

Northcutt Cabin

Altamont, Grundy County, Tennessee

Heritage Development Recommendations



Abby Jo Mullis, Laura S. Holder, and Carroll Van West
Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area



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Project Background

On May 31, 2023, property owner Tucker Herndon contacted Dr. Carroll Van West, director of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, to request a site visit at The Manor, a National Register-listed property in Altamont, Grundy County, Tennessee. The Manor, historically known as the H.B. Northcutt House, is significantly associated with Grundy County's Reconstruction history. Adrian Northcutt, who first acquired the land, built the historic log dwelling on the property c. 1840. He had served in the War with Mexico. His son H.B. Northcutt built the two-story Manor in 1885; he kept the log dwelling for use as an outbuilding. Our focus was on the log dwelling, c. 1840, which local historians had long held to be the county's first courthouse in 1848 and which was listed as a contributing building in the National Register of Historic Places nomination because of that association. Thus, the property met the professional services criteria of the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, which is a partnership unit of the National Park Service that is administered by the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation. Dr. West assembled a team of Abby Mullis, a MTSU graduate student, and Laura S. Holder, the federal liaison for the Heritage Area, to meet with Mr. Herndon and Liz McLaurin, executive director of the Land Trust for Tennessee, on July 14, 2023. At that meeting, Dr. West agreed that the Heritage Area would produce a heritage development assessment of the historic log cabin for Mr. Tucker Herndon and the Land Trust.

Brief Historical Background

The Northcutt family settled in Grundy County (at the time part of Franklin, Coffee, and Warren Counties) in the early nineteenth century. Adrian Northcutt (sometimes spelled Adrien Northcut) and his wife, Sarah Cope, came from pioneer families. Adrian built the log dwelling by c. 1840, and his son H.B. constructed the brick house in 1885. Adrian served in the Mexican War and was integral in the creation and development of Grundy County, serving for 5 terms in the Tennessee General Assembly, 6 years in the House (1845-49; 55-57), and 4 years in the Senate (1849-51; 1853-55).¹

Adrian Northcutt operated a farm and business in Altamont. The 1850 census listed Northcutt as being a top contributor in horses (14), milk cows (12), swine (250), butter (500 pounds), maple sugar (200 gallons), oats (1,500 bushels), and peas and beans (100 bushels).² By 1860, farming in Middle Tennessee boomed, and while other farmers took Adrian's spot as top contributor in some categories, the family still held a large farming business. He was still a top producer with milk cows (20), other cattle (35), Oxen (12), hay (30 tons), rye (200 bushels), and maple sugar (200 pounds).³

In the 1860 census, his real estate was valued at \$11,000 and his personal estate valued at \$21,000.⁴ The 1860 slave schedule shows nine enslaved people under his name. Though their names are not given, the ages range from eight years old to seventy years old.⁵

Adrian's son H.B. Northcutt (sometimes spelled Northcut) took over the family business in 1858. H.B. Northcutt's papers, including ledgers and records for his stores in Altamont and later Beersheba Springs (store established c. 1869), are at the Tennessee State Library and

¹ Rogers, "H.B. Northcutt House." Page 3.

² Sherrill, "Grundy County Tennessee Special Census Records 1850-1880." Pages 2-3.

³ Sherrill, "Grundy County Tennessee Special Census Records 1850-1880." Pages 8-9.

⁴ The National Archives in Washington D.C.; Record Group: Records of the Bureau of the Census; Record Group Number: 29; Series Number: M653; Residence Date: 1860; Home in 1860: District 3, Grundy, Tennessee; Roll: M653_1252; Page: 430; Family History Library.

⁵ "United States Census (Slave Schedule), 1860", database with images, *FamilySearch*, Entry for Adrian Northcutt and 1860.

Archives. Further investigations can target the information in this large collection, which the library and archives acquired from the Fanny Moffitt estate sale in 1955. H.B. Northcutt expanded the family's investments into land and coal, and his family was considered among the wealthiest in the region.

Three of Adrian Northcutt's sons served in the Confederate army during the Civil War. Houston and Woodson L. Northcutt joined Turney's 1st Tennessee Infantry Regiment, C.S.A. Houston died in 1863 after a battle in Coffee County; Woodson was killed in 1864 during the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. Another son, Lawson, fought in the Battle of Richmond in 1862; he was released from Camp Chase in Ohio as a Prisoner of War in 1865.⁶

One documented skirmish in Altamont occurred on August 30, 1862. C.S. Brigadier-General Joseph Wheeler wrote:

I have the honor to report that on August 27 I moved across the Tennessee River at Chattanooga with a brigade of cavalry, consisting of parts of the First Alabama and First Kentucky Regiments. On the 28th we moved in front of Gen. Hardee's wing. The next day I received an order to march toward Altamont and drive in the enemy's scouts on the mountain. We arrived near Altamont at daylight on the morning of the 30th and drove in their pickets on three sides, firing into their camp and killing, as we afterwards learned, 1 colonel, 1 captain, and 2 privates. The enemy were so alarmed and deceived that Gen. Buell reported in his Official statement, subsequently made to a council of war at Nashville, that Gen. Hardee attempted to cross the mountain with his corps, but by his placing a large force at Altamont he had compelled Gen. Hardee to fall back into the valley. A few hours before we reached Altamont the enemy had an infantry brigade in ambush on the road, but on our approach they marched in and joined their main body. After having menaced their flanks until 12 m. we returned to Sequatchie Valley. We then moved northward, covering the rear and left flank of the army, having slight skirmish near Fleming's.⁷

The 1870 census shows more change as the aftermath of the Civil War left farms in Middle Tennessee devastated. The Northcutt property lost 100 improved acres and 1,000 unimproved acres of land. Adrian died in 1869, leaving sons Lawson and Polk as heads of the family farm. The 1870 census showed L.H. Northcutt as having the most amount of improved

⁶ Blevins, *Sequatchie Valley Soldiers in the Civil War: Bledsoe, Grundy, Marion and Sequatchie Counties in Tennessee and Jackson County in Alabama*. Pages 97-98.

⁷ OR, Ser. I, Vol. 16, pt. I, page 893.

land (300 acres), the second highest amount of unimproved land (4,000 acres), and the second highest cash value of farm (\$15,000). Despite this, the Northcutts appeared only a handful of times as the top producers in specific categories: John Northcutt appeared as owning one of the most amounts of horses (8) and the highest amount of oats produced (900 bushels). H.B. Northcutt received the second highest amount for Orchard Produce (\$900). Finally, Sarah Northcutt produced the most amount of butter (90 pounds).⁸ While agricultural fortunes stagnated, H.B. Northcutt's investments in commerce, land, and coal flourished. In 1885, he built the extant brick manor house as a reflection of his accomplishments and wealth.

In the twentieth century, H.B. Northcutt's daughter Timmie Moffitt inherited the property. She and her brothers, Thomas B. and James H. Northcutt, donated land that the Beersheba Library would be built on.⁹ Timmie's daughter, Frances ("Fannie") Moffitt, inherited the property after her mother's death and lived there until her own death in 1955. The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 23, 1982.

Northcutt Log House

Westward migration into the Cumberland Settlements began as early as 1780 along the Nashville Basin. From there, settlers branched further south. In the South Cumberland Plateau, it was not until after the forced removal of Cherokees in the 1830s that European settlers came in numbers to the area.¹⁰ Often settlers first built log dwellings due to the availability of timber, the need to clear land, and the simplicity of tools and supplies needed to erect such buildings. In Middle Tennessee, more often than not, settlers and their enslaved used yellow poplar, which was incredibly durable and rot resistant. Other timber used included oak and oak mixtures with

⁸ Sherrill, Grundy County Tennessee Special Census Records 1850-1880." Pages 12-13.

⁹ Tate, "Beersheba Library, a Woman's Dream Come True."

¹⁰ Rehder, *Tennessee Log Buildings*. Page 37.

chestnut, poplar, and pine.¹¹ Grundy County in the mid-19th century was rich in all of these timber sources and most settlers, like the Northcutts, used yellow poplar.

The 1982 National Register nomination described the Northcutt Log House as: "This one story single pen structure served as the original Northcutt residence and later served as the Grundy County Courthouse in 1848. The half dovetail notched structure has a single exterior end stone chimney (present brick stack represents a later repair) and metal roof. A later log addition greatly enlarged the size of the cabin."

The Northcutt Log House is located approximately 20 yards north of the 1885 manor house. The cabin was originally "squarish," as contemporaries used the term, measuring roughly 20.5 feet in depth and 20 feet in length. The cabin was expanded at an unknown date, perhaps c. 1885 when it became a kitchen and lodging for cooks or tenants, to its present 20 ½ feet by 30 ½ feet on the exterior. On the interior, the larger room is roughly 20 feet in depth and 19 ½ feet in length while the attached room is approximately 10 feet and 9 inches in length. It is joined by half dovetail notches.

Vernacular log houses are typically symmetrical with the door being centered, which the main section of the building reflects. The chimney and fireplace were likely built in the twentieth century, as it is made of crab orchard stone and concreted together instead of dry stacked. Limestone or brick is more typical for historic chimneys of the nineteenth century.

Multiple local sources as well as the National Register nomination state that this log house was the first county courthouse. While this is possible, as the county seat was moved to Altamont in December 1848, definitive documentation to support this claim could not be located. The County Court Minutes state that the meetings were held in a house set aside to be the courthouse but did not specify the ownership or location of the house.¹²

¹¹ Rehder, *Tennessee Log Buildings*. Pages 54-55.

¹² Grundy County, *Minute Books A, 1844-1907*.

It is also possible that the log house was used as quarters for enslaved people or others living on the property (Adrian Northcutt owned nine enslaved persons prior to the Civil War). By the 1870 census, Jane Nunley was listed as a housekeeper living on the property, perhaps in this log building. H.B. Northcutt built the brick manor house in 1885, but he had married in 1862 and his father lived until 1869--so H.B. Northcutt either lived in another dwelling on family property or at some other adjacent Altamont house. When the Fannie Moffitt estate sale occurred in 1955, it included an unnamed "another home in the same community."¹³

Historic Preservation Assessment



Considering its age--probably close to 150 years old--the building is in good shape. The metal roof extends over the walls enough to direct moisture away from the logs. However, drainage is inadequate to push that water away from the building. The decision to install a concrete foundation has not stood the test of time. The foundation is now the primary issue for the building's longevity.



¹³ "Moffitt Estate Auction, August 15," Associated Press wire story, 1955.

Considerations on log wall treatment.

Adapted from the Heritage Area's guide, *Restoration Guide for Historic Log Houses* (2007)

The most important structural feature of a log house is the notching that locks the logs together at the corners. Much of the weight of the building is borne by the corners, so it is essential to protect them from deterioration. The current overhanging roof provides such protection, but some notches had already been damaged by moisture and the use of Portland Cement as the chinking between the logs. If the notches fail, the log house will fail. To address issues with walls and notches, we recommend two approaches:

- If the end of the log cannot bear the weight upon it: Carefully remove all deteriorated wood near the end of the log. Form a small piece of wood into the shape of the wood that was removed, and insert the formed wood block into the space, **or**,
- Inject a sufficient amount of a two-part epoxy compound into the end of the log. Complete the form of the notch with the paste-like material. This form can be expensive and should be used for projects where appearance is important.





The over-use of Portland Cement for the chinking is not only unattractive, it also traps moisture as the cement fails over time. After removing the loose daubing, moisten the area that will be worked on, and then use a mixture of one part Portland cement, four to eight parts lime, and seven to ten parts sand to fill in the spaces.

Considerations for Foundation.

Adapted from the Heritage Area's guide, *Restoration Guide for Historic Log Houses* (2007)

In future restoration projects, address the foundation first. Historic log building foundations were close to the ground, typically resting on stone, then later brick, piers. Sometimes builders used a continuous fieldstone foundation, which this building shows signs of. Infill between a pier foundation, however, contributes to decreased air circulation that, in turn, contributes to the deterioration of the sills, joists, and lower logs.

- If the foundation is repaired, also consider moving the dwelling to the south, closer to the manor. As it now sits, it is on a downward slope, toward the road, which impacts the foundation, with the stone and concrete wall sitting on the lip of the ditch.



Ditch between road and the foundation.



The road behind the dwelling creates increased potential for additional damage from moisture and vibration from traffic.

- The ditch between the building and the road creates further moisture concerns as it causes rain, water, etc. to pool and absorb into the ground close to the log building.



- The installation of gutters and French drains should be added to better direct rain away from the foundation.
- The vines and branches growing on the sides of the structure should be removed.

Future renovation of the interior should install a HVAC where humidity and temperature can be more efficiently controlled. That installation also would allow for the removal of the window air-

conditioning unit since water drips and condensation from the unit is directly impacting the historic logs underneath.



Interior Assessment

Due to different attempts at remodeling and renovation in the 20th century, the historic interior is a bit of a mess but also has a good degree of integrity and most changes can be easily removed.



One of the most obvious problems is that the room is not nearly air-tight enough. Note in the bottom left of the image above you can see light between the last bottom log and the floor. Installation of floorboards, while not historic, may help with that problem. The chimney is of beautiful local stone but it needs to be evaluated to see if it can hold a fire efficiently.



- Once the floor is swept and accumulated dust and insect remains are removed, cleaning with tung oil and water is recommended for wood.
- The floor slopes, part of the general foundation issues of the dwelling. If the owners decide to replace the current foundation with piers, special attention should be made to ensure that the building is leveled. The floor boards are not 19th century but probably mid-20th century due to the relative narrow boards.
- There are several areas where missing interior daubing has been replaced with wood boards, probably due to failures in the exterior Portland Cement chinking. Ideally, once the chinking is repaired and replaced, the planks should be removed.



The expansion of the log dwelling, c. 1885, is also where a modern remodeling of the space took place in the last four decades. since this room already has impacted, we recommend centering any modernization of the building into this space--as it now stands, it has a hot water heater and a bath/toilet. Perhaps the sink could also be located in this area, leaving the large room--where the county court held forth in 1848--largely intact and unaltered.



Heritage Development Opportunities

Grundy County is currently designated a Tier 4 Tennessee Economic Development County. Fortunately, local and state investment into Grundy County's economy,

educational system, and infrastructure propelled it out of Distressed status in 2023, and the county is poised to continue on this positive trajectory.¹⁴

Tennessee's population growth and tourism development efforts continue to benefit both urban and rural counties across the state. Tennessee reached a record \$27.5 billion in visitor spending in 2022, marking a 14% increase over 2021. This increase advanced Tennessee to 11th in the nation for travel spending in 2021 and 2022, up from its previous record of 14th in 2020. The National Register-listed Manor is well-positioned to capitalize on this continued trend of increased statewide tourism by enhancing its visibility, incorporating new interpretive efforts, developing cross-promotional partnerships with local and regional tourism organizations, and applying for state grants for additional restoration.¹⁵

Grant Opportunities

Historic Development Grant Program through the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD)

In 2021, the Tennessee General Assembly developed the Historic Development Grant Program (HDGP) and allocated \$4.8 million to renovate and preserve the State's historic buildings. The legislators recognized that preserving our historic buildings helps support the state's economy, create new employment opportunities, revitalize and renew communities, create an environment for investment, and promote tourism and rural economic development.

¹⁴ <https://www.tn.gov/governor/news/2023/6/27/gov--lee-announces-fewest-distressed-counties-in-tennessee-history.html>

¹⁵ <https://www.tn.gov/tourism/news/2023/5/9/tn-celebrates-record--27-5-billion-in-travel-spending-in-2022.html#:~:text=Tennessee%20reached%20a%20record%20%2427.5,record%20of%2014%20in%202020.>

Eligible Properties include certified historic structures that are:

- 1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or are part of a National Register of Historic Places historic district and certified by the secretary of the United States Department of the Interior as being of historic significance to the district.

- 2) are in a Tier 3 or 4 county as determined by TNECD; or federally qualified opportunity zone; or state and nationally accredited Tennessee Main Street community or Tennessee Downtown community; or Certified Local Governments approved by the National Parks Service in counties with a population of no more than 200,000 persons.

The applicant must be the person or entity who holds legal fee or leasehold title to a certified historic structure or an identifiable portion of the certified historic structure. Any expenditure for a structural component of a building is eligible for grant funds, including walls, partitions, floors, ceilings, permanent coverings such as paneling or tiling, windows and doors, components of central air conditioning or heating systems, plumbing and plumbing fixtures, electrical wiring and lighting fixtures, chimneys, stairs, escalators, elevators, sprinkling systems, fire escapes, and other components related to the operation or maintenance of the building.

Questions about project eligibility and the application process can be address to Nancy Williams (Nancy.Williams@tn.gov). To learn more or apply, visit

<https://www.tn.gov/ecd/rural-development/historic-development-grant-program.html>.

Federal Historic Tax Credit through the Tennessee Historical Commission

Many of Tennessee's historic buildings have benefited from the Federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC) program, including bed and breakfasts like the Manor, houses, former hospitals, factories and mills. Over 1,000 buildings in Tennessee have been rehabilitated using the ITC program, generating over \$1.5 billion in investments.

The HTC program provides a 20% historic tax credit for certified historic structures. In order to become certified, projects must be reviewed by Tennessee's State Historic Preservation Office and the Technical Preservation Services division of the National Park Service. (Applicants should contact the Tennessee Historical Commission before starting a project).

In order to be eligible, buildings must be individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places or listed as a contributing building within a National Register Historic District. The rehabilitation project must then meet the "substantial rehabilitation test," which means the applicant must spend the adjusted value of the building or \$5,000, whichever is greater. (This figure is derived by subtracting the value of the land from the cost of the building and land together). After rehabilitation, the structure must be income producing for five years. The rehabilitation must also meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which can be found at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/taxincentives/secretarys-standards-rehabilitation.htm>.

For an overview of the program, visit <https://www.tn.gov/historicalcommission/federal-programs/federal-historic-tax-credit-program.html>. For additional information and guidance about the process, visit

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/historicalcommission/historic-tax-credits-general/thc_hc_process-guidance.pdf.

Interpretive Opportunities

Partnership with the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA)

The Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (a program of the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University) provides staff and student expertise to support interpretive, educational, and heritage tourism initiatives across the state. Through our Professional Services and Outreach, the Heritage Area provides trained staff/student assistance at no cost to property owners and organizations to develop Civil War and Reconstruction-era heritage programs and projects. This program provided the initial support for the first field visit to the Manor as well as this Historic Structure Report and provides the means for additional partnership opportunities in the future.

Although the Manor (and the associated log cabin) are private hospitality entities that are not focused on public interpretive or educational efforts, the site could benefit from the increased visibility and interest that small interpretive efforts can generate.

The TCWNHA may be able to develop interpretive retractable banner stands for the interior of each building that share the story of the cabin and its importance to the creation of Grundy County, as well as the story of the Manor and the Northcutt family's influence in Altamont and across the county. Retractable panels are mobile, take up minimal space, and can be easily lowered and/or moved as needed.

The Manor would also benefit from an increased social media and digital presence that emphasizes the home's rich history and the region's multitude of outdoor recreational venues and experiences in and around Altamont. One option to increase digital visibility is the creation of a digital 360 tour utilizing high resolution 3D images that would provide a visually engaging way for potential visitors and guests to virtually walk through the Manor to see all that it has to offer while simultaneously learning about the home and family's history. The Heritage Area, working with our graduate research assistants, may be able to assist with this project in the spring of 2024. To see an example of this type of virtual tour developed by our graduate students, please visit

<https://www.buchananloghouse.com/things-to-do>.

Civil War Trails

The Civil War Trails (CWT) program is an excellent option for external signage that has a built-in, national marketing component. Civil War Trails has been working with communities since 1994 to connect visitors with Civil War and Reconstruction-era stories and events both big and small across a network that now spans six states (Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania). Since the end of the Civil War 150th anniversary in 2015, visitation to Civil War Trails sites has continued to grow. Travel to historic sites has outpaced the national average for other travel profiles and has become an area of interest for travelers of all backgrounds.

The Tennessee Civil War Trail (TCWT) is part of this multi-state program that identifies, interprets and creates driving tours of both the great campaigns and the lesser-known Civil War sites. There are nearly 400 CWT markers across the state, with

at least one marker in each of the 95 counties. Each marker is vetted for authenticity and edited to meet the multi-state program requirements. Since the program's inception in Tennessee, more than 2.5 million TCWT brochures have been distributed. The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development is the point of contact for the TCWT. Organizations that are interested in a TCWT marker should submit an application to the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

Grundey County currently has a marker in Pelham (Struggling Through the Mountains – Civil War in the Southern Cumberland) but would benefit from having one in Altamont. The initial cost for each sign is \$3,000 and includes design, fabrication and installation of the interpretive sign, a set of confirmatory directional signs, and placement on the Civil War Trails printed maps and website. Each Civil War Trails sign requires an annual sponsor that pays a yearly fee of \$200, which allows the CWT to maintain, update and repair the signs as needed, as well as market the site. Inclusion in this national marketing opportunity is what sets the Civil War Trails apart from similar local marker programs.

To learn more and apply, visit <https://industry.tnvacation.com/industryresourcestourism-initiatives/civil-war-trails>.

Building Partnerships to Maximize Interpretive and Marketing Efforts

Grundey County is fortunate to have access to a number of engaged and active heritage tourism and economic development organizations. If the Manor is not already actively partnering with these organizations, it would be beneficial to begin developing relationships in order to increase visibility and cross-promotion.

Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association

Based in Chattanooga, the Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association (SETTA) is a division of the Southeast Tennessee Development District, the designated regional planning agency and council of governments for the 10 counties (including Grundy) of Southeast Tennessee.

SETTA works with county leaders and tourism partners within the 10 counties of Southeast Tennessee, as well as with the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, to promote economic development and regional prosperity through tourism, which is the second-largest industry in Tennessee. The organization promotes both digitally and through a printed regional tourism guide. To learn more about potential partnership opportunities, visit <https://www.southeasttennessee.com/explore-our-regions/south-cumberland-plateau/>.

Southeast Tennessee Development District

The Southeast Tennessee Development District, also located in Chattanooga, is the designated regional planning agency and council of governments for the 10 counties of Southeast Tennessee. The agency provides staffing resources to local governments to deliver programs and services in three core areas, including Community & Economic Development, utilizing local, state, federal and private funds. (The Southeast Tennessee Tourism Association discussed above is a part of Community & Economic Development within this agency). To learn more, visit <https://www.sedev.org/>.

South Cumberland Chamber of Commerce

The South Cumberland Chamber of Commerce is committed to promoting economic

development by facilitating cooperation and interaction between member organizations, investing in the business community's growth, progress, and future.

Membership benefits include increased business exposure through newsletters and the website; each member business's information prioritized in the chamber business directory; access to communication and networking events with community business leaders and resources; and opportunities to network by hosting chamber meetings and events. To learn more, visit <https://www.southcumberlandchamber.com/>.

Tennessee Department of Tourist Development Partner Pages

The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development's Partner Pages are available to the nearly 3 million people who visit the site each year. Once a partner page is created, the site's content management system directs partnership organizations through fields that can be populated and regularly updated, ensuring up-to-date and accurate information to site users as they plan trips to Tennessee. Guidance on setting up a partner page can be found at

[file:///C:/Users/lholder/Downloads/TDTD_Partner%20Guide_One%20Pager%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/lholder/Downloads/TDTD_Partner%20Guide_One%20Pager%20(1).pdf).

Tennessee Department of Tourist Development Tourism Marketing Grants

The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development's (TDTD) marketing grant provides tourism organizations such as CVBs, chambers of commerce and regional tourism organizations a way to expand their marketing message. The partnership is designed to increase visitation to communities and increase travel-generated revenue, while leveraging the TDTD's brand and marketing efforts/initiatives. (This grant would need to be developed in partnership with a local or regional tourism organization such as the South Cumberland Chamber of Commerce).

Organizations within counties such as Grundy that are designated as at-risk per the current or previous two fiscal years are eligible for a 70/30 reimbursable grant. This grant has funded many project types, including photography, videography, Facebook boosts, outdoor or digital advertising, social media paid advertising, rack cards, brochures, new or updated websites, trade show materials, branded racks, branded promotional items. To learn more, visit

<https://industry.tnvacation.com/industryresourcestourism-grants-and-scholarships/marketing-grant>.

Even if neither of the above opportunities proves to be a good fit for the Manor, the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development maintains an outstanding support staff, including a division dedicated solely to rural tourism and outreach. To contact a member of the TDTD's rural tourism staff, visit

<https://industry.tnvacation.com/industrygeneral/staff-directory>.

Conclusion:

The Manor's prominent location in Altamont and close proximity to a variety of outdoor recreation attractions make it an excellent candidate for increased grant, interpretive, and marketing efforts. The site's long and storied history – from the earliest days of Grundy County's creation through the Civil War and the region's lengthy post-war recovery - embodies the resilient spirit that allowed families such as the Northcutts to rebuild their farms and businesses to survive and thrive in a new era. Located in the scenic South Cumberland plateau, the Manor is also surrounded by immense natural beauty. Fortunate to have such a pristine setting, rich history and abundant recreational

opportunities, the Manor is an outstanding yet underrecognized place to visit. Partnering with local and state heritage and tourism organizations will only increase its visibility and viability as a growing business/heritage tourism venue in Grundy County.

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