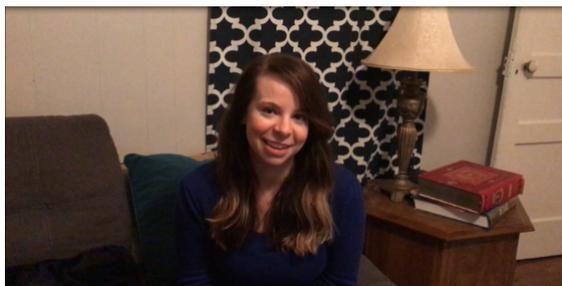




## COMMON BOND: A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017

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## Formers' Corner

Sara Beth Urban earned her M.A. in Public History at MTSU in 2013, after working for the CHP both as an undergraduate and graduate student. She currently works as the Middle Tennessee division manager for the [Tennessee Department of Tourist Development](#). [Click here](#) to view video.

## Scholars

The CHP's partnership with [Rubicon Heritage](#), an archaeology firm operating in Ireland and the United Kingdom, kicked into higher gear this past fall with the launching of the [Landscapes of Revolution](#) project. Established by Damian Shiels, Rubicon manager and specialist in conflict archaeology, this project seeks to identify sites and structures in the landscape dating from the time of Ireland's War of Independence, 1919-1921. To assist Shiels with this effort, Michael Fletcher, CHP graduate research assistant and Ph.D. student in the Public History program, is currently spending several months in County Cork, Ireland, fulfilling the residency requirement of the program. Michael will be drawing on the community outreach experiences he gained while working at the CHP on the Rutherford County Cemetery Survey and other projects.

Much like the Civil War in Tennessee, the Irish War of Independence comprised hundreds of events that took place on an intensely local level and involved families and communities in the conflict. The Landscapes of Revolution project is the first organized attempt to combine in-depth research into pension records and the Bureau of Military History Witness Statements with a



A full crowd attends Damian Shiels's introductory talk on the Landscapes of Revolution project in Midleton, County Cork, Ireland.

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Fletcher have conducted the first two of several community meetings to involve residents in the survey. The hope is that family stories and artifacts can supplement the scholarly research and fill out a more comprehensive picture of how the War of Independence played out on a local scale.—  
*Stacey Graham, research professor.*



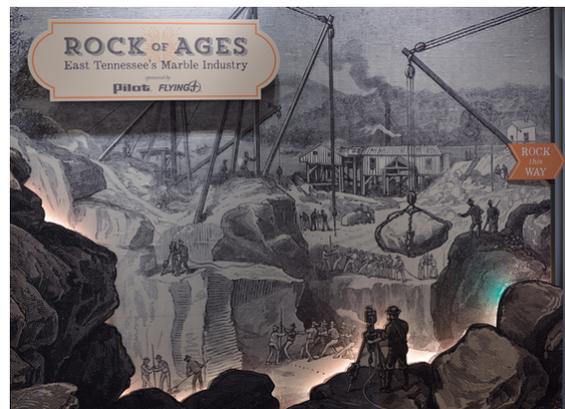
Our final anniversary event was held at the Parker's Crossroads Visitor Center. State Representative Steve McDaniel, second from left, serves on the TCWNHA Board of Advisors and welcomed guests to the commemoration.

Our hosts were all preservation partners who have worked closely with the Heritage Area since its designation by Congress in 1996: the [Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County](#), the [Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County](#), [Glen Leven Farm](#), the [Hiwassee River Heritage Center](#), the [East Tennessee History Center](#), and the [Parker's Crossroads Visitor Center](#).

We look forward to working with old and new partners as the Heritage Area enters its third decade. Our staff and students will continue to engage with citizens across the state to tell the whole story of the Civil War and Reconstruction in Tennessee. If you would like to partner with us, please drop us an e-mail at [hispres@mtsu.edu](mailto:hispres@mtsu.edu) or contact us via the Heritage Area's "[How We Can Help](#)" page. —*Antoinette van Zelm, assistant director.*

## Leaders

[Rock of Ages: East Tennessee's Marble Industry](#), an overview of the region's famous building stone and its significance in American history, would not have happened without the leadership of the CHP. At the exhibition opening on November 18, 2016, Cherel Henderson, director of the [East Tennessee Historical Society](#), thanked Dr. Carroll Van West and the CHP for being great colleagues. Guest curator Dr. Susan W. Knowles, whose 2011 MTSU dissertation provided the exhibition story line, said the real story was of a community



As one of the major partners for the Rock of Ages exhibition at the East Tennessee History Center,

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coming together to recognize and preserve a nearly forgotten aspect of its history.

The combined Knoxville Custom House, Post Office, and Federal Building (1874), which now houses the Museum of East Tennessee History, was the first federal building to use Tennessee marble as an exterior building stone. East Tennessee PBS produced video interviews for the exhibition, and the Tennessee Marble Company donated Tennessee pink marble stands for the exhibition panels throughout the gallery. On one wall of the exhibition is a huge map of historical quarry locations and the marble veins running through East Tennessee. Originally created by Zada Law at [MTSU's Geospatial Lab](#) for the CHP's 2013-2014 research survey funded by the Tennessee Historical Commission, the final version of the map was produced by Peter J. Lemiszki of the Tennessee Division of Geology and Adam Alfrey, exhibition curator.

Knowles offered special praise for the staff of the Museum of East Tennessee History, the [Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection](#), [Ijams Nature Center](#), [Candoro Arts & Heritage](#), the University of Tennessee's Department of Art and [Frank H. McClung Museum](#), and the many, many local marble-connected individuals who contributed historical objects and assisted with research to make the exhibition happen. Opening the same night was the Knoxville Museum of Art's marble-related permanent collection display and [The Quarry Project-Tennessee](#), a film and audio projection by Kate Katowski and Judd Mulkerin. *Rock of Ages* continues through April 2017.—  
*Susan Knowles, digital humanities research fellow.*

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## Upcoming

**February 17: Teaching with Primary Sources-MTSU Workshop**, “Defining Citizenship: Strategies for Teaching Civics with Primary Sources,” Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County.

**February 23: Teaching with Primary Sources-MTSU Workshop**, “Strategies for Finding and Using Primary Sources in Elementary Grades,” Martin Professional Development Center, Nashville.

**March 11: Teaching with Primary Sources-MTSU Workshop**, “Strategies for Using Text-Based Sources in the Elementary Classroom,” East Tennessee History Center, Knoxville.



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