



# BATTLE OF NASHVILLE TRUST

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been a true pleasure serving you as President of the Trust over the last few years. We have accomplished so much. Your Board has worked hard to make our protected sights better and to expand those for future generations. I am honored to be a part of our history to save history - it has been a lot of work but the results have been worth the effort. Our new president, Bill Ozier, will be serving with some new board members and our future is very bright. We will be adding more property in the near future and our membership has steadily grown as well as our financial contributions. Interest in the battle still remains very high and our website is the national reference for information.

It is time for me to step aside and allow others to carry on our mission to promote, protect and interpret the Battle of Nashville. Thank you for allowing me to serve as President. It has been a great honor. - James D. Kay, Jr.

[Read about the new President, Bill Ozier](#)

## UPCOMING EVENT

December 16 -- Tours of Shy's Hill 3:00 p.m. until dark

December 21 -- Jim Kay will speak on "Facts and Myths of Lt. Col. William Shy" at the Nashville Civil War Roundtable at Fort Negley. Food served at 6:00 p.m. Program begins at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

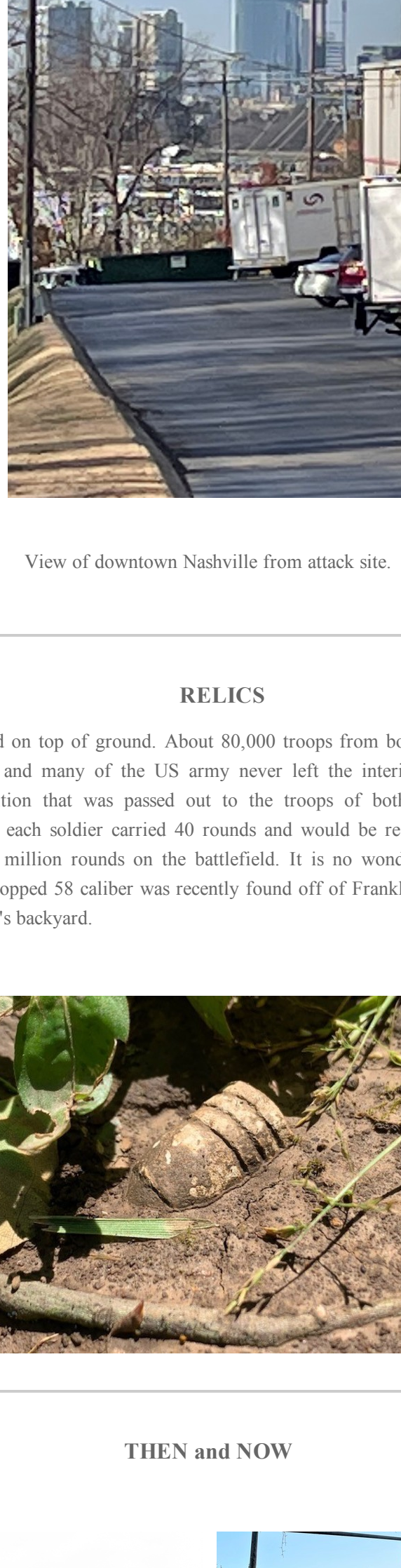
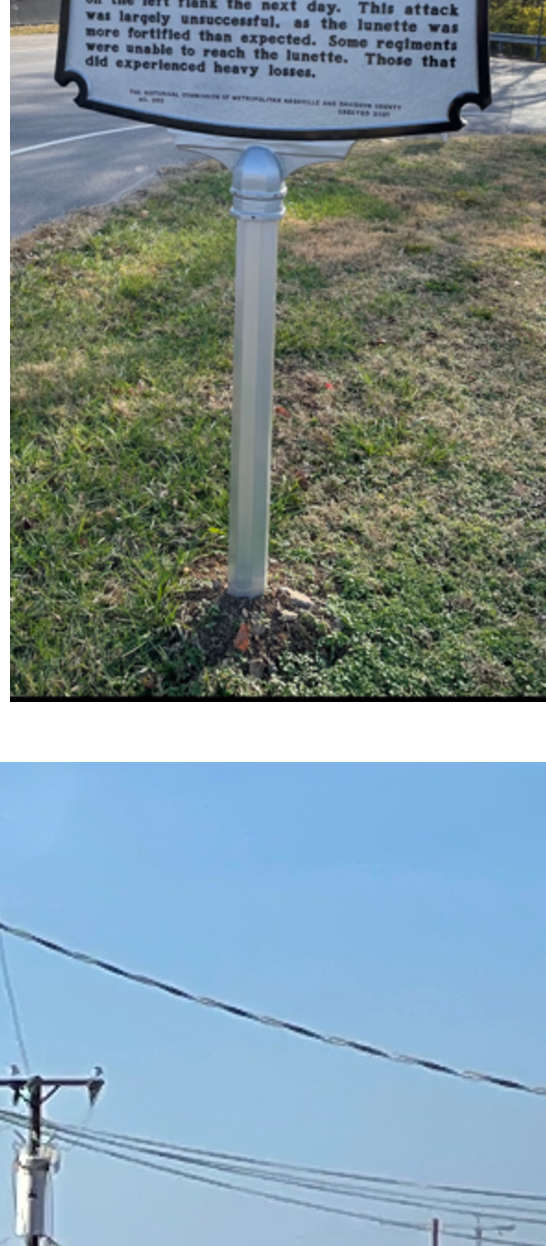


## NEW USCT MARKER INSTALLED NEAR GRANBURYS LUNETTE

On December 15, 1864 at 10:00 a.m. African American troops under the command of Colonel Thomas Morgan attacked southwest across this ground against the far-right flank of the Confederate army entrenched around Nashville. The first infantry line was the 14th U.S.C.T. followed by the 44th U.S.C.T. on the left and the 17th U.S.C.T. on the right. These units had no combat experience. The goal of the attack was to flank the Confederate line which was approximately 600 yards away. As the troops advanced and drove back Confederate picket lines, they were forced to stop the 20-foot-deep cut of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad. This cut was not recognized during pre-attack reconnaissance which also underestimated the strength of the Confederate line and a four-gun Confederate battery in the lunette occupied by Granbury's Confederate Brigade. The Confederates patiently held their fire until the U.S.C.T. units were trapped at the railroad while another Confederate battery was then posted further to the southwest across the railroad tracks and opened with canister fire. Granbury's Confederate infantry swung into a position across the mouth of the railroad cut to complete the trap. Many of the infantrymen jumped into the railroad cut to avoid the annihilating fire-only to be shot on the railroad tracks. The U.S.C.T. units were badly defeated in less than 10 minutes. Colonel William Shaffer, who had tactical command of the 17th U.S.C. T., lost 110 men and 7 officers, including his brother in law Captain Job Aldrich.

As this attack was ending, Lt. Col. Grosvenor was ordered by Colonel Morgan to attack the lunette on the right with the 18th Ohio and the 2nd Battalion of the 14th Army Corps. The lunette, part of which still stands, was a formidable position manned by about 300 Confederates. It was constructed of heavy logs surmounting a parapet protected by palisades of timber. The 18th Ohio made little progress and the 2nd Battalion was stampeded. The 18th Ohio suffered 60 casualties. Grosvenor's relative, Captain Ebenezer Grosvenor, jumped on top of the lunette while firing his revolver and was killed. Lt. Col. Grosvenor, displeased with this unit, reported that the 2nd Battalion were "mostly new conscripts, convalescents and bounty jumpers" and they "behaved in the most cowardly and disgraceful manner." This attack ended the fighting in this area for the day.

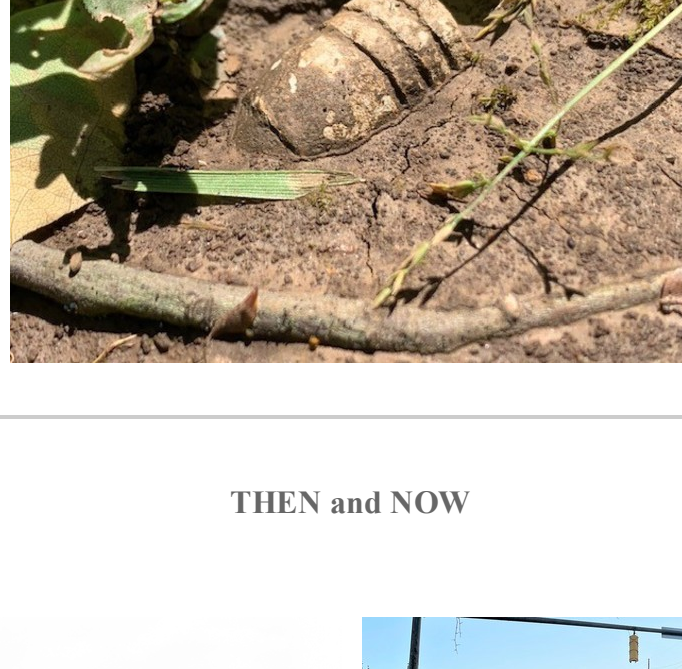
A new historical marker has been erected to preserve this history. Thanks to Gary Burke and Metro Historical for their work in making this happen.



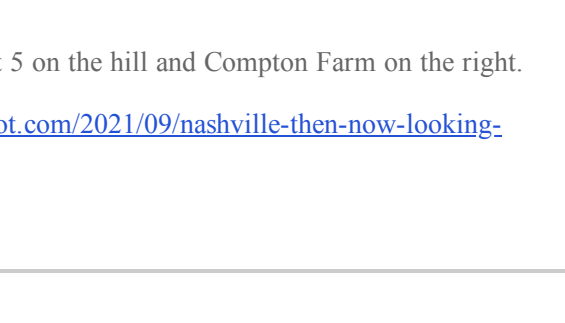
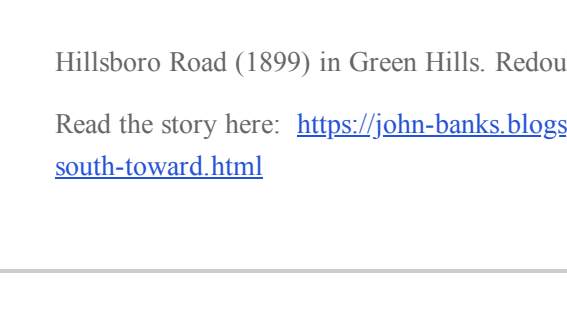
View of downtown Nashville from attack site.

## RELICS

Relics still found on top of ground. About 80,000 troops from both armies were at the Battle of Nashville and many of the US army never left the interior fortifications. The amount of ammunition that was passed out to the troops of both sides is staggering. Generally speaking, each soldier carried 40 rounds and would be resupplied as necessary. That equals over 3 million rounds on the battlefield. It is no wonder that these are still everywhere. This dropped 58 caliber was recently found off of Franklin Road on top of the ground in a member's backyard.



## THEN and NOW



Hillsboro Road (1899) in Green Hills. Redoubt 5 on the hill and Compton Farm on the right.

Read the story here: <https://john-banks.blogspot.com/2021/09/nashville-then-now-looking-south-toward.html>

Here are just a few of the new Battle of Nashville stories which have been posted on our website since the last newsletter:

1. Thanks to the generosity of a special donor, BONT is the owner of a replica cannon barrel which will be re-fitted and placed on one of the battlefield properties. <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/news/>
2. The combat areas of the battlefield were not photographed in 1864, but BONT has acquired a rare set of 1899 photos showing how many of the sites may have appeared at the time. <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/features/>
3. Numerous additions to the Shy's Hill page reveal even more about this iconic part of the battlefield, such as new details and photos of Colonel Shy himself, and the controversy and mystery surrounding the famous Howard Pyle painting of the charge at the Hill. <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/shys-hill/>
4. The replica Napoleon 6-pounder field gun that was once on top of Shy's Hill has been repaired and reinstalled, this time behind the remnants of the walls of Redoubt No. 1. <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/shys-hill/>
5. The Metro Historical Commission has erected the first-ever historical marker recognizing the role of African American troops who fought in the Battle of Nashville with the United States Colored Troops. <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/events/>

## ON GIVING

The cost of maintaining the grounds, displays, interpretive signage, trails, and all other aspects of battlefield preservation, are expensive, and BONT has an ongoing "GOFUNDME" fundraiser which is critical to our never-ending work of maintaining portions of the battlefield in the midst of urban growth. See link at <https://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/>

The Trust is manned by volunteers who give their important time at no cost. We have virtually no overhead and devote all donations to the protection and improvement of our sites. All contributions are deductible and we are so grateful to all of those that contribute. Please consider an end of the year gift.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder to make sure that you renew your BNT membership when it expires. If you are not sure when it expires send me an email at [wnozier@bellsouth.net](mailto:wnozier@bellsouth.net) and I will check for you. You can renew on our website at [battleofnashvilletrust.org](http://battleofnashvilletrust.org). Also I want to encourage every member to recruit at least one new member by the end of the year. I have challenged the Board members to do the same.

Bill Ozier

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

At the June Board meeting, four new members of the Board were elected to serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 2022. They are:

[Brandon Hulette](#)

Brandon is a native of Brentwood and currently lives in Franklin. He has had interest in the Battles of Franklin and Nashville since he was a child. He has been a member of the Vanderbilt faculty since 2017 where he has appointments in both the Department of Military Science and in the College of Arts and Science. He teaches courses in the ROTC program. He has taught seminars on Hood's Tennessee campaign and the Fortifications of Civil War Nashville. He currently has a grant to use new technologies to conduct studies of various sites related to the Battle of Nashville. He is a graduate of the Army's Military History Instructor course and holds a commission as a LTC in the U.S. Army Reserve.

[Dwight Pittman](#)

Dwight founded RegisterBlast which relies on its clients to place a footprint on its products and services. He previously spent 10 years with an educational company starting in customer support and advancing to COO. He has a long standing interest in the Civil War and the Battle of Nashville.

[Andy Blair](#)

Andy has several years of experience working for historic sites in Nashville with ties to the Battle of Nashville. He spent several years at Belle Meade Mansion and is currently employed at Traveler's Rest. He has many acquaintances in the reenactment community.

Finally the following people were elected to serve as officers for 2022:

President—Bill Ozier

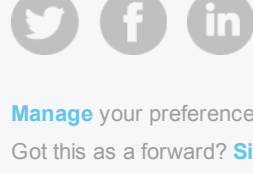
Vice-President—Ellen McClanahan

Secretary—James Atkinson

Treasurer—Sidney McAlister

[www.battleofnashvilletrust.org](http://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org)

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