



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

PGT Beauregard Confederate statue comes down in New Orleans

By Jamiel Lynch and Darran Simon, CNN, May 17, 2017

The City of New Orleans early Wednesday removed one of the two remaining Confederate monuments that had been scheduled to come down.

The equestrian statue of Confederate Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard honors the military leader who died in New Orleans in 1893. It is the third monument to come down in the city.

Earlier Tuesday, police put up barricades near the monument, CNN affiliate WGNO reported. Protesters both for and against the statue gathered at the site as the work started that evening. Shortly after 3 a.m. Wednesday, crew workers yanked the Beauregard statue from its perch and lowered it to a truck as scattered cheers broke out.



Crews begin removing the Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard monument in City Park in New Orleans late Tuesday under cover of darkness. (Matthew Hinton/The Advocate via AP)

"Today we take another step in defining our city not by our past but by our bright future," Mayor Mitch Landrieu said in a statement. "While we must honor our history, we will not allow the Confederacy to be put on a

pedestal in the heart of New Orleans."

Three down, one Confederate statue left

Three monuments have been dismantled since the New Orleans City Council in 2015 voted to remove four Confederate landmarks. Recent court decisions paved the way for the city to relocate the monuments after years of heated public debate and legal fights.

A statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee is the last monument scheduled to be removed and relocated.

Beauregard's statue, near City Park, was erected in 1915 in honor of the prominent general who led the attack on Fort Sumter in South Carolina, a siege that marked the beginning of the Civil War.

In 2015, the words "Black Lives Matter" were spray-painted on both sides of the monument's column, CNN affiliate WDAM-TV reported.

Last week, the city removed a 6-foot statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis from its pedestal. The Davis statue stood atop a roughly 12-foot column and depicted him with his right arm outstretched, towering over the street also named after him.

Davis lived in New Orleans after the Civil War and died there in 1889. The statue was dedicated in 1911. In 2004, the words "slave owner" were painted on the monument's base.

Last month, the city dismantled the first of the four monuments: an obelisk commemorating the Battle of Liberty Place. The monument marked a deadly fight between members of the Crescent City White League, a group opposed to the city's biracial police force, and state militia after the Civil War.

Amid security threats, contractors wearing masks and tactical vests

worked in the dark of night to remove that monument.

Landrieu said the statues will be put in storage while the city looks for a suitable place to display them, such as a museum. The city secured private funding to remove the monuments, the mayor's office has said.

But backlash has been building against removing Confederate monuments.

The Louisiana House passed a bill Monday that would prohibit local governments from removing war memorials, including those from the Civil War.

House Bill 71 allows local governments to take down a memorial only if voters approve the action at "an election held for that purpose." The proposal passed in a 65-31 vote and heads to the state's Senate.

Beyond New Orleans

The effort to remove the New Orleans monuments is part of larger controversy surrounding Confederate symbols in cities nationwide. Some argue the monuments symbolize racial injustice and slavery. Supporters say the monuments are part of history and heritage. The issue rose to prominence after the 2015 massacre of nine black parishioners at the historically black Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal church in Charleston, South Carolina, by a self-described white supremacist. Efforts to remove Confederate statues are underway in other parts of the South.

In Charlottesville, Virginia, the city council voted narrowly in February to remove a bronze statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, and to rename Lee Park, where the statue stands.



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That move triggered protests over the weekend, starting with one on Saturday in which torch-carrying demonstrators were led by white nationalist Richard Spencer -- evoking swift criticisms that the gathering evoked images of the Ku Klux Klan. A counter-protest was held on Sunday night.

In St. Louis, Missouri, Mayor Lyda Krewson has committed to removing a 32-foot tall Confederate monument from a park. Her spokesman Koran Addo said they're looking for the right place to house the 40-ton statue before they remove it. The cost could extend over \$100,000.

In Orlando, Florida, Mayor Buddy Dyer said he plans to move the marble statue known as "Johnny Reb" from a park to a cemetery. The issue remained contentious during a City Council meeting this week, according to the Orlando Sentinel.

Louisiana House votes to stop removal of Confederate statues day before Beauregard statue removed

AJC staff, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, May 17, 2017

The day after the Louisiana House voted to stop the removal of war memorials and monuments in the state, the city of New Orleans on Wednesday dismantled the equestrian statue of Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard.

Starting late Tuesday evening and working well into Wednesday morning, crews used a crane to pull the six- to seven-ton statue of Beauregard astride his horse from its pedestal, the Times-Picayune reported, and also removed the nameplate.

The New Orleans newspaper said the noted jazz trumpeter and composer

Terence Blanchard was on the scene at 3 a.m., using his phone to record the moment. Blanchard, an African-American born in New Orleans who has won multiple Grammys and also scored Spike Lee's movies, said he had just come into town when he read that the monument was coming down.

"It's a historic moment," Blanchard said, according to the Times-Picayune. "This is something I never thought I'd see in my lifetime. It's a sign that the world is changing." But Louisiana lawmakers don't see it that way.

The House voted 65-31 on Monday to prohibit the removal of Civil War monuments -- a move that so angered the House Black Caucus that all 24 members walked out in protest.

Rep. Terry Landry, a Democrat and member of the black caucus, said the members had no choice but to walk, according to the Advocate of Baton Rouge.

"It was disgusting," Landry told the Advocate. "We just couldn't stay. You have to stand for something."

HB71 says, in part:

915. Military memorial conservation

11 A. (1) No memorial, including any structure, plaque, statue, or monument, that is located on public property and that commemorates the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, War Between the States, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War, War in Iraq, or any Native American War shall be altered, removed, relocated, or destroyed.

(2) No public memorial, including any structure, plaque, statue, monument, 18 school, street,

bridge, building, park, or area, that has been dedicated in memory of 19 or named for any historical military figure, historical military event, military organization, or military unit shall be altered, removed, relocated, destroyed, rededicated, or renamed.

Although the measure lists every war its authors could think of, observers agreed that it was aimed at the Civil War. The bill, which now goes to the state Senate, does provide for changing or removing such monuments "if a proposition authorizing the action has been approved by a majority of the voters who vote on the proposition at an election held for that purpose."

The removal of the Beauregard statue in New Orleans, which stood at the Esplanade near the entrance to City Park, was the third such overnight action by the city since Mayor Mitch Landrieu ordered the removal of four monuments glorifying the Confederacy.

As in the first two operations, workers were wearing bulletproof vests and other protective gear and were covered by police. Supporters and opponents of the removal demonstrated as the statue was lifted off.

The city first removed an obelisk dedicated to the Crescent City White League, which engaged in a deadly battle with the city's biracial police force in 1891. Last week the city took down a statue of Jefferson Davis, which stood at the intersection of Canal Street and Jefferson Davis Boulevard.

RELATED

Still to come is the removal of the soaring statue of Robert E. Lee, which represents the greatest challenge by far to the removal crew. Emporis, the website that



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catalogs the height of structures, says the Lee statue, and the column on which it stands, is 108 feet tall.

The Louisiana controversy continues even as the city of Charlottesville, Va., has its own debate over the proposed removal of a Robert E. Lee statue. The debate devolved into a racist Twitter fight Tuesday as opponents of the removal posted anti-Semitic rants against Mayor Mike Signer.

St. Louis mayor wants Confederate monument removed

By **JIM SALTER**, *Associated Press*, May 16, 2017

ST. LOUIS (AP) — St. Louis may soon join the growing list of cities removing monuments to the Confederacy, city officials said Tuesday.

Mayor Lyda Krewson wants the 32-foot-tall monument in Forest Park removed as soon as possible, and is looking into engineering options to take it down, said Eddie Roth, the city's director of human services.

The mayor's spokesman, Koran Addo, said there is no timetable for removal of the statue, but the mayor wants it done soon. He said the mayor's office doesn't believe the removal needs the board of aldermen's approval. Krewson, a Democrat, was elected and took office in April.

Other cities also are grappling with what to do about monuments and statues honoring the Confederacy and its soldiers and leaders.

New Orleans recently removed two of four statues honoring Confederate-era figures. And plans to take away a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee in Charlottesville, Virginia, led to a torch-carrying protest by white nationalists over the weekend and scuffles at a follow-up gathering denouncing that demonstration.

In Orlando, Florida, commissioners are discussing whether to remove a statue recognizing Confederate veterans from a downtown park, despite the objections of Confederate flag-waving protesters.



This Oct. 12, 2013 file photo shows a 32-foot granite monument honoring Confederate soldiers and sailors that has stood in St. Louis' Forest Park since 1914. St. Louis may soon join the growing list of cities removing monuments to the Confederacy. Mayor Lyda Krewson wants the monument removed as soon as possible, and is looking into engineering options to take it down, Eddie Roth, the city's director of human services, said Tuesday, May 16, 2017. (AP Photo/Jim Salter, File)

Compared to some monuments in the South that depict Lee or the president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, the St. Louis monument is a rather generic granite slab. Dedicated in 1914, it features a bronze tablet depicting a Confederate soldier leaving his family for the Civil War. An angel hovers above them. An inscription reads that the monument was erected "in memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Confederate States By the United Daughters of the Confederacy of Saint Louis."

In June 2015, vandals painted "Black lives matter" on Confederate monuments in a half-dozen states, including the one in St. Louis. The incidents came a week after nine black congregants at a Charleston, South Carolina, church, were killed in a racially motivated attack.

The graffiti in St. Louis may also have been spurred by the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed, black 18-year-old, in August 2014 in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson, Missouri. The white officer who killed him, Darren Wilson, was cleared of wrongdoing, but the shooting raised new awareness about the treatment of blacks in the region.

St. Louis officials looked into removing the Confederate monument around the time of the vandalism but could not find a museum willing to take it. For now, Roth said, Krewson simply wants it taken down and placed in storage until "someone is interested in displaying it and surrounding it with historically complete context and interpretive materials."

The Union's Last Ironclad Sailor

From BCWRT Member Steve Glazer, Lieutenant Colonel, USA (Ret.)

On April 19, 1945 -- less than three weeks before the end of World War II in Europe -- *The New York Times* carried an article headlined, "Veteran of Monitor, 101, Dies." The U.P. news report, datelined the previous day from Vineland, New Jersey, began, "Andrew Fenton, who served on the iron-clad Monitor during the Civil War, died today in the Soldiers Home here." Thus was born a tortuous tale that continues to this day.

The Times' report drew the attention of numerous historians over the years. Professor Jay Hoar of the University



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of Maine wove an elaborate tale describing how Fenton suffered the partial loss of sight and hearing in action against Fort Sumter when one of the *Monitor's* guns unexpectedly discharged, and how he later dramatically survived the iconic ironclad's sinking. (*The North's Last Boys in Blue*, Higginson Book Co., 2006, pp. 352-57.) Hoar largely relied on an interview of the old sailor published in 1938.

On the other hand, John Quarstein, Director of the USS *Monitor* Center in Newport News, Virginia, concluded that there is no proof for Fenton's purported service on the *Monitor*. Indeed, Quarstein goes much further. He categorically and repeatedly asserted in his book on the ship's crew that "there is no indication of *any* naval service" by Fenton. (*The Monitor Boys*, The History Press, 2011, pp. 299-301.)

The *Monitor* Center's website similarly now asserts that "no records of naval service have been found" for Fenton.

Both Hoar and Quarstein, as well as *The Times*, were mistaken. Moreover, there are abundant official records documenting Andrew Fenton's distinguished military service, making him the nation's last known veteran of the Civil War's ironclad monitors, albeit not the USS *Monitor*.

Andrew Fenton was born in St. Augustine, Florida, on Christmas 1843, but his family moved to Philadelphia when he was still an infant. According to unearthed naval records, Fenton enlisted for three years as a 1st Class Boy at the U.S. Naval Rendezvous in Philadelphia on September 2, 1862, on the receiving ship *Princeton*. Soon thereafter, he was sent to the USS *Patapsco*, a *Passaic*-class ironclad monitor first

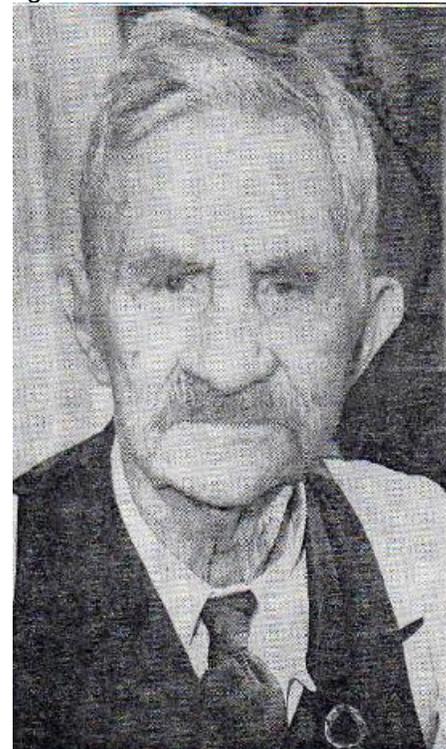
launched later that month from Wilmington, Delaware, by shipbuilder Harlan & Hollingsworth.



Patapsco was commissioned on January 2, 1863, when Fenton was formally assigned to her according to his service records. Fenton and his ship would be engaged in combat operations for the next two years. According to naval records, on the afternoon of November 2, 1863, while firing at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, a premature explosion of one of *Patapsco's* guns instantly killed a crew member and injured several others, including then-landsman Andrew Fenton. (*Official Records*, Ser. I, Vol. XV, p. 88.) And on the night of January 15, 1865, the *Patapsco*, on station for picket duty some 700 yards from Fort Sumter, struck a large torpedo and sank in the harbor's channel within 15 seconds, taking the ship's complement with her. Most perished, but Ordinary Seaman Andrew Fenton survived. (*Official Records*, Ser. I, Vol. XVI, pp. 178-79.) Two weeks later, Fenton reported for duty on the USS *Pawnee*, which saw action the following month in South Carolina against numerous Confederate artillery batteries.

On July 26, 1865, *Pawnee* was decommissioned at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where Fenton was honorably discharged the same day, according to the ship's final muster roll. However, Fenton was not done serving his country. One year later he re-enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and after

that term expired, he enlisted yet again.



ANDREW FENTON

After his years at sea, Fenton made his home in Fairfield and Mount Holly, New Jersey, as well as in Philadelphia, where he was a member of Anna M. Ross G.A.R. Post No. 94. In 1881, he married Susan Cecelia Bamford of Bridgeton, New Jersey, one year later having a son, Andrew Percy Fenton. On April 18, 1945, the ancient mariner passed away in Vineland, being buried in Overlook Cemetery in Bridgeton, marking the end of a direct link to the Civil War and its transformation of naval warfare.



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The Architect of Andersonville Prison: A son's quest to clear his father's name

By David Connon,
confederatesfromiowa.com, MAY 9, 2017

Mass imprisonment and poor supplies at Andersonville led to horrible cases of starvation. The War Department publicized photos of emaciated soldiers, giving Andersonville an infamous and enduring reputation.

Historian Arch Fredric Blakey wrote a biography of Confederate General John H. Winder, who was later blamed for Andersonville. Blakey writes:

To rescue a villain from history – to overturn a historical myth – is a difficult task.

William Sidney Winder ("Sidney"), one of General Winder's sons, spent years after the war ended, trying to rehabilitate his father's name.

Family life and the law

Sidney grew up in a slave-holding military family in various Southern towns. After attending Columbian College near Washington, D.C., Sidney practiced law in Keokuk, Iowa, from 1857 to fall 1860, and then he was an attorney in Baltimore.

Sidney's family became divided as war loomed. His father, a career military officer, wavered between remaining in the U.S. Army and serving the Confederacy. Sidney intended to fight for Southern independence, and his older half-brother remained a captain in the U.S. Army.

After Fort Sumter, North Carolina seceded, and Sidney's father, John H. Winder, resigned his commission "with great regret" and became a

brigadier general in the provisional Confederate army.



Confederate General John H. Winder

Sidney also joined the Confederate forces. He was promoted from 1st Lieutenant to Captain and Assistant Adjutant General, eventually serving on his father's staff.

Prison administration

General Winder became inspector general of prisons in the Richmond area. When hungry housewives broke into shops, General Winder helped President Jefferson Davis put down the Richmond Bread Riot.

Late in 1863, the prisons in Richmond were seriously overcrowded. General John H. Winder sent Sidney to Georgia to locate a site for a prison for Union POWs. That order led to the infamous Andersonville Prison.

Andersonville

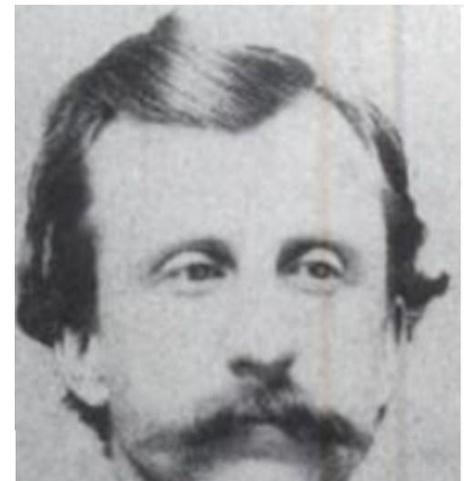
Sidney and his father tried to build and operate a prison that was spacious and relatively healthy, unlike the horror that became Andersonville. However, they failed.

Conditions worsened when, in December 1864, the North refused to resume the cartel (the exchange of POWs). Prison populations continued to increase, in spite of insufficient resources to feed, clothe, and care for them.

General Winder proposed that the Confederates parole POWs and send them home without exchange. That would have alleviated the problems at Andersonville, but his superiors rejected the idea, calling it "worse than evil."

General Winder died a few weeks later in on Feb. 6, 1865. Sidney went to Richmond, planning to resign, but instead he was charged with guarding the Confederate treasury and archives after the fall of Richmond.

Guarding Confederate gold and archives



Confederate Captain Sidney Winder

Sidney and eight other officers eventually reached the David Levy Yulee plantation in Florida on May 22, 1865 – twelve days after Jefferson Davis was captured.

Author Blakey writes:

The group decided to bury the archives on the Yulee grounds [and allotted] one-fourth of the gold to support of Mrs. Davis and her



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children; the rest they divided equally among themselves. Each officer received gold sovereigns in the amount of \$1,995.

The nine officers surrendered and were paroled. Sidney eventually resumed his law practice.

Focus on POW camps

Even before Appomattox, historian Marouf Hasian Jr. writes, "Northern presses were filled with lurid tales of lurid tales of victims of dysentery, scurvy, and gangrene" at Andersonville and other prison camps. Writer Susan Sontag writes that "photographs of skeletal prisoners held at Andersonville inflamed public opinion.

Since General Winder was dead, the logical person to blame for Andersonville was commander Captain Henry Wirz. Captain Wirz was given a military tribunal and hanged.

An uphill battle

Sidney maintained that he and his father had never been cruel to prisoners. He and an uncle struggled to clear his father's name.

However, Union officials who controlled the captured Confederate archives did not cooperate. Without original documents, it was impossible to refute Union accusations that General John H. Winder was a cold-blooded mass murderer.

Sidney spent more than 10 years in a quixotic quest. His health deteriorated, and he eventually withdrew from the world. He died on February 25, 1925.

Elmira Civil War Prison Camp Opens To Public

ELMIRA, NEW YORK – MAY 8, 2017 – A long-buried part of New York State's Civil War history is being resurrected this summer in the City of Elmira.

The Elmira Civil War Prison Camp site will open to the public on June 24th and 25th, 2017, with *Barracks to Prison Pen: A Living History & Preservation Challenge* to be held on the historic grounds of the prison camp along the Chemung River in western New York.

Among the weekend's activities are the Grand Dedication of an actual reconstructed prison camp building; living history demonstrations with Union, Confederate, and civilian reenactors; tours of a reproduction barrack building; guided walking tours of the camp; a speakers' slate of Civil War experts; book signings; Civil War exhibits at the Chemung County Historical Society; and an interdenominational memorial service at the military burial grounds at Woodlawn National Cemetery. In addition, visitors can view the prison camp from a replica wooden observation tower and visit the memorial garden.



Elmira Prisoner of War camp. Note prisoners lined up for rations.

In July of 1864, the recruiting depot for Union troops at Elmira was re-designated as a prison camp for captured Confederate soldiers. During its one year of operation, more than 12,000 rebel prisoners passed through the camp. 2,963 of them died in captivity. Since the war's end, overcrowding; the poor condition of

arriving prisoners; the harsh winter climate; shortages in clothing, shelter, food, and medicine; and bureaucratic foot dragging have all been put forth as reasons for the nearly 25% death rate. The dead were buried, with noteworthy respect, by escaped slave and local church sexton, John W. Jones, at nearby Woodlawn Cemetery, where their graves remain today.

"*Barracks To Prison Pen* will explore the facts and myths surrounding the history of the camp and seek the proper way to remember the legacy of both the Union soldiers who trained in Elmira and the Confederate soldiers who were imprisoned there," says Martin Chalk, President of the non-profit Friends of the Elmira Civil War Prison Camp, sponsors of the living history weekend.

This commemorative event is intended to raise awareness of Western New York's unique Civil War past and encourage support for the development of the Elmira Civil War Prison Camp site as a center for education, research, and critical examination of a controversial chapter in our nation's history.

Admission to the event is free, but donations are encouraged. All activities will take place on Saturday, June 24th, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, June 25th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fellow CWRTs,

Fort Negley, just south of downtown Nashville, TN, on St. Cloud Hill, is the largest limestone fort built during the Civil War. The Union engineers that designed it were heavily influenced by the 17th Century French military engineer Sebastien Vauban; the fort remains a classic example of that style. It was the anchor of the Union defense lines built to protect the city



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after its capture on February 25th, 1862 by the Army of the Ohio under Gen. Don Carlos Buell. The lines ran in a curve with both flanks being anchored on the Cumberland River. Fort Negley was filled with numerous heavy cannons, along with other forts and redoubts built for the defenses and it is the only such fort remaining from the entire double line of fortifications.

The crucial Battle of Nashville was fought just south of the fort on December 15th and 16th, 1864. The first Union shots fired in the battle came from the fort, which had also fired on the first Confederate defense lines prior to this while they were being built. Additionally, the labor of hundreds of former slaves was used to build this fort along with the rest of the defenses of Nashville and a Freedman's Camp was close by. The fort fell into disrepair until the WPA era of the mid-20th Century when it was rebuilt. However, Nashville let it get grown over with trees and brush again until the 2000s when it was cleaned up and became a unit of the Nashville Metro parks Department. An interpretive center was also built onsite and today Civil War tourists from all over come and enjoy walking through the fort and seeing the amazing views of downtown Nashville and the Brentwood Hills to the south, where the first day of the Battle of Nashville was fought.

Like many Southern cities, Nashville is booming thanks to a great Tennessee economy. Construction cranes dot the skyline as one high rise after another goes up in downtown. The projections for growth for the next 20-25 years calls for 1 million new residents in Middle Tennessee, centered around Nashville. This massive growth has

already created large scale problems like traffic and housing shortages and developers left and right have been drawing up plan after plan to hopefully solve that. One such developer has his sights set on Greer Stadium, the old home of the minor league baseball team the Nashville Sounds (who have a new stadium). Built just east on what is technically Fort Negley property with a large parking lot, the city has been trying to decide what to do with the stadium for three years. Green space, mixed use developments and more have been brought forward. Naturally, the historic preservation community prefers green space which would allow for a greater interpretation of Fort Negley's large footprint. Some Civil War trenches remain behind the stadium as does a historic cemetery. No archeological survey of the grounds of Fort Negley has ever been done for either the fort, the Freedman's Camp site nor remaining earthworks.

In a recently revealed plan, one developer seeks to use part of Greer Stadium and turn it into an open air market as the centerpiece of a new mixed-use development with condos, allegedly low cost housing, stores and more. This planned monstrosity will basically dwarf Fort Negley on three sides and with the high rise buildings as part of the plan, obfuscate the views looking south. There is to be no, much needed, expansion of the Fort Negley parking lot.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Civil War Roundtables of America - if you would like to come to Nashville and do something historical besides the antebellum homes, President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage or the nearby battlefields of Nashville, Franklin and

Stones River, and would like to see America's only surviving limestone fort left uncluttered, PLEASE, take the time to send emails to the metro government of Nashville and the parks department. Parks should know better than this as it is owned by them. We NEED your help quickly **so I am asking you to put this into your newsletters, send out to your membership,** and PLEASE help us stop this development!!! The clock is ticking and a lot of money is on the table with this. Nashville has other blighted places that could be redeveloped other than Fort Negley so help us here in Middle Tennessee stop this nonsense! Please let the people running Nashville hear loud and clear from America's great Civil War community!

We appreciate any and all help you can render by sending those emails out today! Thanks for your time.

Greg Biggs

President, Clarksville, TN CWRT

Program Chair, Nashville CWRT and Bowling Green, KY CWRT

If you want to help stop this development, please contact the Mayor of Nashville, Megan Barry (megan.barry@nashville.gov), and the Nashville Metro City Council. You should also contact the City of Nashville Metro Parks department and let them know how you feel about this. Their email is - metroparks@nashville.gov. The city's web site is www.nashville.gov. Let them hear the voices of the Civil War community of America and stop this development.