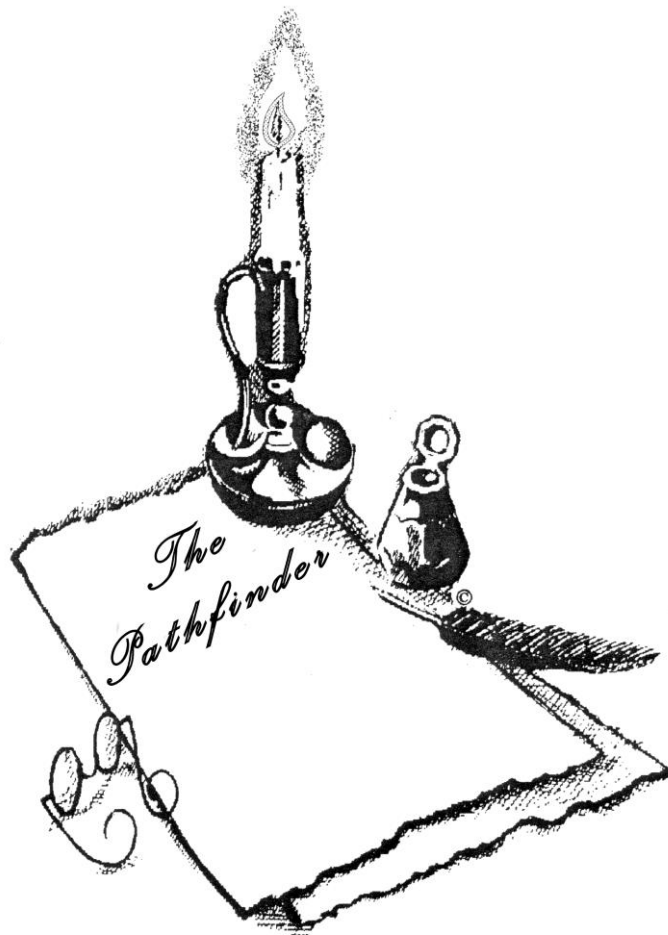


# *The Pathfinder*

A Quarterly Publication of the Grundy County Historical Society

Grundy County, Tennessee



Vol. 25 Number 1 – March 2020

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Oliver Jervis

This issue of *The Pathfinder* has been edited by Phyllis Dent. Phyllis retired as Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court (Grundy County) in 2017 and began working as a volunteer in our library and research center in 2019. She had a long and impressive career in the office of Clerk and Master, serving as Deputy Clerk and Master from 1981 to 1995 and as Clerk and Master from 1995 until her retirement. We appreciate the work Phyllis has done on this issue and look forward to her continued effort in the library and research center.

We continue search for a permanent editor of *The Pathfinder*. Anyone having an interest in the editorship of *The Pathfinder* or knows of someone who would like to become the editor should contact me at the Heritage Center or telephone me on my cell phone at (423) 667-7488.

The next issue of *The Pathfinder* will be June 2020. Material for the June 2020 issue should be sent to the Heritage Center library at [heritagelibrary@blomand.net](mailto:heritagelibrary@blomand.net).

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## GRUNDY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HERITAGE CENTER

## MISSION STATEMENT AND PLAN

## Mission Statement

**The mission of Grundy County Historical Society Heritage Center is to inspire all of the people and communities of the South Cumberland Plateau, its coves and valleys to understand who they are and how they are connected in history with interrelated pathways.**

### **Mission Plan**

**The plan of the Grundy County Historical Society Heritage Center is to enhance knowledge of the cultural, historical and intellectual background of the region for the benefit of the residents, their cultural and economic interests. The plan includes the development of a research library for family, cultural and historical research with sources and proper equipment to access sources for such research. The plan further includes as its central structure to develop within the Heritage Center portrayal of five historical developments that have had significant impact on national or international history.**

### **Historical Themes with Impact on National or International History**

(1) the Chickamauga (Chikamaka) separation from the Cherokees and extension of the western theater of the Revolutionary War by the Chickamauga (Chikamaka) to the pioneer settlements in Middle Tennessee utilizing ancient trails across the plateau to reach their adversaries and the aftermath leading to and including the Trail of Tears, time frame 1750 – 1850;

(2) the origin of the New South with the innovation of the production of coke from bituminous coal with sufficient heat intensity to smelt iron into steel and the extension of mining activities from Coal Bank to Tracy City to Coalmont to Palmer;

(3) the social experiment of the Republic of Switzerland to relieve itself from chronic economic depression by establishing a colony in the United States for willing citizens to emigrate;

(4) the extension of the Chautauqua Sunday School movement to the South at Monteagle known as The Chautauqua of the South, and

(5) the labor and civil rights training activities at Highlander Folk School at Summerfield acclaimed to be one of the seven most important sites in the civil rights movement.

### **Other Important Historical Themes**

The plan further includes depiction of the geological and natural history of the region, the Beersheba Spring story as the cradle of development of the region, and the social, cultural and economic history of the people and their institutions on the plateau and within its coves and valleys.

### **Coordination and Space**

Primary emphasis within the Heritage Center is to coordinate exhibits into themes and to maintain space so that stories depicted within the Heritage Center are clear and observable without being cluttered.

### **“Partner” Organizations**

It is the objective of Grundy County Historical Society to work with as many organizations in the region as may be willing to work with it in respect to displays within the Heritage Center, storage and other preservation needs. In this regard, it offers to organizations whose focus is on preservation and promotion of the cultural, historical and intellectual background of the region, or any part of it, the opportunity to develop exhibits within their respective areas of interest and expertise, all subject to approval of the designated authority within Grundy County Historical Society and subject to participation in the operation expenses of the Heritage Center as specified from time to time by the designated authority within Grundy County Historical Society. All displays must conform to historical fact review and Heritage Center appropriateness as determined by the designated authority within Grundy County Historical Society and may not include independent missions of the participating organization which are as a matter of policy determined to be inappropriate for the Heritage Center. Space within the Heritage Center for independent organizations’ displays will be allocated as determined by the designated authority within Grundy County Historical Society. Space for storage and services for historical preservation needs of any participating organization will be determined on a case by case basis and will be governed by availability of space and capacity of Grundy County Historical Society to provide requested historical preservation services.

### **Other Facilities**

The Grundy County Historical Society Heritage Center to the extent possible will avoid duplication of themes and subjects adequately portrayed in other facilities within the region that are open the public. It will display brochures and other literature of other historical organizations in the region and use reasonable means to direct the public visiting the Heritage Center to exhibits in other facilities. It is the purpose of the Heritage Center to promote the cultural, historical and intellectual background of the area wherever it may be portrayed.

### **Public Access**

The Grundy County Historical Society Heritage Center will operate and be open to the public on a regular business day basis five week days per week exclusive of holidays established by schedule published by the designated authority within Grundy County Historical Society.

### **Guidelines**

The Heritage Center Guidelines attached to this Mission Plan shall constitute a guide for implementation of the Plan.

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## **All Things Monteagle - Part 4**

### **Moffat's Station**

by Jackie Layne Partin

The John Moffat stories about his train trip from Cowan to the mountain top, stepping from the train, walking across the wilderness from bluff to bluff, enjoying what he saw, tacking a sign on a tree naming the train stop *Moffat's Station*, and buying much of the land from the Bostick heirs, have been told over and over with variances. A little wooden shed, *Moffat's Station*, was built next to the railroad tracks where it boldly told the crew and passengers that the pinnacle in the clouds, or should we say fog, notorious fog, had been

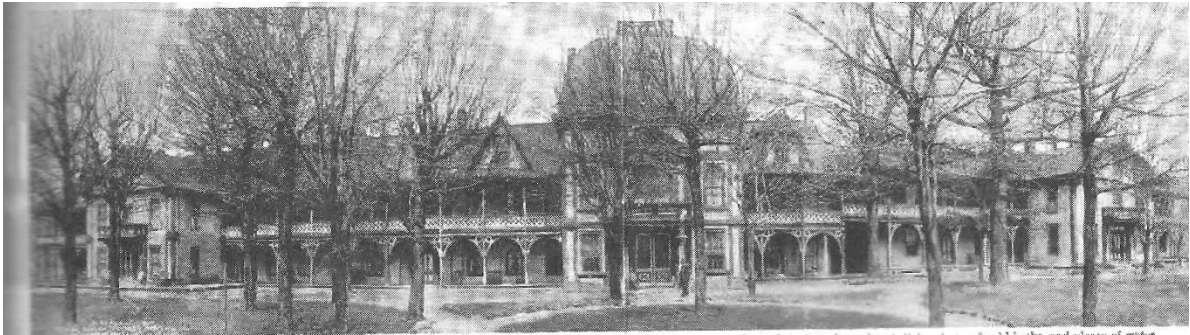
reached. One wants to believe that Moffat made his eye-opening trip on a bright, sunny day with blue skies covering the whole scene surrounding him.

*“Moffat, June 22, 1878—Why not? If a special from Tracy, with its coal and its convicts, or from Sewanee, with its knowing mule, its base-ball and its very stale political items, palephonic reports from the pow-wows of defunct Indians, etc., be of interests to the public, why not from Moffat, with its—with its—well, with its superior location and future importance? As for news, we flatter ourselves we have something later as well as more interesting, than the article current at Sewanee. In Instance: Blackberries, cherries and plums—the finest you ever saw—are now in order: whortleberries are just coming in; the Monteagle has been through a course of repair and improvements and is now open. (Summer visitors who would like to share in the whortleberry crop may put this and that together.) Recently some good people of Tracy decided that their Sunday-school scholars ought to have a picnic—get out and see nature minus the coal; and, in order to give them the best possible view of her fair face, a point near Moffat was selected. So, today we expect to see an excursion train out. We understand the Moffat Sunday-school expects to have a picnic about the fourth of July.” (25 Jun 1878—The Daily American)* Wow! What a busy, busy description of what lay ahead for the new village of Moffat.

Whortleberries, what were they? Mama always sent us out to pick “huckleberries,” a small roundish blueberry-type. Back in the day, we picked them from low bushes, but there was a taller version that bore berries later in the year. Today’s blueberries are hybrid and fill the bucket quickly, but one *must* remember *pickling huckleberries*, in order to have had the experience of going berry picking; blackberries were easy picking; dew berries were difficult since they grew on runners on the ground. Gooseberries grew in Clouse Hill when I was a child; they were a transparent-type of berry with a color of the green grapes we see in stores today. Picking was tedious for little hands, but our tiny hands devoured them quickly in the cold, winter months when Mama opened a quart jar for our dessert or made jams and jellies to spread on hot, lard- and-buttermilk biscuits. She choked the dough off into large pieces, then flatten a bit with the back of her fingers and spread hot bacon grease on the top for a golden biscuit.

There seemed to be confusion in the first decade of our little town over what the name of the village was to be—Moffat or Monteagle. An advertisement in a **July 15, 1877** newspaper announced that *“MONTEAGLE, Moffat, Marion Co., Tenn. was a delightful Summer Resort,”* a nice alliteration. In **1878** a regular correspondent to *The Daily American* wrote from Moffat that *“Life in the large, cool rooms and shady galleries of the Monteagle—quiet and easy going—is generally characterized by the one word, “comfortable” ...* In several readings, the village carried the name Moffat and the hotel, one of the first buildings erected, was called the **Monteagle** or **Mont Eagle Springs Hotel**. The eastern section of the hotel was built first by John Moffat and Oliver Mabee. It was actually the first home for the Mabees.

Then additions to the hotel began to flow westward under new ownerships and new managements.



The finished product of the Monteagle Hotel after wings were added.

That hotel burned on **June 16, 1929** about 4:30 a. m. starting near the center of the building at a loss of \$19,000. The rebuilding of the new hotel was begun immediately so as to be open for the early summer travelers in **1931**; one ad reads, "*Spend your vacation or week-end at the **New** Monteagle Hotel, Monteagle, Tennessee, Good Orchestra and Dance Saturday Night.*" That building stood fast until **Mar. 1, 1950** when once again fire destroyed it.

More notes: **30 Jun 1907**—*The Nashville American*, "...and last but not least, Miss Lillian Moffatt, the daughter of Dr. Moffatt, the original owner of all the land in the neighborhood of Monteagle, when it was known, and for many years, as Moffatt's Station..." (*The Daily American*—**27 Jul 1884**) "...Prof. Moffat was a remarkable man in progressive enterprise and for the principles of morality. It was he who stopped off by the mountain road and determined to establish a town on this very spot. It was called Moffat for several years, until he had been unfortunate, and successors to his enterprises got a change of name to Monteagle. (*The Daily American*—**06 Aug 1889**) "An interesting fact not generally known is that Monteagle was formerly called Moffat, after its founder, John Moffat, first Commissioner of Immigration of Tennessee. He named the first hotel after Lord Monteagle, the first Scottish nobleman to distinguished himself in the British Parliament I personally do not think that the name **Monteagle** was the initial intent of John Moffat; he named the town **Moffat**, and **Moffat** it was to be until the winds were taken from John's sails by legal struggles, health issues, and then an early death. Later, I include another version from where the name Monteagle may have come.

To Be Continued...



## Southern Writers at Monteagle

Submitted by Oliver Jervis

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly was founded in 1882 as the Southern Chautauqua, modeled on the original Chautauqua, known by the name of the lake on which it is located in western New York. The first Chautauqua was founded by a Methodist bishop and a Methodist layman to be a cultural center, a home for concerts and lectures and other programs designed to interest residents and visitors who gathered every summer at its spacious resort of lakeside cottages. Monteagle was founded in the mountains of southeastern Tennessee by Christian laymen of several denominations, primarily as a place where Sunday School teachers could live and study during the summer, hence it took the name of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly. It was meant to be a Southern version of the original Chautauqua, though it was ecumenical in character from the beginning. While fulfilling its purpose as an educational and cultural center, it attracted some of the best known Southern writers to live and work there. Their association with Monteagle caused it in time to become identified as a Southern Writers Colony, not merely a Southern Chautauqua but a Southern Concord.

Concord, Massachusetts, gained its fame as the village in the woods west of Boston where outstanding New England writers like Emerson, Thoreau and Hawthorne chose to live, making it the first shrine of American literature in the nineteenth century. Monteagle, as the place where noted Southern writers like Allen Tate, Andrew Lytle, and Peter Taylor chose to live, became a comparable shrine of American literature in the twentieth century. It was Peter Taylor, who owned a cottage at Monteagle for many years, who fictionalized it as "Owl Mountain Springs," and used it as a setting for a play, a novel, and a story. His good friend, the New England poet Robert Lowell, came to Monteagle because Andrew Lytle and Allen Tate were living there and editing *The Sewanee Review*. Lowell's debt to them as writers and teachers was so great that he would later say, "I don't suppose I would have ever written again if it hadn't been for that year in Monteagle, 1942-43."

Andrew Lytle was the Southern writer who lived longest at Monteagle, in a log cabin which had been owned by his family, but Allen Tate often rented cottages there in the summer, and Peter Taylor rented and later owned a cottage in the Assembly, where he did much of his writing. These three writers brought many other writers to visit them at

Monteagle, more often as guests than as residents. Among the writers who came were three of the original Fugitive poets from Vanderbilt, John Crowe Ransom, Donald Davidson, and Robert Penn Warren, and along with them came such other noted Southern writers as Caroline Gordon, a novelist from Kentucky, and Randall Jarrell, a poet and critic from Nashville, as well as the English novelist Ford Maddox Ford, and the New England poet Robert Lowell with his first wife, Jean Stafford, a novelist. Donald Davidson, in a late poem called "Lines Written for Allen Tate on his Sixtieth Anniversary," imagined that Monteagle had become the shrine to which all Southern writers were naturally drawn.

"To join the long procession where it winds  
Up to a mountain home—  
No marshals but the Muses for this day..."

Monteagle was the "mountain home" where Allen Tate did some of his best writing, as poet, novelist, and critic, to make him one of the most admired Southern writers. Andrew Lytle, a close friend of Tate, dedicated his career to writing fiction and essays, and to fostering Southern letters. He lived many years in *The Log Cabin* (1890), where, as novelist, critic and editor, he drew many writers to Monteagle, and as he remembered in a memoir:

"Summer Oaks and Shadow Lawn, houses next door to my cabin...were frequently occupied by poets and writers: Robert Lowell, Jean Stafford, Peter Taylor, Robert Penn Warren, Eleanor Ross, Peter's wife, Ford Maddox Ford, Donald Davidson; others were transients. Once the Allen Tates [his first wife was the novelist Caroline Gordon] stayed here over the winter... We made a fine, interesting out-of-season community..."

To Lytle, who knew it best, "All along, this place has been congenial for artists," and in his view "The history of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly admonishes the present to continue to be a place to promulgate and cultivate the arts, and that means artists."

The forgoing is taken from a banner on display at the Heritage Center authored by Dr. William C. Pratt, Professor of English Emeritus, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

## History of Grundy County

Written by **W. C. Abernathy, Clerk of Court**

(Transcribed verbatim from *The Nashville American*—26 Jun 1910)

Submitted by Jackie Layne Partin

An act creating Grundy County was passed by the General Assembly of Tennessee, in Nashville, Jan. 29, 1844, reciting that the new county should be made up of territory of Warren and Coffee counties; and appointing Adrian Northcut and William Dugan, residents of that part of the county taken from Warren, and John Burrows and Alfred Braley, residents of that part taken from Coffee, Commissioners to organize the new county, which had been named in honor of Felix Grundy, a former United States Senator from Tennessee, and who, with Samuel B. Barrell, of Boston, Mass., and others, had been dealing extensively in mountain lands of this section; said act also fixed the place for holding the first courts of the county at Beersheba Springs, a popular summer resort on the summit of the Cumberland Mountains, in the northern part of the county, which has continued and is visited during the summer by large crowds of pleasure seekers. When the first County Court of the new county was called to order, Aug. 5, 1844, Adrian Northcut, John Fultz, William Dugan, Ambrose Killian, Robert Tate, Isaac Campbell, Stephen M. Griswold, James Lockhart, John Burrows, Thomas Warren and Daniel Sain produced their certificates of election, together with their commissions from the Governor.

Proclamation being made, the Court proceeded to induct into office the first set of public servants for the new county, who had just been elected, July 6, 1844, after a strenuous campaign, viz: Sheriff, Phillip Roberts; County Court Clerk, Reuben Webb; Register, Abraham Jones; Trustee, John Burrows. The Court then elected Stephen M. Griswold Entry Taker, William S. Mooney Surveyor, and Richard M. Stepp Coroner. The place for the holding of the next Court was fixed at the house of Jesse Wooten, on Cumberland Mountain, about three miles from Altamont and southwest, where the Courts were held continuously until October, 1848, when the county seat was established at Altamont. Isaac H. Roberts, who lived at Pelham, was a member of the legislature from Coffee County when the act creating Grundy was passed, and Adrian Northcut, who lived in Northcut's Cove, was a member of the same Legislature from Warren County, and both were conspicuous in almost every movement toward the organization of the new county, of which they both became citizens, and often entertained opposite views.

The first question of general importance to the people of the new county was that of establishing a county seat. A number of sites were suggested, including Pelham, Burrows'

Cove, Wooten Place, Beersheba Springs and Northcut's Cove. The struggle was hardly on until it was apparent that Isaac H. Roberts favored the selection of Pelham, while Adrian Northcut wanted the county seat in Northcut's Cove. After considerable discussion a compromise was reached locating it on the mountain between the two points, and an election was held in October, 1848, and this selection ratified, a town laid off and named "Altamont," signifying "high mountain." A courthouse was erected and the first court held in it June 3, 1850, and was presided over by Richard Bradford, Chairman; A. S. Goodman and Richard M. Stepp, Justices. This house, a frame building, was destroyed by fire in October 1882, with all the Circuit Court records and four books belonging to the Register's office. In 1885 the present structure, a brick building, was erected, and is a neat and splendid building, but the constant growth of business and increase of population has demonstrated its inadequacy.

Grundy is largely a mountainous county and yet contains thousands of acres of timber lands, notwithstanding the timber industry has furnished employment for a large number of people for several years. The principal industries of the county are farming and coal mining, the former accompanying civilization to this section, while the latter sprang up several years later to help supply the demand for cheaper fuel. About one-third of the population of our county are thrifty farmers, some residing on and successfully tilling the soil on the mountain, but a larger per cent living in the coves and valleys which make up into Cumberland Mountain, where the soil is fed from the mountain sides—consequently, no commercial fertilizer is used or needed.

The natural fertility of the soil in these valleys and the splendid advantage from the springs, creeks and rivers that traverse them, coupled with the thousands of acres of grazing land adjacent, render this county one of the best for stock-raising in the State. The famous and historical Elk River has its fountain head in Grundy County, in Burrows' Cove, where boils up a large blue spring of pure water; forming a river from the first, it winds its way southwardly then westwardly, a distance of about ten miles to where it flows into Franklin and Coffee counties. Small creeks from Bell's, Layne's and Payne's coves, in Grundy County, are substantial tributaries to Elk River. The northern part of Grundy County is abundantly supplied with water for all purposes by Collins River and its Tributaries, which drain a section of county twenty-five miles in width and about thirty-five in length. Fish in the streams and small game which abounds in the forests insure sport for all of our citizens thus inclined.

The celebrated Sewanee steam coal, for which this section is so famous, has been mined at Tracy City since 1857 the first car of coal having been shipped from that place on Nov. 23 that year. The mining and shipping of coal from Tracy City prior to and during the war was somewhat handicapped on account of the meager facilities for handling it and the war coming on so soon retarded their progress and development was slow. The close of the war found the company bankrupt and unable to resume operations, when the late Col. A. S.

Colyar became interested and bought a majority of stock in the company by executing his individual note for \$200,000, thus putting himself at the head of the enterprise and immediately organized the Tennessee Coal, iron & Railroad Co., in which many wealthy and successful Eastern business men purchased stock, after which the progress and development of this corporation was marvelous, and it soon became the largest miner and shipper of coal in the State. This company continued to mine coal at Tracy City until July, 1904, when on account of alleged labor trouble, the mines were closed. Since that time, beginning with Sept. 1, 1905, the Tracy City coal mines have been operated by the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company and the Nunley Ridge Coal Company, both of which are controlled by local capital.

In 1903 the railroad was extended seven miles further north from Tracy City to another large coal field owned by the Sewanee Coal, Coke and Land Company. In 1908 this company was reorganized and chartered under the name of the Sewanee Fuel and Iron Company, which is now operating at Coalmont.

The men employed by these companies are largely citizens of the country who were born and reared in this section, thus relieving us of the objectionable feature of having among us transient and undesirable citizens.

Our people have kept pace with the constant and substantial growth in favor of popular education, and are alive to the issue and in favor of further progress along those lines. We now have thirty-three graded and well regulated schools, with an average daily attendance of 1,381 pupils. Shook School at Tracy City is the largest in the county. The main building was erected in 1889 by Col. A. M. Shook in honor of his father, James K. Shook, and presented to Grundy county. It cost \$39,700. Several splendid and up-to-date school buildings have been erected recently by our county, ranging in price of construction from \$1,000 to \$2,250.

The population of the county, as the census recently taken will show, is between 9,000 and 10,000, and we have an area of 320 square miles, which shows that more room for farmers and gardeners may be found here than perhaps in any other county, and none can offer any more inviting and enticing environments. We have the soil yawning to be tickled by the great plowshare, timber, limestone, cement rock and coal banks, which, after fifty years of continuous labor by from one hundred to fifteen hundred men, are just well opened, and the principal part of the coal fields have not been touched by the hands of skilled labor.

The moral and religious sentiment of our people is exalted, while Sunday schools, churches, and benevolent associations of various kinds, thriving in every community, mark the progress of our people and their determination to inculcate in the minds of the boys and girls of our county that principle of righteousness which will make them strong men and women, able to bear the burdens of the future which, in the course of human events, must necessarily fall upon them.

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**United States Steel Corporation acquires Tennessee Coal & Iron Company  
from Doris Kearns Goodwin, *The Bully Pulpit*, page 529, Simon & Schuster,  
2013**

submitted by Oliver Jervis

“On November 1, <1907> <J.P.> Morgan learned that Moore & Schley, a leading brokerage house, was on the verge of bankruptcy. Understanding that the firm’s failure ‘would bring down a few more stories of the tottering financial pyramid,’ Morgan evolved an ingenious plan. The troubled brokerage house owned a large stake in the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company (TC&I), one of the few significant combinations to escape the grip of United States Steel. In a meeting with U.S. Steel’s chairman, Judge Elbert Gary, Morgan proposed that U.S. Steel purchase TC&I, exchanging its own solid bonds for TC&I bonds to redeem Moore & Schley. As a precondition, Gary insisted on <Theodore> Roosevelt’s assurance that the purchase would not trigger an anti-trust suit. ‘Can you go at once?’ Morgan demanded.

That Evening, Judge Gary and Henry Clay Frick took the overnight train to Washington. Meeting with the president at eight o’clock the following morning, the two U.S. Steel representatives maintained that ‘under ordinary circumstances they would not consider purchasing the stock,’ which was priced ‘somewhat in excess’ of the firm’s true value. Nevertheless, they believed it was ‘to the interest of every responsible businessman’ to avoid a ‘general industrial smashup.’ Roosevelt assured them that he ‘felt ... no public duty’ to file suit under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

The announcement of the deal not only saved Moore & Schley; it also helped restore confidence in the market. But when the terms of the TC&I purchase were made public, Roosevelt came under heavy criticism. John Moody, a respected financial analyst, termed the \$45 million purchase price ‘the best bargain ... ever made in the purchase of a piece of property’; the coal and iron deposits alone, he estimated, were worth ‘hardly less than 1 billion.’ Some suspected that Roosevelt had been hoodwinked into legitimizing U.S. Steel’s bid to ‘swallow up a lively competitor, while wrapping itself in the cloak of public spirit.’

Roosevelt adamantly denied such charges.”

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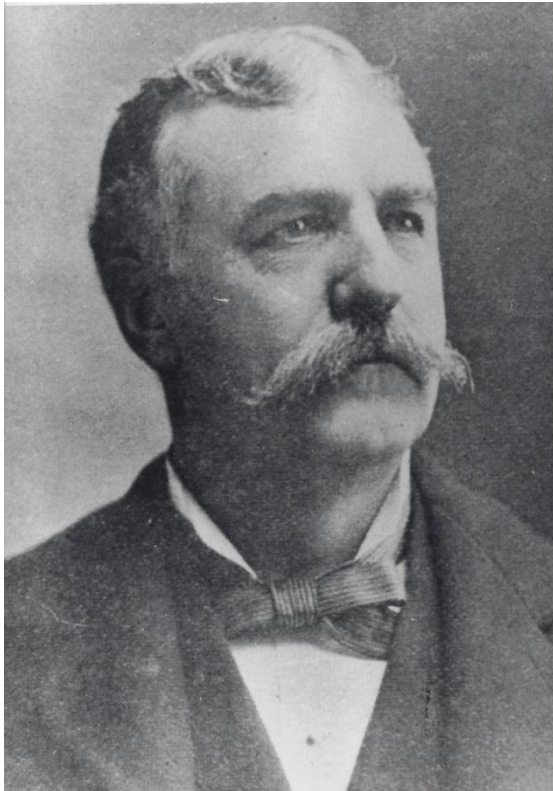
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## Historic Tracy City

Oliver W. Jervis

Tracy City's heritage dates from 1858 when Sewanee Mining Company opened the Wooten Coal Mine in the area known as the heading on property that had been farmed by the area's original white settler, Benjamin Wooten. Samuel Tracy, for whom the town was named, formed Sewanee Mining Company with four other investors in 1852, purchased Wooten's land and other lands on the plateau, and built a railroad to the coal site. In financial straits after extending the railroad to what became Tracy City, Sewanee Mining Company was reorganized in 1860 and again after the Civil War as Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company. Arthur St. Clair Colyar, an attorney, political leader, editor and publisher of Nashville American and one of the architects of development of the *New South* following the Civil War became sole stockholder and president.

The *New South* was the notion that the economy of the South following the Civil War should be rebuilt from the prewar economy of single crop agriculture with occasional cottage industry to diversified crop agriculture and large industrial factories. Colyar saw in the coal mined at the Wooten Mine the possibility of conversion of it to coke that could be used in blast furnaces to produce pig iron, needed for the production of iron and steel products. Colyar's vision became reality and Tracy City rose like a phoenix from the ashes of the Civil War to an industrial giant of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.



Alfred Montgomery Shook

In 1882 John H. Inman and Associates of New York acquired majority (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) interest in Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company and it was reorganized as Tennessee, Coal, Iron and Railroad Company. Alfred Montgomery Shook was made General Manager and Einar Oswald Nathurst was made Superintendent. These two men gave leadership to the town's development and caused it to become a stable community with positive prospects for the long term. Both built substantial high style architectural homes within close proximity to the business district. Nathurst managed a building association and was responsible for construction of attractive vernacular houses, many of which are extant today. In 1889 Shook provided the town with a magnificent public school.

The architectural record of Tracy City includes outstanding examples of both high style and vernacular. High style architecture is work by an architect and is one of a kind designed for a specific site sometimes using custom materials and finishes. The existing Alfred Montgomery Shook second empire style home is such an example. The Einar Oswald Nathurst home, no longer extant, is another as well as Shook School that burned in 1976.

Vernacular architecture uses local materials constructed by workers with local building knowledge. There are many vernacular home structures extant in Tracy City with elements of various late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century styles. Styles of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian period include Queen Anne, Shingle and Eastlake. Later styles of the 20<sup>th</sup> century are Colonial and Classical Revival as well as Bungalow.

A great deal of the architectural record of Tracy City survives and reveals the core of life in this significant American industrial town.

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### **The Heritage Center: A Narrative**

Oliver W. Jervis

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*To go through life with no interest in what happened before you appeared on the scene is to go through life with the outlook of a child.* These words attributed to Cicero by Historian David McCullough reflect the mission of Grundy County Historical Society to inspire all of the people and communities of the South Cumberland Plateau, its coves and valleys, to understand who they are and how they are connected in history with interrelated pathways. It has developed a Heritage Center located in Tracy City as an enhancement to the region. It has entered into agreements with other historical and preservation organizations to coordinate in a single place the cultural heritage of the region. The other organizations include Beersheba Springs Historical Society, Chikamaka Cultural Preservation Organization, Monteagle Sunday School Assembly and Swiss Historical Society of Grundy County. Knowledge of the rich history of the area and appreciation of its impact upon life far beyond



the local scene is necessary for a mature understanding of who lives here and who may aspire to live here. It is also instructive to a wider audience of the lessons experienced on the plateau.

The Heritage Center consists of a museum and a library and research center. The museum includes eight galleries that depict themes of history that grew out of the plateau that had national or international impact. The library focuses on the people who lived on the plateau for family, cultural, and historical research with sources and proper equipment to access sources for such research.

The first gallery of the museum shows how the plateau developed through geologic eras with an emphasis on the formation of coal during the Pennsylvanian period.

The second gallery portrays the Chickamauga Native Americans, their alliance with the British during the Revolutionary War in 1775, and their development of five towns along the Tennessee River. The gallery shows how the Chickamauga strove to prevent white American settlement into Middle Tennessee by attacking boats on the Tennessee River heading to Middle Tennessee and by using the ancient Cisca Trail from St. Augustine, Florida. The trail crossed the plateau at what is now Monteagle and descended into Middle Tennessee on a section known as Nickajack Trail. From the trail the Chickamauga attacked settlements that had been established at Nashboro, Murfreesboro and other sites in hit and run raids. The gallery tells the story of Joseph Brown, a white boy captured in 1788 from one of the boats heading for Middle Tennessee. He was taken into captivity and placed with one of the families of the Chickamauga. He learned the trail system. In a prisoner exchange he was released to the American settlers. In 1794 he guided the militia led by Major James Ore along the Cisca Trail to Nickajack Town where the militia destroyed the principal Chickamauga towns. The Chickamauga dispersed, many to the plateau, where they were when the plateau was opened for white settlement. In time many of them intermarried or otherwise cohabited with the settlers and took their surnames. By 1838 they were so mixed into the settler population that they were bypassed by the Trail of Tears removal. Their descendants are today a significant part of the population of the plateau.

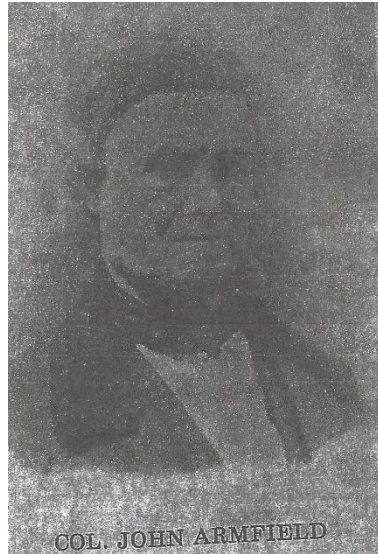
The third gallery is Summerfield. Summerfield is where Lilian Johnson developed an agricultural cooperative in 1915 known as KinCo., described by her as “a co-operative association of city and mountain folk with a kindred purpose”. She initiated the Grundy County Fair there, and brought May Justus and Vera McCampbell to Grundy County as teachers. The Gallery contains a collection of the writings of May Justus, poet, storyteller and author of children’s books that impart wisdom from life in the Appalachian Mountains.

In 1932 Lilian Johnson turned her property over to Myles Horton and Don West for the development of Highlander Folk School. The gallery depicts her active support of the school and the support and involvement with the school by May Justus and Vera McCampbell. The history of this unusual institution is told with words and spectacular photographs. The school, devoted to economic justice and social equality, developed bottom up education methodology. It was active in labor organization training in the 1930s and 1940s and later in the 1950s and 1960s in non violent civil rights training. Most civil rights leaders attended seminars at the school including Rosa Parks shortly before she triggered the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott. The school has been acclaimed to be one of the seven most important sites in the civil rights movement.

The fourth gallery tells the story of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly. Southern leaders in the Sunday School movement selected Monteagle in 1882 for a southern Chautauqua patterned after the one established in 1874 at Lake Chautauqua, New York by a Methodist Bishop, John Heyl Vincent, and Lewis Miller, a Methodist layman who was an inventor and manufacturer. Both had a passion for education strengthened by circumstances that deprived them of the education they would have liked to have completed. Initiated as a place where Sunday School teachers could come to learn how to teach, the movement influenced the cultural history of United States in education, in religion, in concern for reform, in discussion of important issues, in the arts, and in entertainment. Those who partook of the movement were largely middle class people who came for a summer day, or a week, or an entire season, to study, to enjoy idyllic surroundings, to be fortified and instructed in their Protestant faith, or to be innocently amused. The first Chautauqua program was held on the grounds of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly on July 17, 1883. Assemblies for programs have been held every summer since then. In 1982 the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly was placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Secretary of the Interior.

The fifth gallery is a mural of Beersheba Springs. It was the first white settlement on the plateau. A chalybeate spring was discovered there in 1833 by Beersheba Cain. Believing the water to have medicinal value, a tavern was built in 1837 to accommodate travelers and visitors. John Armfield, a retired slave trader, in 1854, purchased 1,000 acres, the original tavern, proprietor's room, a row of guest cabins and Buck White's residence. He proceeded to enlarge the tavern into a fashionable watering place hotel. He further built twenty cottages to the specifications of persons to whom he leased lots. Two of the cottages were given to Episcopal Bishops James Otey and Leonidas Polk in an effort to influence the selection of the plateau as a site for The University of the South. In this he was successful as well as in influencing Eugen Plumacher to recommend the plateau as the site for a Swiss Colony at Gruetli. Beersheba Springs under John Armfield's influence became a summer resort for

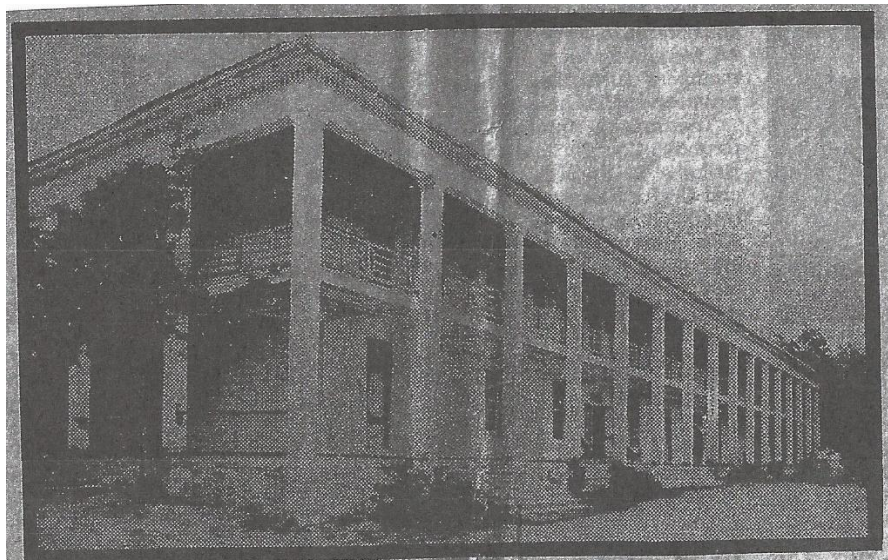
southern plantation owners in the lower south. The Civil War interrupted the fortunes of the southern plantation owners and the cottages acquired by them were taken back by John Armfield. Many of the cottages were later acquired by successful merchants and professionals from Nashville and other places in Middle Tennessee. Many of their descendants own the cottages today. The hotel struggled after the Civil War and in 1941 was acquired by the Methodist Conference of Middle Tennessee who operates it as a conference and retreat center. Beersheba Springs has been placed on the National Register as a historic district.



COL. JOHN ARMFIELD



MRS. JOHN ARMFIELD



### Famed Resort Hotel

The famed Beersheba Springs Hotel catered to the fashionable and sophisticated during the mid-1850s, entertaining as many as 400 guests at one time. The chef and all the servants were French and a french band from New Orleans played for the dancing. Following the Civil War the sound of music, laughter and young voices died away and the hey-days of Beersheba were over. Miss Will Allen Dromgoole, well-known in Tennessee for her poems and stories, wrote, "It's going into history now, with its sad old fancies and quaint old legends."

The story of the development of the southern steel and iron industry begins in Tracy City at the Wooten Coal Mine. This story of the *New South* is told in the sixth gallery. The Sewanee Mining Company had been formed in 1852 to develop coal mining on the plateau. It built the Mountain Goat railroad from the Nashville to Chattanooga main line in Cowan up the mountain to Sewanee and began mining operations at Coal Bank (near present day St Andrews – Midway) in 1856. There was little coal there and what coal was there was of poor quality. The company then extended the railroad tracks ten miles through the forest to the site where coal had first been discovered about 1845. The Wooten Mine was opened with the first load of coal shipped on November 8, 1858. The Sewanee Mining Company had exhausted its financial resources by 1860 and filed for reorganization as Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company. It faced lawsuits from Tennessee creditors in a Tennessee state court and foreclosure of bonds in federal court by New York bondholders. The Civil War intervened with first the Confederates taking over the mine and in July 1863 the Federals securing control of the plateau and the mine. By the end of the war the mining operations at Tracy City were in shambles. In 1866 Arthur St. Clair Colyar, an attorney representing the Tennessee creditors, effected a settlement wherein, in a reorganized company, \$400,000 of common stock was issued, purchased by him, and used to pay off the Tennessee creditors. The New York bondholders agreed to take new mortgage bonds from the reorganized company to settle their claims.

Colyar was one of the architects of the *New South*. These advocates believed that the future of the South following the Civil War depended on the South moving from economic dependence on a single agricultural crop with occasional cottage industry to diversification of agriculture and a more industrialized modern economy that could produce products in mass. With this objective in mind, Colyar and those associated with him set about to determine if the bituminous Sewanee Seam coal mined in the Wooten Mine could be converted into coke with sufficient heat intensity to be used in blast furnaces with iron ore and limestone to produce pig iron. Pig iron is the basic ingredient for the manufacture of iron and steel products. The Fiery Gizzard makeshift blast furnace was erected to determine if coal from the mine would coke. The Fiery Gizzard produced fifteen tons of pig iron before it fell apart, proving that coke burned from Sewanee Seam coal could be used successfully in blast furnaces to produce pig iron. One hundred and twenty coke ovens were built at the Wooten Mine site in 1873 and Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company contracted for the use of convicts from the Tennessee State Penitentiary to work in the mine and tend the coke ovens.

The gallery depicts how Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company grew into a reorganized Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad Company that by 1892 controlled 60% of the coal and iron ore reserves in Tennessee and Alabama and most of the iron and steel production resources between Chattanooga and Birmingham. It had become an industrial empire. In 1904 it moved

its offices from Tracy City to Ensley Town near Birmingham. In 1907 it was acquired by United States Steel Corporation in a transaction approved by President Theodore Roosevelt as not to be in violation of the Sherman Anti Trust Act.

Coal mining on the plateau continued with the formation of Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company by E. L. Hampton, the railroad station agent at Tracy City. In 1905 the Mountain Goat Railroad, by then owned by Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad, was extended to Coalmont. In 1917 it was extended again to Palmer where coal mining operations were continued until the 1990's when mining ceased on the plateau due to labor discord and environmental issues with the coal. The Mountain Goat Railroad tracks were removed in 1973 from Coalmont to Palmer and in 1985 from the rest of the route.

After Sewanee Mining Company in 1857 found coal mining unprofitable at Coal Bank and the area that is now Sewanee, it offered 5,000 acres of its holdings in that area to trustees of the Southern Dioceses of the Episcopal Church for the establishment of a Southern University. Had not the mining company's railroad up the mountain from Cowan and the Nashville and Chattanooga main line been in existence, the site would not have been considered even with the generous offer of land. Thus, land unsuitable for the mining of coal but with a railroad for access became the site for The University of the South.

This university brought many people with cultural experiences different from those who had pioneered the area. There was a thin but well distributed native population of about 150 people in the vicinity. To this native population were added clergymen, academics, administrators, civil war widows, construction workers and even a Negro servant group. The mix produced a new culture with the university being the major economic force. There were clashes within the cultural mix but in time they resolved differences. Today the university has, among other things, become a renowned center for learning that includes environmental and ecological study of the Cumberland Plateau through its Environmental Studies Program, a Landscape Analysis Laboratory, Forestry and Geology Programs as well as through other disciplines and endeavors. Today its campus has grown from the initial gift of 5,000 acres from Sewanee Mining Company to over 13,000 acres, much of which is used for environmental learning and lessons in preservation and conservation of the land.

Gallery 7 tells the story of the government of Switzerland, facing chronic economic depression and overpopulation during the mid 1800s, conceiving the notion that if it could depopulate itself, its economic plight might improve. It sent emissaries to the United States to locate places where willing Swiss citizens might move or colonize. Eugen Plumacher was commissioned with such a mission. Introduced to the southern Cumberland Plateau by John Armfield, Plumacher recommended to the Swiss authorities an area of the plateau in Grundy

County, southeast of the Beersheba Springs resort. The Swiss were farmers. The land was divided into 100 acre parcels. It was heavily forested and required clearing. The Swiss upon arrival cleared the land. They took the thin plateau soil, enriched it with lime brought from the base of the plateau, and made it surprisingly productive. They established an Agricultural Society and kept extensive records that are today housed at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

The immigrants flowed from Switzerland from 1869 to about 1920. It was written 25 years after the establishment of the Colony:

*There is a Swiss Colony in Grundy County, Tennessee, which seems like a part of a foreign country, so perfectly have they kept their native habits and customs, and style of architecture in the building of their little cottages. There are carvers there whose quaint work finds ready sale. Market gardening is a feature of the colony, and those who can talk English take the produce to town and sell it. Their wines have taken several premiums, and it is a rare treat to go through their-well kept vineyards. One of the remarkable phases of life is the great age to which they attain, there being several centenarians among them and nonagenarians not being at all uncommon. The mountains surrounding them, while not so high or grand as their native Alps, are sufficiently steep to keep them from being lonely for the sight of their native hills, and none of them has ever returned to Switzerland, although a number of them have grown quite wealthy and could go if they wished.*

As observed by Clopper Almon in the Preface to the 2010 Edition of *The Swiss Colony* at Gruetli by Frances Helen Jackson, *When the mechanization of agriculture began to induce massive, nationwide out-migration of farm labor, the young Swiss were in the position to move into the American mainstream.* The first realm of out-migration was within Grundy County where descendants of the Swiss have become business, professional, political and community leaders. The descendants of the immigrants have formed the Swiss Historical Society of Grundy County that owns an intact Swiss farm of about 30 acres that it preserves and from which it conducts an annual celebration supported by the Swiss embassy in Atlanta. It further maintains artifacts from the period the colony existed in a gallery at the Heritage Center.

Pioneers on the Cumberland Plateau as well as their Native American predecessors were dependent on the forest. The forest was their habitat as well as the habitat of the wildlife that they hunted for food. The forest provided them with materials with which to construct their homes and shelters for their livestock. The forest was a most important part of their environment. It provided them with the isolation that supported their independence.

The timber industry has become a major economic driver of the Cumberland Plateau and has had a significant impact on the people and their culture. Its story is told in Gallery Eight. There was a major harvest of timber on the plateau from 1880 through 1920. Lumber mills were established and provided employment for people who began clustering in community centers. Isolation of the people began to disappear but their independent spirit remained. Dinky narrow gage trains were run from the coves to transport timber to the mills. Large tracts of land were acquired by timber interests. Most of the large or virgin timber was cut; only timber in the most remote areas was spared. Salvage Gulf in Grundy County was one area that was not cut over.



One of the largest lumber mills in Tennessee, complete with carpentry shop, was Sam Werner Lumber Co. in Tracy City. It was owned by a family that had originated in Switzerland. 15,000 acres were under the ownership of the family at the height of the company's operations, including 3,400 acres in Savage Gulf, 500 of which were with virgin timber. In 1974 the grandchildren of Sam Werner, Sr., the immigrant founder of the lumber mill that bore his name, sold the Werner holdings in Savage Gulf to the State of Tennessee to enable the forest to be conserved as a part of the newly created South Cumberland State Recreation Area (South Cumberland State Park). This launched an era of land conservation on the South Cumberland Plateau that preserves substantial areas of the plateau for conservation and public benefit. This same family in 1997 extended their concern for conservation through a sale of 1,200 acres adjacent to Grundy Forest State Natural Area for incorporation into the Fiery Gizzard Trail portion of the State Recreation Area. Another timber/lumber family in Grundy County, the Greeters, aided the conservation efforts of the State of Tennessee by selling lands owned by them for inclusion in the newly formed South Cumberland State Recreation Area.

The trees cut throughout the 1880 - 1920 period were by manned cross cut saws and snaked out of the coves and hollows with mules and teams of horses or oxen. Thirty years later the chain saw had been developed which facilitated clear cutting of the forests with removal of the cut timber with tractors and other machinery. This process often impaired the landscape with significant ground impaction and attendant soil erosion. Persons employed in

the industry fiercely defended the accelerated timber cutting practices but others living within the plateau culture abhorred it and began protests movements.

Paper companies established pulp mills in the 1970s and thereafter became the principal consumers of the timber harvesting. This was now secondary growth timber harvesting. The paper companies further acquired vast land holdings on the plateau. After clear cutting the hardwood, pine plantations were planted. The fast growing pine was harvested for pulp in the paper mills. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century a pine bark beetle infested the pine plantations. The paper companies began divesting themselves of their land holdings on the plateau and the State of Tennessee has acquired some of the former paper companies' land incorporating it into the state park system. These timber land owners have been much less generous with the divestment of their holdings for public use conservation purposes than were the Werner and Greeter families before mentioned. They tend to favor sale for development or for investment by large pension funds.

The South Cumberland State Recreational Area has grown to 30,834 acres with eleven parts. It is managed by a Park Manager with a staff of park rangers. They lead hikes and interpretative programs for the public.

The histories of families on the plateau are a major focus of the Heritage Center. Its library and research center provides the means for the public to learn about themselves. One such case involved a family with Native American heritage. They thought their grandmother of Native American heritage had been abandoned by her biological father. Using the facilities of the Heritage Center library, they found that the father of the grandmother had not abandoned her but had made arrangement for her adoption into a well to do family. An adoption certificate and photograph of the adoptive parents was found. Through the research the family was able to accomplish at the Heritage Center, the spirits of the family were uplifted to learn that their ancestral great grandparent had made a good effort to find a proper home for the child he could not care for himself.



## Why President Taft Came to Sewanee

### Part 1

By: David Bowman

With Notes by Oliver W. Jervis

Archibald Willingham Butt (1865-1912) might well be one of Sewanee's two or three most important alumni in national governmental service. A century ago he served officially as military aide to President Theodore Roosevelt, beginning in April 1908, and to President William Howard Taft, from his inauguration on March 4, 1909, onwards.

If Major Butt had not lost his life in the sinking of the steamship "Titanic" on the night of April 14, 1912, it seems likely he would have continued to play a vital role in our nation's turbulent history.

The best biography available in the University's DuPont Library is the two-volume *Taft and Roosevelt: The Intimate Letters of Archie Butt, Military Aide* (Doubleday, Doran & Company, 1930). Here is a capsule summary to begin with:

"Born in Augusta, Georgia, on September 26, 1865, Archie Butt was graduated in 1888 from the University of the South. He was a reporter in Louisville, Kentucky, and Macon, Georgia; then correspondent in Washington for a group of southern newspapers. After enlisting in the Spanish-American War, he became quartermaster captain of volunteers in 1900 and received his commission in the regular army. Service in the Philippines and Cuba was followed by his appointment as military aide at the White House. In that capacity he was a constant companion of Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft, both of whom bore witness afterward that he had won their friendship as well as their appreciation for extraordinary service." (pp. ix-x)

Nearly all of the letters in these two volumes' 852 pages were written to "Dear Clara," Archie's sister-in-law, Mrs. Lewis F. Butt, of Augusta, Georgia. Published two decades after his death, these letters form a lively depiction of the Major's public and private life; they were the memoirs that this ex-newspaperman never got the chance to write.

Try to imagine, for example, the exhausting number of public occasions that Taft, Butt & Company provided constituents, as described in a letter dated November 20, 1911:

“We have actually traveled on railroads 15,270 miles and at least 3,000 miles by motor and side trips. We have been on the go for 58 days, and 14 nights we have spent off the train. We have visited 28 states, entertained as many governors, and been flooded by their ridiculous staffs and yapped at by all the Congressmen and ward politicians from Beverly to the Coast and back again. We have made 220 stops, and the President has made 380 speeches. We have carried the figures farther and estimated that he has addressed 1,614,850 persons in auditoriums and halls and from platforms and has been seen by 3,213,600 ear-splitting citizens. Do you wonder that our nerves have been disintegrated and that our innards are all upside down?” (p. 765)

One of these stops, on November 10, 1911, was made at Sewanee, as reported rather splendidly by the *Sewanee Purple* (Thursday, November 16, 1911). The weekly student newspaper printed Taft’s entire speech, delivered on the unfinished porch of All Saints’ Chapel, to an umbrella-wielding crowd. An accompanying article paid tribute to “the little train, after its labored pull up the steep mountainside, rolled into Sewanee station and came to a stop, panting and hot, flushed and proud, as it were, in the cognizance of its privilege – that of bearing the greatest American of all – when this little train arrived at 8:15 on last Friday morning.” ( see Note 1)

As with all presidential-type speeches, Taft’s included some crowd-pleasers, singling out local celebrities like Sewanee’s own Colonel William Gorgas, and his role in fighting yellow fever – “the construction of the Panama Canal would have been impossible without Colonel Georgas” – but there was a surprising amount meaty policy statement about the President’s advocacy of an “international arbitral court sustained by all nations” to bring about and sustain world peace:

“We are a strong enough nation to meet any other nation in war if we so desired. No one would think of charging us with cowardice for seeking peace. We are in a position to organize, and Europe is waiting for us to take the lead – all the countries of Europe will follow.

“Some say if we look after our own that is enough. I say ‘No!’ and I look to the men who have studied our responsibilities and understand our world-wide duty to help us on our desire for universal peace.”

Considering the historical fact that the Great War would break out in Europe, just three years later, Taft’s plea to his University audience to help create such a multi-national entity was immensely sensible.



Courtesy of the William R. Laurie University Archives and Special Collections: The University of the South

That message alone would have made Taft’s stirring Call to Sewanee memorable – even if he had not been the only “sitting president” to visit Sewanee in the University’s 150 year history – but there is another intriguing explanation as to why Taft, Butt & Company wanted to come to this mountaintop.

This involves the mega-issue of trustbusting.

Note 1: The only automobile on the plateau was owned by Sam Werner, Jr. of Sam Werner Lumber Company in Tracy City. The University officials, knowing of Taft's enthusiasm for motor vehicles, borrowed the Werner vehicle to meet the train's arrival at the Sewanee station and escorted the President around Sewanee in it.

This article will be continued in a future edition of this journal.

The notes to this article were prepared by Oliver W. Jervis of the Heritage Center.

This article was originally published in *Keystone Newsletter of the Sewanee Trust*, Winter 2012. It is republished here with permission of Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation and the author, David Bowman.

Readers are invited to visit the Heritage Center Monday through Friday 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and Saturday 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

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## Publications Available For Sale

*Beersheba Springs, a History Vol. I* 2010, \$20.00

*Beersheba Springs, a History Vol. II Family Homes, Love and More*, \$20.00

*Beersheba Springs, a History Vol. II Supplement* 2012, \$20.00

*Beersheba Springs, a History Vol. III Classics*, \$20.00

*Family History of Flury – Stoker Family* compiled by Catherine Flury, \$25.00

*Grundy County Family Portraits* by Jackie Partin, \$15.00

*Grundy County Cemeteries Vol. I*, \$40.00

*Grundy County Cemeteries Vol. II*, \$40.00

*The Heritage of Grundy County*, \$50.00

*John Armfield of Beersheba Springs* by Isabel Howell, \$15.00

*Morton B. Howell Memoirs*, \$10.00

*Mountain Voices & Index, The Centennial History of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly*,  
\$60.00

*The Swiss Colony at Gruetli* by Frances Helen Jackson, edited by Clopper Almon 2010,  
\$20.00

*The Pathfinder* (Quarterly Publication of Grundy Co. Historical Society) back issues, \$12.00

*Pictures of Our Past Grundy County Tennessee*, collected and edited by Grundy County  
Historical Society 2008 is out of print.

Book orders costing \$25 or less, include \$7.00 postage. Book orders over \$25, include \$10.00 postage.

Our 175th Anniversary of Grundy County Pictorial History book is now with the printer. We hope that all of you sent in pictures to be included in the book. Acclaim Press tells us that the book will be complete in the near future; we are looking forward to it and hope that you will be too. If you have not purchased a copy, the book will be \$49.95 plus \$7.00 if you want it shipped to you. Please send your payment to Grundy County Historical Society; P.O. Box 1422; Tracy City, TN 37387 along with your mailing information. If you have questions, please contact us at [heritagelibrary@blomand.net](mailto:heritagelibrary@blomand.net).

# GRUNDY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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### SOCIETY MEETINGS

The Grundy County Historical Society meets semi-annually (June and December) at the Heritage Center. Meetings are normally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday unless otherwise announced. These meetings are open to anyone with an interest in the history of the region.

### MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$30.00 and include delivery of The Pathfinder electronically by email. Paper copies of The Pathfinder delivered by U.S. Postal Service, are an additional \$15.00, for a total of \$45.00. Membership is for the calendar year and expires on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### EDITOR

The Pathfinder is published quarterly by the GCHS. The Society welcomes articles submitted for publication. Please submit your typed articles in digital format to [heritagelibrary@blomand.net](mailto:heritagelibrary@blomand.net). If possible, attach a couple of photos that can be used with the article. If you cannot send the article digitally, contact the TCCC Library for instructions at 931 592-6008. The GCHS is looking for a new Editor. If you are interested in becoming the Editor, please contact the Heritage Center.

### QUERIES & RESEARCH

Brief queries are free. Submit email to Janelle Taylor at [jantay641@gmail.com](mailto:jantay641@gmail.com). If you are sending a written request, send to TCCC Library Att: Janelle; P.O. Box 1422; Tracy City, TN 37387 with your question, and include a **Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope** for our reply. Research that takes more than 30 minutes will be charged at \$10 per hour and \$.20 per copied page, plus postage and handling. We will advise before starting any extensive research, however.



**Grundy County Historical Society Heritage Center**

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**Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company Library**

**[heritagelibrary@blomand.net](mailto:heritagelibrary@blomand.net)**

**Website**

**[www.grundycountyhistory.org](http://www.grundycountyhistory.org)**

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