/16/1966, 4 Audograph Discs

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 21

Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/2/1966, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/31/1967, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/2/1967, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/7/1967, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/8/1967, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/1/1967, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/7/1968, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/8/1968, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 6/6/1968, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/5/1968, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/6/1968, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/13/1968, 2 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/7/1969, 3 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 6/6/1969, 3 Audograph Discs  
Historic Sites Advisory Committee, 6/23/1969, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/11/1969, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/12/1969, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/5/1969, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/5/1970, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/6/1970, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 6/19/1970, 10 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 9/24/1970, 7 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/25/1970, 4 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 12/4/1970, 6 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/4/1971, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/5/1971, 6 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 6/17/1971, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/18/1971, 5 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/24/1971, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 12/3/1971, 5 Audograph Discs  
Executive Committee, 3/3/1972, 4 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/16/1972, 7 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 10/20/1972, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 2/16/1973, 2 Audograph Discs – Both are Blank  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 10/19/1973, 6 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 2/15/1974, 3 Audograph Discs  
Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/21/1974, 4 Audograph Discs

# CONTAINER LIST

## Box Number 22

Executive Committee, 6/19/1970, 1 Audio Reel

Executive Committee, 9/24/1970, 1 Audio Reel

Tennessee Historical Commission, 9/25/1970, 1 Audio Reel

Executive Committee, 12/4/1970, 3 Reels

Executive Committee, 3/4/1971, 1 Audio Reel

Tennessee Historical Commission, 3/5/1971, 2 Audio Reels

Executive Committee, 6/17/1971, 1 Audio Reel

Tennessee Historical Commission, 6/18/1971, 2 Audio Reels