GALLERY RENOVATIONS CONTINUE TO PROGRESS

It’s already looking quite different down in the museum’s basement as our renovations get underway. The old carpeting has been removed; next on the list is getting new carpeting installed and new walls put up!

There is a lot of rich history within our 1898 building. The building has served as a post office and customs house, the home of the Department of Electricity, and now as a museum.

In 1891, Congress voted $35,000 to erect a post office/customs house in Clarksville, Tennessee to accommodate the region’s booming tobacco trade. After years of wrangling over plans and costs, the building, which was designed by William Aiken, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, was opened to the public in November 1898.

The design and construction of the first post office in Clarksville caused quite a stir. The people of Clarksville abhorred the blend of Italianate, Romanesque, Flemish and Gothic styles and called the building an “architectural absurdity and a public laughing stock.”

Our construction crew came across an interesting surprise down in the basement as they were making improvements to the galleries (pictured left).

“It looks like this column box out was actually constructed for an old concrete abutment associated with the 1940’s CDE renovation. It could have been an over pour back in the day or a possible fix to an existing bowing wall condition”.

Jon Clark
Clark and Associate Architects, Inc.

Thank you again to our visitors for your continued patience as we complete our renovations. Construction is slated to be completed in March.
**GALLERY TALK WITH DR. JOHN OLSON**

**Coming Soon in February (Date TBA)**

**Gallery Talk with Dr. John Olson**

Join us as Dr. Olson discusses his collection featured in the exhibit “Of Stars & Stripes: From the Collection of Dr. John Olson”.

The exhibit contains original pre-Civil War flags, reproductions from the Colonial era, and more!

Program is free with paid museum admission or museum membership. Check with our website and Facebook for date announcement.

The Museum will be **CLOSED** on Monday, February 15th for Presidents’ Day.

**Thank you to our 4 for 5 Sponsors**

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NOW ON EXHIBIT

Of Stars & Stripes: From the Collection of Dr. John Olson

Through February 28th

Mergings: A Visual Exploration
The Art of Jennifer Crescuillo

February 2nd - 28th
Sponsored by: Nashville Arts Magazine

Celebrating Black History Month

Through February 28th
In the lobby.

Items that will be on display include: slave inventory lists, a letter from Doctor Thomas Monroe to Union General Edwin Vose Sumner, a United States Colored Troops (USCT) 16th regiment poster, a slave shackle with ball and chain, a class photo of Cobb Elementary c. 1915, and some other interesting photographs and documents that relate to the history of African Americans in the Montgomery County region.
These documents, dating from January 1\textsuperscript{st} 1835, list an inventory of William Dowdy’s slaves. The name of each slave is listed with a value beside the name. A total value is at the bottom of the inventory. The inventory is with a chart listing the names of William Dowdy’s five children with the names of the slaves that they will receive from their father’s estate.

Slavery would not be outlawed in Tennessee until 1864; it is likely that the majority of the slaves listed spent their entire lives as such. These documents offer a small glimpse into the inhumane practice of slavery, of viewing people as personal property. As can be seen, this list reduces people to a single name and value on a sheet of paper, a reminder of the troubling history of slavery.

Kali Mason
Curator of Collections

JANUARY EXHIBIT OPENING: Were you there?
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Annual memberships contribute substantially to the Museum’s support, helping us offer entertaining, thought-provoking exhibits and programming. We would like to thank our members, both the new and the faithful. Listed are those who have joined or renewed as of December of 2015.

NEW MEMBERS

SOLO:
Ms. Debbie Flowers
Ms. Alison Weakley
Ms. Diana Weakley

ACTIVE MILITARY FAMILY:
Mr. and Mrs. John Duffy
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Corey Carver
Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Flores
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Goodrich
Mr. and Mrs. Cheynne Hancock
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Irmer
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Lemicux
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Miller
Mr. and Mrs. James Russell
Mr. and Mrs. John Slough

DUO/FAMILY:
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kasitz
Mr. and Mrs. John Schnettler
Mr. and Mrs. John Schuler
Mr. and Mrs. Claudie Stamper
Mr. David and Mrs. Jo-Ann Thomack
Mr. and Mrs. Nick Thompson

BENEFACTOR:
Ms. Carole Menser

RENEWING MEMBERS

SOLO:
Mr. C.F. Cates
Mr. Stan Darnell
Ms. Kathleen Lange
Mr. Fredrick Lewis
Dr. Connie Livingston Dunn
Mr. Hayse McGahey
Dr. Jeanie Page Randall
Ms. Evelyn Tucker

ACTIVE MILITARY FAMILY:
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Darling
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Doss
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gordon
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hall
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Schunk
Mrs. Shannon Wilford and
Ms. Olivia Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wilson

DUO/FAMILY:
Mr. and Mrs. Coy Baggett Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Church
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Darnell
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gadsey
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gossett
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Griffey
Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Head
Mr. and Mrs. Noel Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Pennington
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pierce
Mr. and Mrs. Van Stokes
Mr. and Mrs. John Waddle
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Yeager

FRIEND:
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Darnell
Ms. Hazel Goodlett
Mr. and Mrs. T. Max Hochstetler
Dr. and Mrs. Phillip Kemmerly
Mr. Henry Livingston
Mr. and Mrs. James Mann
Dr. and Mrs. Carlton Stedman
Mr. Mark Young

SUPPORTER:
Mr. Jeff Burkhart
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Uffelman

BENEFACTOR:
Mr. and Mrs. J. Mark Holleman

EAGLE:
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Summers

Questions about your membership? Contact:

Brittany Morgan
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Sales Coordinator
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Stay warm this winter with locally handmade hats and scarves by Erin Johnson!

Warm Arrivals at Seasons the museum store