



September 2021

Finding the Witness

License Plate to the Battle of Nashville Monument Park



*This battlefield supporter visited the **Battle of Nashville Monument**, also known as the “Peace Monument,” a white granite and bronze monument honoring the sacrifices of both Confederate and Union soldiers who fought in the December 15-16, 1864 Battle of Nashville, as well as the American soldiers who fought in World War I. The Monument Park is located at the intersection of Granny White Pike and Clifton Lane. During the 1st day of the Battle of Nashville Federal troops stormed across this farm known as “Noel’s Place” in their assault of Stewart’s Confederate line.*

Dedicated in June 1999 the monument replaces the 1926 monument, located along Franklin Road which was severely damaged in a 1974 tornado. The original monument was erected by the **Ladies Battlefield Memorial Association** and as carved in today’s monument, was “aided by contributions from Patriotic Citizens, the State of Tennessee and the County of Davidson.”

The two horses in the bronze statue were part of the original monument. They represent the North and the South, yoked together by a young man symbolizing all Americans who fought in the Civil

War and World War I. The word “UNITY” is inscribed on the banner. The bronze sculpture was said to be fashioned out of melted cannon barrels. The granite obelisk, topped by an angel overlooking the battlefield, had to be completely rebuilt.



This 1965 aerial photo (Metro Nashville Archives) depicts the location of the original monument. The tornado and construction of the I-65 and I-440 interchange nearly obliterated the site leading to the decision to move the monument to the present location. The base of the original 1926 monument remains at the original site along Franklin Road.



***Witness to the battle.** During the battle the large oak that stands today adjacent to the monument, in 1864 stood near the breastworks constructed by the Confederate line which ran diagonally across the property. Documents about the action on the Noel farm during and after the Battle include this witness tree. The tree has been designated an historic tree by the Tennessee Landmark and Historic Tree Registry.*

Information about the Battle of Nashville Monument Park is from the Battle of Nashville Trust website. For more information visit: <http://www.battleofnashvilletrust.org/battle-of-nashville-monument/>

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!

If you have a “Save our Battlefields” license plate, please consider stopping by and taking a photo of your plate at a battlefield or other battle-related Civil War site in your area... we’re especially interested in sites that don’t always get the historians’ spotlight! If you’re looking for a site in your area, we can help find one nearby – just email us - or if you’ve already got that special photo please send to info@tcwpa.org.



You can purchase the license plate at your County Clerk's office for \$36.00 plus your regular registration fees. Proceeds from the sale of the plate will help protect and interpret important battlefields in Tennessee.

For more information, visit: tcwpa.org/license-plate

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association preserves and interprets Tennessee's Civil War Battlefields and their contributing landscapes for present and future generations.

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