Tennessee's Reconstruction Past: A Driving Tour
Tennessee’s Reconstruction Past: A Driving Tour introduces you to one of the most significant and compelling periods in Tennessee history: the years immediately after the American Civil War, from 1865 to 1875.

The end of the Civil War in 1865 meant the reunification of Tennessee within the United States of America. Tennessee became the first former Confederate state to rejoin the Union in 1866. But reunifying Tennesseans at the local level took years. Some citizens even organized groups to intimidate and terrorize their political opponents. The Ku Klux Klan, organized in 1868 in Pulaski, is merely the most infamous of those violent organizations.

The process of emancipation and the end of slavery started in Tennessee during the war itself since the Union army occupied and controlled vast areas of the state. Former slaves rushed with freedom to establish their own communities and institutions. Places such as New Providence, Promise Land, and Fredonia dotted the Tennessee map. Hundreds of schools were established, and even more churches and cemeteries became permanent local institutions. African Americans created their own communities, began to exercise the right to vote (first granted to freedmen in 1867), and embraced the other promises of citizenship.

The years 1865–1875 shaped what Tennessee is today. A new state constitution was approved in 1870. Nine new counties were established between 1870 and 1871. New political leaders took center stage. New immigrants arrived and established their own distinctive communities. The contributions of these new migrants to Tennessee also helped create the state and society that we live in today.

This driving tour cannot encompass everything that occurred during Reconstruction, but we share many compelling examples and highlight places either open to the public or which may be seen from the roadway.

For those places marked as private, please respect property rights and view the sites from the sidewalk or roadside.
1. Pierce Chapel A.M.E. Cemetery  
Seaver Road at Horse Creek Road, Kingsport  
Newly freed slaves established Pierce Chapel A.M.E. Church (not extant) and cemetery at this spot by 1870. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR), the cemetery is associated with Jerome Pierce, who served with local Unionists in the Civil War. (Public)

2. Jonesboro Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church  
208 Woodrow Avenue, Jonesborough  
Located parallel to the railroad tracks, the Jonesboro Chapel A.M.E. Zion congregation dates to the 1860s. The present NR-listed gable-end frame building dates to 1904. (Private)

3. Warner Institute  
225-231 E. Main Street, Jonesborough  
In 1876, the Society of Friends (Quakers) established Warner Institute, a school for African Americans, adjacent to the city cemetery. Yardley Warner purchased the former Holston Male Institute and the Warner Institute began its mission of educating children and training schoolteachers. It remained in operation until 1910. (Private)

4. Andrew Johnson National Historic Site  
101 N. College Street, Greeneville  
Andrew Johnson, President of the United States 1865–1869, shaped the political process of Reconstruction for the entire nation. A former Democrat, he was a staunch Unionist and served as Vice President during Abraham Lincoln’s second term. Following Lincoln’s assassination in April 1865, Johnson became President. Radical Republicans differed with him politically, and the House of Representatives impeached him in 1868. However, the Senate refused to find Johnson guilty and did not remove him from office. The National Park Service site has several properties from Johnson’s life in Greeneville, including his home from 1851 to his death in 1875 and the cemetery where he is buried. (Public)

5. Wesley Heights Community  
Wesley Avenue and Clem Street, Greeneville  
This African American neighborhood in Greeneville has its roots in Reconstruction, and consists of four churches, a cemetery, and a school. Located in this neighborhood is the earliest known chartered African American church in Greeneville, Tabernacle Presbyterian Church (715 Wesley Ave), which dates to 1867. Also located in the community are Jones Memorial AME Zion Church (201 Clem St, established 1870), Tate Chapel United Methodist Church (710 Wesley Ave, established 1875), Friendship Baptist Church (343 Davis St, established 1894), and Wesley Cemetery (Floral St, chartered as Pleasant Hill Cemetery in 1886). ( Churches are private; cemetery is public)

6. Rogersville Riot of 1867  
Town Square, Rogersville  
The 1867 gubernatorial campaign between Emerson Etheridge of the Conservative Republicans and incumbent William G. Brownlow of the Radical Republicans was violent. Competing rallies in Rogersville on July 23rd resulted in shots being fired. Two men – one black and one white – died at the scene, while several others were wounded. The New York Times reprinted an article from a Nashville newspaper about the event. (Public)

7. Price Public School and Community Center  
203 Spring Street, Rogersville  
In 1868, Alexander Fain, Jordan Netherland, Albert Jones, and Nathaniel Mitchell acquired this property and founded the first school built for African Americans in Rogersville. The current structure, an NR-listed school built in 1922, stands at the same location. Today the school site hosts a community center and a museum about African American history, especially Swift College, established by the Presbyterian Church in the 1880s. (Public)

8. Glenmore Mansion  
1280 N. Chucky Pike, Jefferson City  
The NR-listed Glenmore Mansion was built in 1868–1869 for John Roper Branner, president of the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, and is considered one of the region’s best examples of Second Empire design. Following Branner’s death in 1869, his widow Deborah and his brother, Joseph Branner, operated the Branner Institute for Young Ladies in the mansion throughout the 1870s. (Public)

9. Boyd Chapel United Methodist Church  
1918 School Street, Jefferson City  
In 1867, John Roper Branner deeded land to this local African American congregation for their church. The first pastor was Rev. Charles Mayes, a former slave and later Presiding Elder for the Holston Conference. The church is associated with two famous African American artists, brothers Beauford and Joseph Delaney, who attended here when their father, Rev. John Delaney, was pastor. (Private)
10. Bethel Presbyterian Church
130 W. Meeting Street, Dandridge
Bethel Presbyterian Church, part of a NR historic district, was started by former members of Hopewell Presbyterian Church in 1868. In 1880 they commissioned Thomas Fain to build the sanctuary now standing on this site. (Private)

11. New Salem Baptist Church
601 Eastgate Road, Sevierville
This NR-listed church is one of the most significant buildings constructed by Isaac Dockery, well-known African American brick mason and builder. Dockery built it in 1886 as a Union Church for all African American congregations to use. It became New Salem Baptist in 1893. (Private)

12. Knoxville College
901 Knoxville College Drive, Knoxville
After Reconstruction ended, the United Presbyterian Church established this college in 1875. Its roots date to an 1864 mission school in Knoxville headed by R.J. Cresswell. Reconstruction-era buildings at this NR-listed campus include McKee Hall (1876, 1895) and the President’s House (circa 1880, 1905). (Public)

13. Freedmen’s Mission Historic Cemetery
1111 College Street, Knoxville
College Campus, Knoxville
Also known over the years as Knoxville College Cemetery, Fourth United Presbyterian Church Cemetery, and College Street Cemetery, this site is the final resting place for hundreds of African Americans. Samuel Johnson, former slave of President Andrew Johnson, is buried here. Other prominent burials include Laura Cansler, Knoxville’s first African American teacher, who opened a school for free blacks in 1863 and continued it through the Reconstruction years. (Public)

14. Old Gray Cemetery
543 N. Broadway NE, Knoxville
Established in 1850, this NR-listed cemetery is the final resting place for several Reconstruction leaders: Governor William G. Brownlow; Thomas A.R. Nelson, attorney for President Andrew Johnson during the impeachment trial; and William Heiskell, Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives, 1865–1866. (Public)

15. National Cemetery
939 Tyson Street, Knoxville
Established by Major Gen. Ambrose Burnside after the siege of Knoxville and Battle of Fort Sanders, this NR-listed cemetery is located adjacent to Old Gray Cemetery. It became the area’s primary site for the commemoration of Union soldiers following the Civil War. Several groupings of USCT burials exist at this site, as well as veteran burials from other wars. (Public)

16. Cal Johnson Park
507 Hall of Fame Drive, Knoxville
Established in 1922 and named for Caldonia Fackler “Cal” Johnson, this park commemorates the achievements of one of Knoxville’s notable African American businessmen. Born in slavery in 1844, Johnson established his first business—a saloon—by 1879. Johnson also owned the only horse racing track in Knoxville, and served as Alderman from 1883–1885. A historic marker for William Yardley, the first African American in Tennessee to run for governor (1876), is also located here. (Public)

17. Beck Cultural Exchange Center
1927 Dandridge Avenue, Knoxville
The Beck Cultural Exchange Center interprets African American life in Knoxville and the region. In addition to their permanent and feature exhibits, the Beck Center is also a research center, with information on local churches, schools, clubs, and other cultural institutions. (Public)

18. Anderson Hall, Maryville College
502 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville
Built in 1870 with funds contributed in part by the Freedman’s Bureau, Anderson Hall is named for Presbyterian minister Isaac Anderson. Maryville College was the only college in Tennessee to admit both African Americans and whites until the General Assembly passed a law in 1901 prohibiting interracial education. (Public)

Hwy. 58, across from E. Tennessee Technology Park (formerly K-25 Plant), Oak Ridge
The Wheat community disbanded in 1942 when the United States government purchased the land as part of the Manhattan Project. As a result, the slave cemetery was largely (continued)
20. National Campground
1849 King Road, Greenback
Religious camp meetings have been held at the National Campground in Loudon County since 1873, when individuals from Presbyterian; Cumberland Presbyterian; Baptist; Methodist Episcopal Church, South; Friends (Quakers); and Methodist Episcopal congregations gathered at the spot to hold annual revivals together. The first revival took place under a tent, and in 1874, the NR-listed open-shed tabernacle was built that is still in use today. (Public)

21. Loudon County Courthouse
601 Grove Street, Loudon
This Italianate-style courthouse, built in 1870, was one of four Tennessee courthouses designed by A.C. Bruce during his career. (Public)

22. Craigmiles House (Cleveland Public Library History Branch & Archives)
833 North Ocoee Street, Cleveland
Local business leader P.M. Craigmiles built this impressive Italianate home in 1866 as a sign that it was time for Cleveland to rebuild after the Civil War. The NR-listed building is now the home of the Cleveland Public Library’s History and Archives branch. (Public)

23. Wiley United Methodist Church
504 Lookout Street, Chattanooga
Image courtesy Andrew Jameson at Wikimedia Commons.
This African American congregation dates to circa 1867, when it acquired an earlier church that stood at this site. The current NR-listed building dates to 1886. This location had been a Confederate hospital and then a Union military prison during the war. (Private)

24. Miller Plaza
910 Market Street, Chattanooga
Born in slavery in Georgia, William “Uncle Bill” Lewis came to Chattanooga in 1837 and was the town’s first African American blacksmith. He earned enough money to purchase his freedom as well as the freedom of his wife and other family members. Lewis focused on real estate following the war and became a wealthy man. His nephew, John S. Lovell, opened Mahogany Hall, which occupied the block where Miller Plaza is now located. (Private)

25. Cravens House
Lookout Mountain Road, Chattanooga
Robert Cravens, a prominent industrialist and iron manufacturer in Chattanooga, had his home destroyed during the Battles for Chattanooga. After the war, he and his family rebuilt their home and their lives. In 1868, Cravens revolutionized the iron business with the development of coke-fire plants, thus helping to revitalize Chattanooga’s postwar economy. The NR-listed home is part of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park. (Public)

26. Chattanooga National Cemetery
1200 Bailey Avenue, Chattanooga
Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas ordered the creation of the Chattanooga National Cemetery on December 25, 1863, to commemorate the Battles for Chattanooga that took place on November 23-25, 1863. The NR-listed cemetery is home to a monumental masonry archway, constructed circa 1880, which once served as the formal entry. Many USCT soldiers are buried here. (Public)

27. Gruetli Colony
Stoker-Stampfli Farm Museum, Swiss Colony Cemetery Road, Gruetli-Laager
Image courtesy Skye Marthaler at Wikimedia Commons.
Gruetli was established as a Swiss colony in 1869, and by the end of the 1870s, more than 100 Swiss families had migrated to Gruetli. The members of the Gruetli colony retained much of their Swiss culture, and school and church services were conducted in German well into the twentieth century. Remnants of the early years include the NR-listed Stoker-Stampfli Farm, home of the Grundy County Swiss Historical Society, and the Swiss Colony Cemetery (1869). (Public)

28. Pikeville A.M.E. Zion Church
321 Cumberland St, Pikeville
Built in approximately 1870, the Pikeville A.M.E. Zion Church may be the oldest rural African American church building in Tennessee. In addition to serving as a church, this NR-listed building also served as a school for African American children until a Rosenwald school for the community was built in 1925. (Private)
29. Egypt Alley Site
Depot St., McMinnville
*Image courtesy Leigh Ann Gardner.*
McMinnville’s substantial post-war African American community lived around the old town springs. Local African American stone mason Samuel Franklin Leftwich established a rock quarry at the site following the Civil War. The African American community at Egypt Alley consisted of a school and several churches, and the community thrived until urban renewal in the late 1960s and 1970s. Renowned twentieth-century journalist Carl T. Rowan grew up in Egypt Alley. *(Private)*

30. Samuel “Champ” Ferguson Gravesite, France Cemetery
11140 Monterey Hwy, Sparta
Samuel “Champ” Ferguson was a Confederate cavalry officer who surrendered to federal authorities in May 1865, only to be charged with more than fifty counts of murder. He was found guilty after a controversial trial and executed in Nashville on October 20, 1865, one of only two men executed for war crimes associated with the Civil War. *(Public)*

31. Clay County Courthouse
Public Square, Celina
In 1873, D.L. Dow built the Clay County Courthouse. Clay County is one of the “Reconstruction counties,” as it was formed in 1870. This NR-listed building is an excellent example of how Reconstruction politics impacted local towns and counties. *(Public)*

32. Free Hill Community
Free Hill Rd, north of Celina
This African American community was established before the Civil War by the freed slaves of Virginia Hill, who gave land for the establishment of the community. Following the war, it was a haven for freedmen, and consisted of two churches, several stores, and a NR-listed former Rosenwald school. *(Private)*

33. Overton County Courthouse
Court Square, Livingston
This 1868 courthouse, listed on the National Register, is the oldest standing courthouse in the region. Built by contractor Joe Copeland, it replaced the earlier Overton County Courthouse burned in the spring of 1865 by Confederates. It is an example of the civic rebuilding which took place throughout Tennessee during Reconstruction. *(Public)*

34. Alexandria City Cemetery for African Americans
Cemetery St, Alexandria
This NR-listed, circa-1869 cemetery, is southeast of the historic African American Seay Chapel United Methodist Church. The land for the black church, cemetery and a school was deeded to Seay Chapel in 1869. W.E.B. Du Bois taught school during the summers of 1886 and 1887 in Alexandria at Wheeler School, and he described his days there in his book, *The Souls of Black Folk.* *(Public)*

35. Rest Hill Cemetery
315 Trousdale Ferry Pk, Lebanon
Established between 1867 and 1869, this NR-listed cemetery marks an early African American neighborhood in Lebanon, one that formed during Reconstruction with the aid of the Freedman’s Bureau. *(Public)*

36. Pickett Chapel Methodist Church
209 East Market St, Lebanon
This NR-listed building was originally built in 1827 as a white Methodist church. In 1866, it became home to an African American congregation that named it Pickett Chapel Methodist Church. *(Private)*

37. Williamson Chapel C.M.E. Church
1576 Needmore Rd, Old Hickory
Williamson Chapel C.M.E. Church was established on a plantation belonging to Richard Mastman in 1850. The name comes from the founding pastor, Richard Williamson, and this congregation became the nucleus for the African American community of Needmore. In 1876, the congregation left the Methodist Episcopal Church South to join the C.M.E. church. Williamson Chapel and the adjacent Needmore School, built in 1936, are NR-listed. *(Private)*

38. Durham Chapel Baptist Church and Cemetery
5055 Old Hwy 31 E, Bethpage
Rev. Peter Vertrees, an African American pastor who founded a number of black churches in Middle Tennessee, established Durham Chapel Baptist Church in 1866. In 1870, the congregation erected the brick sanctuary which still stands and is in use. The cemetery was established circa 1870. The NR-listed Durham’s Chapel School, a Rosenwald Fund school built in 1923, is nearby. *(Church is private; Cemetery is public)*

(continued)
39. Bradley Academy Museum
415 South Academy St, Murfreesboro
Bradley Academy, Rutherford County’s first established school, began operation circa 1809 as a white school for boys. In 1884, it became the county’s first formal African American educational institution. The school remained open until desegregation and currently serves as a museum and community center. The current NR-listed building was built in 1917. Exhibits interpret African American life in Murfreesboro. (Public)

40. Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church
224 South Maney Ave, Murfreesboro
Established in 1866, the congregation is one of Murfreesboro’s oldest. In 1870, it hosted Tennessee’s third annual A.M.E. conference. The congregation met first in a building at State and Spring Streets and then moved to South Academy Street. In 1889, the church purchased this lot on South Maney Avenue, east of the Old City Cemetery, and built the current NR-listed brick building. (Private)

41. Stones River National Cemetery
2552 Old Nashville Hwy, Murfreesboro
Image courtesy Historic Murfreesboro Postcard Collection, donated by Ridley Wills, II.
The 111th United States Colored Infantry, under the supervision of Chaplain William Earnshaw, began to create this NR-listed cemetery in October 1865. The troops spent many months moving and re-burying more than 6,100 Union soldiers at the cemetery, of which 2,562 are unknown. A stone wall dating from the late 1860s surrounds the cemetery. (Public)

42. Evergreen Grave Yard
Northwest Broad St/Nashville Hwy, Murfreesboro
Image courtesy Leigh Ann Gardner.
Across the railroad tracks from the national battlefield is the historic Evergreen Grave Yard, part of the post-Civil War African American community called Cemetery. In the 1920s, the National Park Service acquired some of the community land to create Stones River National Battlefield. Two historic churches and a historic school building also mark Cemetery’s past. (Public)

43. Tennessee State Capitol
600 Charlotte Ave, Nashville
The State Capitol was the administrative center for Reconstruction in Tennessee. Within this National Historic Landmark, state officials abolished slavery and granted the right to vote to the freedmen. In 1867 the governor was authorized to declare martial law in counties where Ku Klux Klan violence was rampant. (Public)

44. Tennessee State Museum
505 Deaderick St, Nashville
The Tennessee State Museum interprets state history from prehistoric times through the twentieth century. A permanent exhibit addresses the Civil War and Reconstruction era, exploring the way in which Reconstruction shaped the Tennessee of today. (Public)

45. Fort Negley
1100 Fort Negley Blvd, Nashville
Built in large part by African American laborers, Fort Negley was a Union fortification completed in 1862. By 1864, African American troops were part of the garrison, playing a key role in the Battle of Nashville. Federal forces occupied the fort until 1867. Two years later, Nathan Bedford Forrest led Ku Klux Klan members on a public march to the fort, where they burned their robes and disbanded. (Public)

46. Fisk University
1000 17th Ave, Nashville
Fisk University was incorporated in August 1867 and is the successor to the Fisk Free Colored School, established in January 1866 near the downtown railroad tracks. Named for Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, the university is renowned for its liberal arts programs. The Fisk Jubilee Singers, a group formed in 1871 to raise much-needed funds for the school, toured the U.S. and Europe. Their efforts provided funding for Jubilee Hall (1873–1876), Fisk’s first permanent structure and a National Historic Landmark. (Public)

47. Mount Ararat Cemetery
630 Orr Ave, Nashville
Image courtesy Historic Murfreesboro Postcard Collection, donated by Ridley Wills, II.
In 1869, two African American benevolent groups, the Sons of Relief and the Benevolent Society, established this cemetery, where hundreds were buried over the next two generations. Prominent African Americans such as Rev. Nelson Merry and Dr. Robert F. Boyd are buried here. (Public)

48. Roger Williams University and American Baptist College
1800 Baptist World Center Dr, Nashville
Roger Williams University, established in 1864 as a freedmen’s college, educated African American Baptist ministers. After meeting in different locations in Nashville, in 1874–1875, a new campus was
started on Hillsboro Road. The college used different locations for classes until 1874-1875, when they raised enough funds to purchase land for a new campus on Hillsboro Road. Roger Williams University ceased operations by 1929 and was merged into American Baptist College, which was established in 1921. (Public)

49. Vanderbilt University
2201 West End Ave, Nashville
The Methodist Episcopal Church, South chartered Central University in 1872. The board of trustees changed the name to Vanderbilt University following an initial donation of $500,000 to the school by Cornelius Vanderbilt. (Public)

50. Harding Cabin at Belle Meade Plantation
5025 Harding Pk, Nashville
After the Civil War, this log cabin was home to Robert “Bob” Green, a former slave who had come to Belle Meade before the war to work with the horses. Green became an expert in thoroughbreds and in horse training, and by 1879, he was the highest paid worker on the farm. It is largely due to his knowledge and expertise that Belle Meade became famed for its horses and thoroughbreds. (Public)

51. Toussaint L’Ouverture Cemetery
Del Rio Pk and Hillsboro Rd, Franklin
Although the oldest burial here probably dates to 1869, the NR-listed Toussaint L’Ouverture County Cemetery Company of Williamson County was not officially incorporated until 1884. It is the final resting place for USCT veterans and Reconstruction leader A.N.C. Williams, who operated a store for 64 years in Franklin. (Public)

52. McLemore House Museum
446 11th Ave North, Franklin
Harvey McLemore, born into slavery, was able to purchase four lots in an area of Williamson County known as Hard Bargain. His home, built in 1880 and now NR-listed, remained in his family until 1997. It is now operated by the African American Heritage Society of Williamson County. (Open by appointment)

53. St. Paul A.M.E. Church
405 Church St, Columbia
The congregation for this church predates the Civil War, and they originally met in the basement of the white Methodist Episcopal Church. After the Civil War, the congregation established the first A.M.E. congregation in Maury County. The church erected their first sanctuary on this site in 1870. In 1888, the congregation opened a school for the African American children of the community. (Private)

54. Mount Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church
218 E. 8th St, Columbia
Edmund Kelly, ordained minister and slave, established this church, the first black Baptist congregation in the state, in 1843. The congregation moved to this location in 1885 and constructed the present building at that time. It is considered the “mother church” of a number of African American Baptist churches in the area. (Private)

55. Canaan A.M.E. Church
3046 Ashwood Rd, Columbia
The congregation established this church in circa 1870, and the adjoining cemetery was in use by the 1870s. The church served the former slaves from nearby plantations. A New Deal-era school was also located at the site. (Private)

56. Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church
311 Mill St, Pulaski
This congregation is one of the earliest African American congregations in Giles County, dating to circa 1873, and was the first A.M.E. church in Giles County. A school for African Americans met in the basement of the church until Bridgeforth School, a Rosenwald school, was built in 1927–1928. The present NR-listed building was constructed in 1925 following a fire. (Private)

57. Happy Hill Missionary Baptist Church
Happy Hill Rd and Church St, Lynnville
Happy Hill Missionary Baptist Church makes its own statement of pride and place, not only through its twin towers but also its location within Giles County. The county was notorious as the birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan, and black residents had ample reason to establish their own rural enclaves within the county. Built in 1901 to serve an earlier congregation, Happy Hill overlooks Lynnville; the distance between Happy Hill and the town physically documents the chasm that developed between whites and blacks in the Jim Crow South. (Private)

58. Matt Gardner Homestead Museum
110 Dixon Town Rd, Elkton
Former slave Matt Gardner was a leader in the local community, responsible for building the first school for African Americans in Elkton in the 1880s. This NR-listed property is home to a museum that interprets nineteenth-century African American life, particularly the transition from slavery to freedom. (Public)
59. **Coffee County Courthouse**  
Public Square, Manchester  
Built in 1871 by an unknown architect, the Coffee County Courthouse was listed on the National Register in 1974. Built in the Italianate style, this courthouse replaced a courthouse built in 1837, which had burned in December 1870. *(Public)*

60. **University of the South**  
735 University Ave, Sewanee  
Although the cornerstone for the University of the South was laid in 1860, the Civil War stopped all construction, delaying its opening for several years. In 1868, Bishops Charles Quintard and William Green formally established the university. Former Confederate officers, such as Brig. Gen. Josiah Gorgas and Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, were among the early faculty at the school. *(Public)*

61. **Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church**  
305 W. Maple St, Fayetteville  
This 1873 congregation is one of Fayetteville’s oldest, established by former slaves and the children of former slaves. The first pastor was Rev. D.T. Carroway. The congregation meets in a NR-listed sanctuary that dates to 1902. *(Private)*

62. **St. Paul A.M.E. Church**  
521 W. College St, Fayetteville  
This church was established in 1824 in Fayetteville as the “African Church,” located about three-quarters of a mile from the present location, which the congregation purchased in 1867. In 1913, the NR-listed building was remodeled in a Gothic style. *(Private)*

63. **Sacred Heart Church**  
300 Church St, Loretto  
German Catholics from Cincinnati formed the Sacred Heart Church in 1871. The German Catholic Homestead Society established German Catholic settlements in Loretto, Lawrenceburg, St. Joseph, and St. Mary. This NR-listed building was constructed in 1911 to replace the frame building built in 1872. *(Private)*

64. **Promise Land Community**  
Promise Land Rd, Charlotte  
Former slaves, who had worked in local iron mills, established Promise Land in c. 1870 when they purchased 1000 acres. Community members built a church and school by 1881, and by the early 1900s, the community had several stores, two churches, and a school, which is NR-listed. *(Open to the public by appointment)*

65. **Golden Hill Cemetery**  
Seven Mile Ferry Rd, Clarksville  
*Image courtesy Leigh Ann Gardner.*  
This NR-listed cemetery was established in 1863 southeast of the central business district in Clarksville and only a quarter mile from the white Greenwood Cemetery. Stephen Cole, a former slave, purchased the land and is buried in the cemetery, along with several USCT veterans. The cemetery is one of the first incorporated African American businesses in Clarksville. *(Public)*

66. **Reconstruction-era Churches**  
Main and Franklin St, Clarksville  
*Image courtesy Leigh Ann Gardner.*  
Churches built during this period include First Presbyterian Church (1876; NR-listed), built in the Gothic Revival style, located at 213 Main Street; Trinity Episcopal Church (1873–1877; NR-listed), located at 317 Franklin Street; St. Peter A.M.E. Church (ca. 1873; NR-listed), located at 518 Franklin Street; and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (1880), located at 709 Franklin Street. *(Private)*

67. **New Providence**  
Greenhill Baptist Church, 311 Walker St, Clarksville  
*Image courtesy Antoinette van Zelm.*  
New Providence grew out of Clarksville’s contraband camps of the Civil War and became one of the city’s largest African American neighborhoods. Greenhill Baptist Church congregation (ca. 1865) is one of the oldest institutions in New Providence. *(Private)*

68. **Fort Donelson National Cemetery**  
120 Fort Donelson Shores Rd, Dover  
The Fort Donelson National Cemetery was established in 1867. The cemetery contains a number of unknown Union soldier burials as well as several USCT burials. The cemetery superintendent’s lodge, built in 1876, remains and is located inside the main gate of the cemetery. *(Public)*

69. **Barrs Chapel C.M.E. Historic District**  
5560 Briarpatch Lake Rd, Midway  
The NR-listed Barrs Chapel C.M.E. Historic District is one of the oldest Reconstruction-era African American communities in rural Henry County. The first church building was built in 1864 on land donated by white planter John Barr; the area became the center of an African American community that flourished during Reconstruction. The cemetery dates to circa 1870, and the school was built by 1906. The cemetery contains marked and unmarked graves, with at least 250 burials. *(Cemetery is public)*

(continued)
70. Moore Chapel-Flatwoods Cemetery and Friendship C.M.E. Church
Manley Chapel Rd, McIlwain
The Moore Chapel-Flatwoods Cemetery and Friendship C.M.E. Church are a part of the African American community of McIlwain established during Reconstruction. The community consisted of a cemetery (circa 1881), church (congregation established circa 1879; current building dates to 1989), and a school. (Cemetery is public)

71. Doe Creek School and Cemetery
2330 Doe Creek Rd, Sardis
This NR-listed log building was built in circa 1870 and served the community as a school and church for generations. It is an excellent example of rural public schools built during Reconstruction. (Public)

72. Riverside Cemetery
300 Riverside Dr, Jackson
Established by the City of Jackson in 1824, approximately 4,000 people are buried at the NR-listed Riverside Cemetery. The cemetery was expanded in the 1870s as Jackson began to grow due to the growth of the railroad. Bishop Isaac Lane, an African American bishop of the C.M.E. Church and founder of Lane College in 1882, is buried here. (Public)

73. Lane College
545 Lane Ave, Jackson
First established in 1882 as the “C.M.E. High School,” Lane College was founded by Bishop Isaac Lane, and the first principal was his daughter, Jennie E. Lane. The school changed its name to Lane Institute in 1884 and became Lane College in 1896. The college is listed in the NR. (Public)

74. Cloverdale Cemetery and Polk-Clark School
Northwest Front St and 1041 S. Harris St, Milan
Cloverdale Cemetery and Polk-Clark School are key institutions in Milan’s African American past. The cemetery (ca. 1870) contains a number of veteran burials. The roots of the NR-listed school date to 1874, when the Milan Colored School opened near Cloverdale Cemetery. After a concerted effort by the local African American community, a Rosenwald school opened in 1926. (Cemetery is public)

75. Freed House
304 E. Eaton St, Trenton
Julius Freed, a German Jewish immigrant, moved to Gibson County following the Civil War and established a store on the square in Trenton with Julius Ebert. Freed went on to invest in real estate, operate a cotton gin, and become a city alderman. Freed’s NR-listed home, built in 1871, also served as a synagogue for the local Jewish community. (Open by appointment)

76. Temple Adas Israel
Washington and College St, Brownsville
Brownville’s Jewish community established a synagogue in 1867, meeting in local homes until a permanent synagogue could be built in 1882. The congregation also established Adas Israel Cemetery, which is still in use, in Brownsville in 1878. Temple Adas Israel is NR-listed. (Private)

77. Woodlawn Baptist Church and Cemetery
363 Woodlawn Rd, South of TN-19, Nutbush
Famed Baptist preacher Hardin Smith, born into slavery in Virginia, established this African American congregation in a brush arbor in 1866. Smith and his followers established a number of churches in West Tennessee, including Elam Baptist Church and Spring Hill Baptist Church. The NR-listed sanctuary dates to 1927-1928. The cemetery contains burials dating to 1870 and is the oldest post-Civil War African American cemetery documented in Haywood County. (Private)

78. United Sons and Daughters of Charity Lodge Hall
322 E. McNeal St, Bolivar
Although this NR-listed building dates to 1909, the United Sons and Daughters of Charity, a local benevolent group for African Americans, formed a lodge in 1873. As with many other benevolent groups in the state, the United Sons and Daughters provided sickness and burial benefits for the members. (Private)

79. Purdy Wesleyan Black Church
Hurst Ln, Purdy
Beginning in 1866, the Wesleyan Methodist Church (Indiana Conference) organized a mission in Purdy. Initial efforts were aimed at the white populace; however, within the first year, the school established by the Wesleyan Church served both African American children and white children. Although approximately six to eight Wesleyan churches, white and African American, were founded in McNairy County, only two currently remain: this one at Purdy and one at Bethel Springs. (Private)

80. Hardeman County Courthouse and Civil War Monument
Court Square, Bolivar
The NR-listed Hardeman County Courthouse, built by Willis, Sloan, and Trigg, dates to 1868. Five years later, citizens commissioned L.H. & J.B. Fuller of St. Louis to build this classically inspired monument to the Confederacy and its soldiers. (Public)
81. Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church and Cemetery
Pledge St, Grand Junction
In 1872, the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church was organized in Grand Junction in a brush arbor until the church building could be completed. The site is also the probable location of a Civil War contraband camp which became the future African American neighborhood in Grand Junction. The cemetery contains a number of burials from the late nineteenth century, and many of the headstones denote fraternal membership in organizations such as the Mosaic Templars. (Church is private; Cemetery is public)

82. Gray’s Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery
3141 Inglewood Pl., Arlington
Gray’s Creek Baptist Church was established in 1843 by Joseph Harris, an African American minister, and is considered Shelby County’s oldest African American congregation. Harris, who was born into slavery in Virginia, moved to Shelby County after gaining his freedom in 1832. Following the end of slavery, the church served as a school for local African American children, and it remained a school until 1918. A cemetery, also considered one of the oldest in Shelby County, is located adjacent to the church. (Church is private; Cemetery is public)

83. Bartlett Museum/Nicholas Gotten House
2969 Court St, Bartlett
Nicholas Gotten, a German immigrant, came to Bartlett in 1860. During the Civil War, he served in the Confederate army. Upon returning to Bartlett, he worked as a miller and ginner, and invented and patented an improved cotton feeder in 1881. He built his home in 1871; this NR-listed property is the Bartlett Museum. (Public)

84. Beale Street
Beale St, Memphis
Beale Street, a National Historic Landmark, was the cultural center and headquarters for civil rights, politics, and religion for African Americans in Memphis following the Civil War. Between 1866 and 1874, there were twenty African American-owned businesses and a Freedman’s Bank in the area. NR-listed First Baptist Church on Beale was built between 1866 and 1880 and remains on the street. (Public)

85. Collins Chapel C.M.E. Church
678 Washington Ave, Memphis
The congregation at Collins Chapel C.M.E. Church dates to 1841, when a group of slaves began worshiping with white members of the First United Methodist Church. Within four years, the African Americans were meeting separately, and by 1859, the congregation was able to purchase the lot on which their current building now stands. Built in 1860, the NR-listed church building was named for white Rev. J.T.C. Collins; the original building burned during the Memphis Race Riot of 1866 and was then rebuilt. (Private)

86. Zion Christian Cemetery
1400 S. Parkway East, Memphis
In 1873, the United Sons of Zion, an African American fraternal group, purchased the land which is now known as the Zion Christian Cemetery. Burials began in 1876, and it is estimated that more than 30,000 African Americans are interred here, including Rev. Morris Henderson and Thomas Moss, one of the three men lynched in 1892 that led Ida B. Wells to begin her anti-lynching crusade. Zion Community Project, Inc., maintains the cemetery. (Public)

87. National Civil Rights Museum
450 Mulberry St, Memphis
The National Civil Rights Museum is located at the site of the Lorraine Motel, the place where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Although the bulk of the permanent exhibit focuses on the civil rights struggle in the twentieth century, several exhibits interpret the cult of resistance within slave communities as well as the rise of Jim Crow segregation in the South. (Public)

88. Fort Pickering
340 West Illinois Ave, Memphis
The Union army built Fort Pickering in Memphis in 1862. Over the course of the Civil War, almost 1,200 African American men enlisted in the Union army here. The site was also home to thousands of former slaves who left their plantations and came to work for the Federal forces. Following the war, an African American community grew up nearby. In 1866, it was the site of the Memphis Race Riot, a key event in Reconstruction history which led to a Congressional investigation. (Public)

89. Cotton Museum
65 Union Ave, Memphis
Located in the former Memphis Cotton Exchange building, the Cotton Museum not only tells the story of cotton’s importance to the region, but also interprets the history of the Delta region, and the region’s significance in American history. (Public)

90. Memphis National Cemetery
3568 Townes Ave, Memphis
Originally known as the Mississippi River National Cemetery, this NR-listed cemetery has many burials of USCT veterans. The cemetery is also the burial spot for the victims of the USS Sultana explosion, which killed more than 1,000 Union veterans, many of them former prisoners of war, on April 26, 1865. (Public)
91. Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
2634 Cames Ave, Memphis
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church was established in the Reconstruction era in 1879 and soon became a landmark in the community. Four years later, the congregation moved to its current location, where the church is an institutional anchor for Orange Mound, one of the nation’s first planned African American communities. (Private)

92. Alex Haley Museum and Interpretive Center
200 S. Church St, Henning
Will Palmer was born in 1867, the year African Americans received the right to vote. As a young man, he took advantage of his opportunities and built a successful lumber company business in Henning. In 1918-1919 he designed and constructed a new Bungalow-style home. A few years later his grandson, Alex Haley, came to live. Here on the front porch is where Haley first heard the stories of his family and how they emerged from emancipation and Reconstruction to become leading, respected citizens in Lauderdale County. (Public)

93. Confederate Cemetery & Monument
647 Edwards St, Union City
This 1869 monument to the Confederate dead is one of the earliest Confederate memorials erected in Tennessee. The NR-listed cemetery contains the graves of 29 unknown Confederate soldiers. The monument is an early example of the memorialization and increased reverence given to the Confederacy throughout Tennessee during the course of the late nineteenth century. (Public)