



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EAST TENNESSEE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES ANNUAL LIST OF
ENDANGERED PLACES**

KNOXVILLE, TENN. – On March 4, 2013, the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance (ETPA) announced the 2013 East Tennessee’s Endangered Heritage list of endangered historic buildings and places in the sixteen-county region. The announcement took place at the East Tennessee History Center, located at 601 South Gay Street.

This marks the fourth list of endangered historic places selected by the ETPA Board of Directors from nominations received from members and the general public. Preservation strategies are developed for each site on the list and can include working with current property owners, government officials, citizens and/or potential new owners to preserve these important parts of East Tennessee’s heritage. In some cases, ETPA will organize volunteer work days to help stabilize and protect sites.

East Tennessee Preservation Alliance partners with community leaders, organizations, and businesses across the region to find preservation solutions for the endangered properties identified for the annual list and encourage the communities across the region to join in efforts to save our endangered heritage.

The East Tennessee Preservation Alliance works to protect places and structures with historic or cultural significance in Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union counties. It is governed by a board of directors with representatives from across the region. ETPA carries out its mission through a variety of programs and encourages community support through education and advocacy. To get involved with ETPA’s advocacy efforts, please call 865-523-8008.

2013 East Tennessee's Endangered Heritage

Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts in Gatlinburg

Former Tennessee Military Institute in Sweetwater

Stonecipher-Kelly-McCartt House in Morgan County

Alexander Inn in Oak Ridge

Old Post Office in LaFollette

The Tanner Cultural Center in Newport

Abandoned Rural Schoolhouses in Grainger County

Rural Mount in Hamblen County

Morristown College in Morristown

Historic Dandridge School in Dandridge

Quaker Valley in New Market

Central Business District of Lenoir City

Old Monroe Health Department/Legion Hall in Madisonville

Brushy Mountain State Correctional Complex in Morgan County

Neglected Cemeteries across Entire Region

New Salem Baptist Church in Sevierville

Oak Grove School in Sharps Chapel

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts



Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts can be reached at 865-436-5860 ext. 29.

Pi Beta Phi can be reached at 636-256-0680.

The Arrowmont School of Arts in Crafts is nestled in Gatlinburg, TN. Its legacy dates back to 1912 when the Pi Beta Phi women's fraternity established a nearby settlement school. The settlement school curriculum focused mostly on traditional education courses, but quickly expanded to include mountain handicrafts to help preserve the artisan legacy of the residents and to provide a source of revenue for locals. By 1943, Sevier County assumed control of the settlement school and launched the summer crafts workshop program in 1945. The summer program grew in popularity and continues today by offering over 130 classes in contemporary arts and crafts.

The Arrowmont campus includes two National Register Historic districts, which are the only such designated districts in Gatlinburg. The significant buildings include houses designed by Barber McMurry Architects, a chicken coop, and a barn. Pi Beta Phi owns all of the historic buildings and Arrowmont owns the buildings erected after 1991. Pi Beta Phi leases the property to Arrowmont for \$1 per year through 2015.

In 2008, Pi Beta Phi announced their intentions to sell the property to a developer who planned to demolish the historic campus to make way for a hotel and water park. Luckily, those plans were averted and Arrowmont was given an extended lease. Then in 2010, Arrowmont announced plans to remain in Gatlinburg and laid the groundwork to negotiate the acquisition of the property. Because of their decision to remain in Gatlinburg, the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance presented the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts with a preservation award in 2011. Their decision to stay on the historic campus ensures the preservation of the buildings and the cultural landscape.

Unfortunately, the long term plans to remain in Gatlinburg are now in question. In December 2012, Pi Beta Phi announced that a deal had been struck to purchase the property for an undisclosed amount. The buyers are in their due diligence period and have been communicating with local stakeholders as they hope to find a workable design solution for everyone.

ETPA urges the potential buyers and Pi Beta Phi to continue to work with Arrowmont to reach a mutually beneficial arrangement that preserves the historic buildings and the legacy of the fraternity's commitment to Gatlinburg.

Former Tennessee Military Institute



City of Sweetwater Mayor Doyle can be reached at 423-337-6979.

The Sweetwater Military Academy was established in 1874 and was later named Tennessee Military Institute (TMI) in 1975. The 144-acre campus includes ten buildings. The main and most iconic building dates back to 1910. During its heyday the campus was a place where young men and women (1973-1975) could attend school with the added benefit of military discipline. TMI closed in 1988 and was sold to Meiji Gakuin University, who operated the campus as a school for Japanese high school students called Tennessee Meiji Gakuin (TMG). Enrollment continued to decline and in 2007, TMG closed. Then in 2010, TMG negotiated a transfer to a newly formed organization known as the Sweet Water Sustainability Institute (SWSI).

ETPA worked with SWSI as they visited the campus, researched grants, and considered the prospect of listing the site in National Register of Historic Places. Unfortunately, SWSI suffered from internal, organizational battles and began fighting over control of the historic campus. During the SWSI organizational split, the property was transferred to Enota, which is a wellness retreat based in north Georgia. Now, the legal ownership of the property is a debated issue in court between SWSI and Enota, who currently holds the title to the property. In January, the City of Sweetwater petitioned the court to intervene on the City's behalf because the City became willing to secure and stabilize the buildings. The court denied that petition, but the City remains ready to assist until the court determines the owner of the property.

All too often, historic properties are caught in legal ambiguity that leads to declining values and missed preservation opportunities. ETPA urges the court to settle the dispute quickly and to allow SWSI or Enota to take control of the property. Once control of the property is determined, further deterioration will be minimized and the campus can once again contribute to the Sweetwater Community. The longer the buildings are left empty, the worse they become.

Stonecipher-Kelly-McCartt House



Barbara Stagg, ETPA board member, can be reached at (865) 776-4267.

Around 1807-1808, Joseph Marion Stonecipher and his sons, along with the Samuel Hall family, were the first permanent white settlers in the wilderness area that is now called Morgan County. The Stoneciphers settled various tracts of a Revolutionary War land-grant in the beautiful Emory River valley and its tributaries. In 1814, Ezra B. Stonecipher, one of Joseph's sons, constructed an unusually large, two-story log home with an additional, third-level loft on a portion of the land-grant adjacent to an area known today as Frozen Head State Park. The saddlebag style is unusual for the region, and the house retains most of its original, character-defining, architectural features.

In December 2012, the estate put the house and 30 acres up for auction. Barbara Stagg, ETPA board member and longtime Morgan County resident, worked with descendants of the McCartt family and local preservationists to organize a group of buyers for the property with the intention of later transferring it to a public or non-profit entity. Fortunately, the family was the highest bidder, and the property remains in preservation-friendly ownership. Now, the real work begins.

In February 2013, the house and property was presented to the State Land Acquisition Commission for review as a potential addition to the Frozen Head State Park. The Commission was receptive, but the property will be scored against other state projects. ETPA urges the state to fully support the inclusion of the house and land into the Frozen Head State Park. We look forward to working with the Tennessee Historical Commission, the State of Tennessee, the descendants, and the community to preserve, restore, and interpret this important house and property.

Alexander Inn in Oak Ridge



Originally known as The Guest House, the Alexander Inn was built in 1943 in Oak Ridge to serve the “Secret City.” The wood-framed building, similar to many other World War II “H-plan” buildings, served as guest quarters during the top-secret Manhattan Project. At that time, a number of dignitaries including Enrico Fermi, Robert Oppenheimer, and General Leslie Groves stayed at the Inn. In 1949, a 44-room addition was completed to accommodate the expanding Oak Ridge community and in September 1950, the name changed to the Alexander Inn. It was sold to a private owner in 1958.

For a number of years, it remained in private ownership and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Despite its listing, its condition deteriorated and soon it was in serious disrepair.

ETPA worked diligently with the City of Oak Ridge and the Department of Energy to secure a grant to purchase and stabilize the historic Alexander Inn as part of the mitigation for the demolition of the East Tennessee Technology Park (historically known as K-25). ETPA is working with a local company, Family Pride, who intends to purchase and redevelop the building for assisted living facility. The restored property will not only better serve the community by contributing higher, local property taxes but it will also retain its legacy as one of the most significant, privately owned buildings in Oak Ridge. Unfortunately, until the transaction is complete, the Alexander Inn’s future remains undetermined. ETPA hopes to close on the property in the near future and work will begin at the site soon thereafter.

Old LaFollette Post Office



Gerry Myers, ETPA board member, can be reached at 423-494-0868.

In many communities across America, post offices were originally built in the heart of the city centers. As part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) under President Roosevelt's New Deal initiative, construction of the LaFollette Post Office began in 1936. The Post Office was dedicated in 1939 and served the LaFollette community until a new Post Office opened in 2008.

The USPS vacated the old LaFollette Post Office building shortly thereafter and placed it for sale on the real estate market. The 4,000 square foot building was listed for \$435,000. Unfortunately, over two years passed with no reasonable offer made for its purchase, so its contract expired. Today the property is still owned by the USPS, who kept the property well maintained until it was vacated. Now unoccupied, the building's condition is quickly deteriorating. The USPS announced in March 2013 that the property will be sold through Government Services Administration through an online auction process in May.

ETPA hopes the auction will result in a new owner who is interested in redeveloping the property. ETPA will help advertise the auction to entice qualified, preservation-friendly bidders.

The Tanner Cultural Center



Carlene Robinson, Director of Cocke County Council on Aging, can be reached at 423-623-7296.

The Newport Consolidated School, later called the Tanner School, was built in 1924 with financial support from the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Rosenwald helped fund hundreds of African American schools across the country and the Tanner School is one of a handful of Rosenwald schools in East Tennessee. Over the years, the historic school building evolved to serve growing community needs. The former school made way for community organizations as well as outreach programs.

In April 2011, The Tanner School, now known as the Tanner Cultural Center, received significant roof damage from a tornado that swept through Cocke County. Eventually, the roof was replaced, but not before significant water and mold damage had occurred inside the building. Due to the hazardous nature of the mold, the organizations were asked to move out of the building and its future became uncertain.

The City of Newport, the owner of the building, has begun extensive cleanup efforts and is commended for addressing environmental abatement issues. Plenty of work remains to be done, but we are optimistic that the Tanner Cultural Center will once again be an asset for the community. ETPA continues to work with the Tanner Preservation Alliance (TPA) that was established last year to oversee the restoration and long term preservation of the building. The TPA is currently raising funds for the preservation efforts and is working with the *Newport Plain Talk* to showcase the stories of Tanner Alumni.

Abandoned Rural Schoolhouses



Ken Coffey, Grainger County Historian and ETPA board member, can be reached at 865-767-2333.

In most rural areas, small one-room or two-room schoolhouses were built to serve the immediate community. As communities and education evolved, larger school buildings were erected to accommodate more students and more grade levels. In Grainger County, several abandoned rural schoolhouses are still standing and should be protected.

Dotson School: In 2011, an individual purchased the property but has no apparent plans for the schoolhouse. After closing as a school, the building has been used for hay storage and other agricultural purposes. It is still in good, structural condition and could easily be restored as a residence or small business.

Dutch Valley School: This school was converted to a residence and occupied for several years, but it is now abandoned. Fortunately, most of the vegetation that once covered the structure has been cleared away and some repairs have been made. We hope the owners will continue keeping the building stabilized and secured.

ETPA recognizes that each of these schools presents unique challenges and each school will have a unique solution. Unfortunately, little background information is available for some of these rural schools. ETPA will work with property owners and local officials to help develop plans for these abandoned rural schoolhouses and others in the region. Several other idyllic schoolhouses in Sevier and Union Counties are also endangered.

Rural Mount



Rural Mount was likely built in 1799 by Alexander Outlaw as a wedding gift for his daughter, Penelope, and her new husband, Joseph Hamilton. Outlaw and Hamilton were early proponents for the organization of the State of Franklin and for the establishment of the state of Tennessee. Hamilton was the first clerk of Jefferson County and one of the original trustees of Greenville College, the first state school.

The house is one of a handful of surviving eighteenth century stone houses in East Tennessee. Constructed in a random ashlar limestone pattern, the house has seen little alteration since its construction. In fact, many of the original architectural details remain, such as decorative scrollwork on the staircase, and evidence of decorative painting can still be seen on the wainscoting. In 1974, the house was measured and documented for the Historic American Building Survey (HABS), and it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

The house has been empty for about 30 years and sits in an active pasture. Fortunately, the roof is sound and the building has been secured against vandals, but the house will not survive without a viable use and immediate attention. During National Preservation Month in May 2010, volunteers from Tennessee Preservation Trust, Heritage Alliance, and ETPA cleaned and secured the house. In June 2011, ETPA and the property owner hosted 200 people for an open house at Rural Mount to continue raising awareness. ETPA will work closely with the property owner to help develop long-term plans for the unique house.

Morristown College



Morristown College campus sits on a picturesque hill close to downtown Morristown, located about halfway between Knoxville and the Tri-Cities in upper East Tennessee. Founded in 1881 by the National Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it was originally called Morristown Normal and Industrial College before the name changed to Morristown College and later Knoxville College-Morristown Campus. The original building was constructed on the site of a former slave market and built using hand-pressed bricks made on site. Following the Civil War, it became a secondary school at which freed men were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic.

At the height of its enrollment, the school occupied 12 buildings and encompassed 375 acres. Today, the entire campus is vacant. The property stands at 51 acres, and 7 of its 9 buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings have remained unoccupied for a number of years, undergoing thorough vandalism and exposure to the elements for much of that time. The campus is privately owned and available for purchase; however, the current owner has no interest in preserving the campus and has even threatened to demolish the buildings. Past development plans have fallen through because potential buyers were not able to come to a purchase price agreement with the owner.

In September 2008, a devastating fire engulfed the historic Cafeteria building and was a stark reminder of the imminent threat of fire damage to vacant buildings. Then in December 2010, a massive fire practically destroyed the most prominent building, the Laura Yard Hill Administration Building. The campus is adjacent to a historic residential area currently undergoing a "clean-up" initiative and a new historic homeowners association has been formed. It is close to downtown, and the city would be willing to work with a developer on infrastructure improvements.

ETPA urges the negligent property owner to sell or donate the property to a suitable buyer who can make use of the campus. Federal tax incentives and other opportunities are available to help offset the cost of the rehabilitation of the buildings. The City of Morristown has organized a task force to find a solution to the blighted property.

Historic Dandridge School



Barbara Garrow, Dandridge Community Trust and ETPA board member, can be reached at 865-397-3977.

The historic Dandridge School sits on a hill that overlooks the town of Dandridge and Douglas Lake. The building was designed by noted architects Barber McMurry and was built in 1927. In many regards, the building is a striking resemblance to many of the other schools designed by the firm during that era. The school was built to replace the nearby Maury Academy that was later torn down for the construction of a new Post Office.

The school building was sold by the county at an auction over 10 years ago to a private individual with no long term plans for the building or site. Today, most of the building is empty, and the 1950s addition is used as a small mechanic's shop. In December 2011, ETPA organized a tour of the building with a group of developers during one of the "Developers Roadshows." Historic school buildings are ideal candidates for adaptive re-use projects as evidenced in Knoxville and across the country. In fact, Knoxville's Oakwood School, which was built about the same time as the Dandridge School and in a similar state of disrepair, is currently undergoing a complete renovation and will be transformed into an assisted living facility.

ETPA strongly encourages the property owner to sell the building for a reasonable price that nets a fair profit without making extensive project costs prohibitive for future buyers. In the meantime, ETPA urges the owner to repair the damaged roof and address the resulting water damage so the building does not become a victim of "demolition by neglect." The longer the roof leaks, the value and integrity of the property will decrease. ETPA will continue working with the Dandridge Community Trust and the Town of Dandridge to find a new buyer for the building who will rehabilitate the historic school. The building is a prime candidate for historic rehabilitation tax credits and could be a welcomed addition to the vibrant Main Street community of Dandridge.

Quaker Valley



Harvey Young, Jefferson County Tomorrow, can be reached at 865-789-2511.

While ETPA focuses mostly on the preservation of historic buildings, it also recognizes that the conservation of the ever-shrinking rural landscape and scenic vistas are critical to East Tennessee. In New Market, 280 acres of historic farmland known as Quaker Valley is currently in the crosshairs of developers. The land continues to be the center of controversy as residents in Jefferson County try to prevent a proposed development by Norfolk Southern Railway that would change and therefore destroy the rural landscape forever. In January 2013, another large scale development known as a “megasite” was announced that could also severely impact the community.

Citizens are joining together against the development in a community driven non-profit organization called Jefferson County Tomorrow. The group is effectively challenging the job creation claims and the economic impact of the proposed rail yard. Simply put, the new intermodal rail yard would create roughly the same number of jobs that would be lost if the farms were taken out of use. Due to the ongoing nature of the project, it has been challenging to secure specific information about the progress or changes to the plan.

ETPA strongly urges Norfolk Southern and local officials in Jefferson County to use an existing industrial site for the intermodal rail yard to allow for the preservation of the rural farmland in New Market and to limit the negative environmental impact on prime agricultural land. If the rail yard is built, it will have an industrializing, ripple-effect on the community.

Central Business District of Lenoir City



As a reward for his services during the Revolutionary War, General William Lenoir was given 5,000 acres from the state of North Carolina along the northern bank of the Tennessee River. That land tract eventually became Lenoir City. Before it was sold from the family, the land was given to Lenoir's eldest son, Major William Ballard Lenoir, who farmed the land and built a house for his family. The land remained in the Lenoir family until 1876 and later was sold to the Lenoir City Company, which was formed by Knoxville and New York City businessmen who laid out the town and built many of the homes surrounding downtown.

With the completion of the interstate, the Lenoir City Central Business District began to decline. For many small towns in East Tennessee, interstate construction was a blessing and a curse. The changes in traffic patterns have diverted traffic from historic centers and sparked a wave of new development outside of downtown.

In 2011, ETPA hosted a Preservation Toolbox in Lenoir City that featured John Craig. Craig spoke about the qualities of a strong urban core by using Market Square as a case study. Later that year, ETPA hosted a Developers Roadshow in the city that brought preservation professionals to meet with local leaders. ETPA will continue working with leaders in Lenoir City and local businesses to continue their momentum. Lenoir City has already laid the groundwork for a successful downtown with beautification projects, but with the downturn in the economy, many storefronts are empty and businesses are closing their doors.

Old Monroe County Health Department/Legion Hall



Mayor Tim Yates can be reached at (423) 442-3981.

The unique stone building was constructed by the National Youth Administration as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the 1930s. For many years, the building was used as the Monroe County Health Department. The upstairs was called the American Legion Hall, and served the community as a meeting place for activities such as Boy Scouts, dances, private parties, etc.

The building has also been used as the Monroe County Election Commission Office and the Sessions Court Office. The building, which has now been abandoned by the county for several years, is located on Tellico Street in downtown Madisonville, just one block from the Monroe County Courthouse.

Over the past year, the County has done extensive repairs and maintenance to the exterior of the building and is commended for their efforts. The County continues to work on long term plans for the building. This property is an architecturally unique building in Madisonville and could be rehabilitated for numerous County uses, non-profit uses, or sold to a private developer. ETPA will work with community organizations and county officials to find a viable use for the significant building and assist with grants so it contributes to the community once again.

Brushy Mountain State Correctional Complex



Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary was built as a reaction to the Convict Lease Wars that were raging in the coal regions of Tennessee. The Tennessee General Assembly voted to construct two state prisons and end the practice of leasing convicts for private labor. In 1894, the state acquired over nine thousand acres for the construction of the remote Brushy Mountain State Prison in Petros. An additional 4,000 acres were added later. Inmates would mine coal and then cut timber from the state's holdings for use in large brick ovens to turn the Tennessee coal into "coke," a carbonaceous residue used as fuel and for producing steel. Inmates produced the prison's first coke in October 1897.

After labor disputes in the early 1970s, state officials closed the prison for approximately three years; it reopened in 1978. Over the next twenty years, the state made various improvements to the New Deal-era prison buildings as well as adding two major facilities within the prison wall, a Maximum Security Building (1989), which replaced some of the prison's recreational areas, and a new Law Library/Classroom Building (1998).

In February 2009, the Morgan County Mayor asked the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University for suggestions on the heritage development potential of Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary. Three members of the Center's staff, along with a doctoral student from the MTSU Public History program, were part of a group of county officials, architectural and engineering consultants, state economic and development department staff, local tourism officials, and prison guards who visited the prison and its museum. According to the MTSU report, "Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary is a compelling historical landscape, one of the most interesting and stark combinations of industrial and penal landscapes in the country."

Brushy Mountain shuttered its doors in the summer of 2009 and the state has no long term plans for the massive facility. ETPA encourages the state to continue working with Morgan County leaders to find a viable use for the unique compound that would preserve the building and its history.

Neglected Cemeteries



Pat Garrow, Chair of the ETPA Cemetery Task Force, can be reached at 865-548-8802.

Since fall 2009, ETPA's Cemetery Task Force has been working to develop solutions for cemetery preservation issues across the region by examining the state burial laws. The task force has focused on three primary objectives. First, the task force recommends that the state laws be updated to curtail the establishment of new cemeteries that could create future problems for families and cemetery advocates. Second, the task force urges the State of Tennessee to adopt legislation that guides the process of relocating cemeteries. In most states there are clear guidelines for developers to follow in the unusual case of relocating a cemetery. Third, the task force recommends a statewide database of cemeteries to help preservation efforts and to protect property owners.

ETPA worked with Representative Dennis Powers and Senator Ken Yager to draft legislation to address cemetery preservation issues. Over the next year, ETPA and the Cemetery Task Force will be asking for support from communities across East Tennessee and the state with the hopes of introducing legislation in the next session.

ETPA encourages awareness of neglected cemeteries in all 16 counties. Many cemeteries are moved to make way for new developments, but often graves and remains are neglected or not properly transferred to the new cemetery. With this in mind, we will work with communities, churches, and organizations to facilitate maintenance and long term adoption of these cemeteries.

New Salem Baptist Church



Alverrene Bridgeforth, ETPA board member and New Salem Task Force member, can be reached at 865-919-6557.

The New Salem Baptist Church was built in 1886 by Isaac Dockery, noted African American builder, and is Sevierville's oldest surviving building, Sevier County's oldest brick church building, and the only historic African American church in the county. The church served the thriving African American community until the 1950s when the last services were held by the original congregation.

Since that time, the church has been used by other congregations and denominations, and the historic integrity has slowly been chipped away. The original bell tower and pulpit furniture have been removed and the overall interior has been altered significantly.

Even with these changes, the church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2003, and a Tennessee Historical marker was placed on the grounds in 2006. The building suffers from lack of maintenance and ventilation issues, which are compromising the structure.

Today the church and grounds are used for the Annual Dockery Family Reunion, which draws hundreds of descendants to the church and idyllic grounds. The Dockery Family Association has been working with the East Tennessee Community Design Center, the African American Heritage Alliance, and ETPA to find a long term preservation solution for the building that would preserve the legacy of the building and the contributions of the congregation. A task force was established in summer 2011 and meets regularly to strategize solutions for the landmark building. The group hosted fundraisers and events to help towards the stabilization efforts of the New Salem Baptist Church and has worked with a local architect to complete drawings for the building.

Oak Grove School



Photo by Hazel Erikson

Betty Bullen, ETPA and Preservation Union County member, can be reached at 865-992-1005.

The Oak Grove School is a two room schoolhouse built in the early 1930s to replace the original Oak Grove School, which was displaced by the Norris Dam project. At the same time, about 25 other one- and two-room schools were built in Union County to house the rural schoolchildren.

Today, only a handful of these school buildings remain and Oak Grove School is ripe for revitalization. Sitting in Sharps Chapel behind one of the Union County convenience centers, the school's fate is unknown. In May 2012, the Union County Community Foundation, an affiliate fund of the East Tennessee Foundation, announced a grant that will help the restoration efforts and signage at the site.

Last year, Preservation Union County and ETPA organized several volunteer work days to help clean out the interior of the building and clear away vegetation. Additionally, a local contractor has worked with volunteers and donated materials to replace and rebuild parts of the compromised foundation. Valspar generously donated paint for the metal roof and for the exterior of the building. Preservation Union County hosted fundraisers for the school project that have helped raise awareness for the school and other preservation projects in Union County.

ETPA will continue to partner with Preservation Union County and the Union County government, who owns the building, to find funding, paint and repair the building and find a suitable use.

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