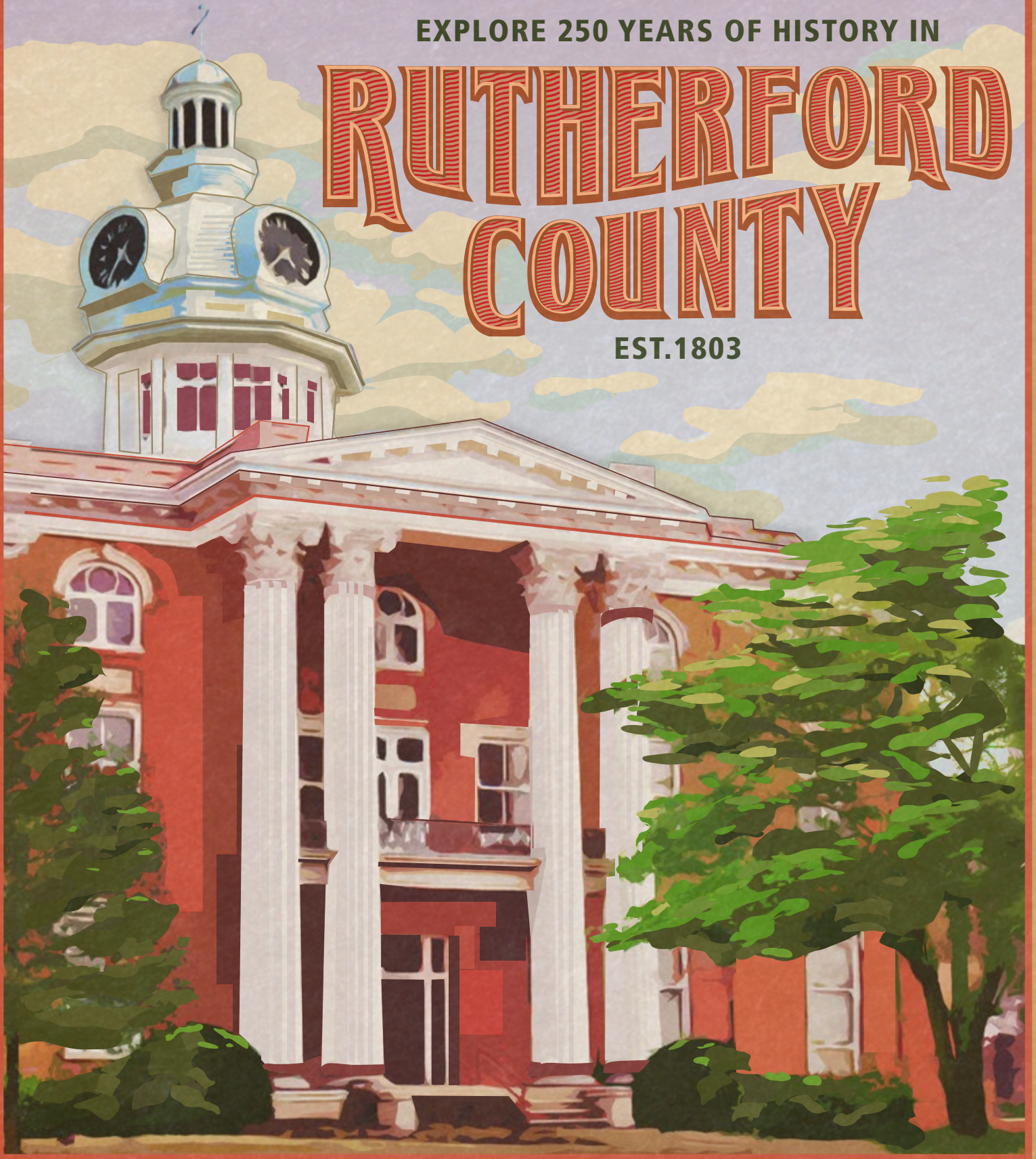


EXPLORE 250 YEARS OF HISTORY IN

RUTHERFORD COUNTY

EST. 1803



Sam Davis Home



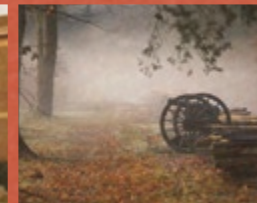
Oaklands Mansion



Lytle Cemetery



Bradley Academy



Stones River NB



Cannonsburg



MAP OF
RUTHERFORD
COUNTY TENN.

THIS NEW AND IMPROVED SURVEY
COMPILED & PUBLISHED BY
A. G. BEERY & CO.
27 South Second Street
PHILADELPHIA

CITY OF
MURFREESBORO

RUTHERFORD COUNTY AMERICA'S 250 SCAVENGER HUNT

PASSPORT

Celebrate our nation's 250th birthday with your family, friends, and neighbors by discovering the local history all around us! Visit the sites and events featured here and keep a record of your America's 250th experience by collecting a stamp or sticker at each one.

When you collect at least ten stamps or stickers, bring this booklet to the Rutherford County Convention and Visitors Bureau visitor center to collect a special commemorative prize while supplies last. Enjoy exploring history in Rutherford County and its role in the 250-year story of the United States of America!

EVENTS



AAHSRC DECORATION DAY

MAY 2

The African American Heritage Society of Rutherford County promotes a better and more comprehensive understanding of our community's history. Join them at Stones River National Cemetery on Saturday May 2nd, 2026 at 10 AM and honor the tradition of celebrating the expansion of freedom and civil rights that emerged from our nation's Civil War.



DAUGHTERS AND CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

JULY 4

At 10 AM on July 4th, join the Colonel Hardy Murfree NSDAR Chapter and the Stones River Society C.A.R. for a community celebration on the Murfreesboro Square to honor our nation's birth. Events will include a community reading of the Declaration of Independence and patriotic songs, and don't forget the cupcakes and beverages for all. Let's come together to remember this special day!



LA VERGNE

JUNE 13

Join us at the new Public Works & Community Development Services Facility on June 13th for a Flag-Raising Ceremony and Liberty Lap Color Walk commemorating the Declaration of Independence signing in 1776. The ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m. Please go to lavernetn.gov/685/America250 to register for the Liberty Lap Color Walk. Participation is FREE.



MTSU

MULTI DAY

Middle Tennessee State University will celebrate and educate about the ideals and significance of the Declaration of Independence and American Revolution through a series of lectures, on-campus events, and partnerships across the county throughout the year. A full and evolving list of our events is available at <https://amerdem.mtsu.edu/mtsu-250/>.



EVENTS



MURFREESBORO FIREWORKS

JULY 4

Gather with Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation at The Fountains on the 4th of July, as we honor 250 Years through an incredible Celebration Under the Stars event packed with music, live entertainment and a breathtaking fireworks show that will make memories for years to come. For more information go to www.murfreesborotn.gov/2343-celebration-under-the-stars.



RUTHERFORD ARTS ALLIANCE

JUNE 13 & 20

Get your passport stamped at Rutherford Arts Alliance's booth at Simply Smyrna in the Depot District on Saturday June 13th or the Juneteenth celebration at Bradley Academy in Murfreesboro on Saturday June 20th.



RUTHERFORD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

MULTI DAY

The Rutherford County Library System will be hosting multiple events in commemoration of the 250th, such as our Road to Reading challenge and our Revolutionary Rutherford traveling exhibit. To learn more about our events or how you can participate in the reading challenge, please visit our website rclstn.org/250th.



SMYRNA

MULTI DAY

Celebrate America's 250th in Smyrna during two special events on May 16th and September 5th, 2026.



SITES



BRADLEY ACADEMY

Bradley Academy is a beacon of education, helping push our community forward. First established as an all-white, male school, Bradley Academy became the first African American school in Murfreesboro following reconstruction. The school continued to serve African American students until 1955. Bradley Academy Museum is rich with the history of the Murfreesboro African American community and embodies the ongoing pursuit to expand access to education, equality, and opportunity.



THE CENTER ARTS THE ARTS

The Center for the Arts is celebrating its 30th anniversary season in conjunction with America 250! For the past 30 years, the Center for the Arts has been the home for theater, music, and visual art in Rutherford County. Patrons are invited to attend a variety of exhibits in the art gallery, as well as community events and theater productions that highlight the ways in which the arts have impacted our community and our nation. Visit our website at www.boroarts.org for a calendar of activities, or for information about the current art gallery exhibit.



CANNONSBURGH VILLAGE

Historic Cannonsburgh Village was created as an American Revolution Bicentennial project in 1976, intended to serve our community with a focus on our local history. Today, its buildings and exhibits represent 100 years of rural Tennessee life from the 1830's to the 1930's.





DISCOVERY CENTER

Take a road trip at This Land is Your Land! USA 250 discovery destinations June and July 2026 new destinations & activities every week! Visit [Explorethcdc.Org](https://www.explorethcdc.org) for more information.



HERITAGE CENTER OF MURFREESBORO AND RUTHERFORD COUNTY

The ideals of the American Revolution, embodied in the Declaration of Independence, have profoundly shaped Tennessee families in different ways. The Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County's exhibit *Two Families, Two Revolutions* explores how the Armstrong and Gardner families made their mark on Tennessee's history from the American Revolution through the 20th century. Open M-F 10am to 3pm. Free admission.



LYTLE CEMETERY

The Lytle Cemetery is the final resting place of Captain William Lytle who fought during the duration of the Revolutionary War and played a significant role during the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and was one of the founders of Murfreesboro.



OAKLANDS MANSION

The Oaklands story began in 1813 when Dr. James Maney's wife Sallie Murfree Maney inherited 274 acres north of the town from her father and Revolutionary War veteran, Colonel Hardy Murfree. The house and grounds evoke more than 200 years of our community's history from economic growth fueled by slavery, through Civil War and the expansion of Civil Rights during Reconstruction, to the loss of those rights for some as the 19th century came to a close.





RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE

The Rutherford County Historic Courthouse Museum is an ongoing partnership between the Rutherford County Government and the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University. The artifacts on display represent more than 200 years of county history and invite you to explore the diverse growth of our community in connection to broader state and national narratives. The Museum is open Monday - Friday, 8am-4pm. Admission is free.



HISTORIC SAM DAVIS HOME AND MUSEUM

Explore the 168 acre historic Davis farm, the childhood home of Civil War soldier, Sam Davis and one of the most intact 19th century farms you can visit in Middle Tennessee. Immerse yourself in the stories of the Davis family and the enslaved people who lived through one of the most divided periods in American History. Hear of their struggle for freedom and learn about their lives after the Civil War.



STONES RIVER NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

The struggle of more than 81,000 soldiers at the Battle of Stones River led to the "hard earned victory" President Abraham Lincoln wanted to support the Emancipation Proclamation. Explore the sites and stories where our nation's Civil War became a conflict to bring us closer to the promises set forth in the Declaration of Independence. Photo by Volunteer Photographer Buddy Secor, Stones River National Battlefield.



This booklet was designed and produced with funds provided by the National Park Service. Our thanks to the Rutherford County Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing commemorative tote bags.



THANK YOU

We are grateful for the partners who joined together to offer community members and visitors an opportunity to celebrate America's 250th while exploring our county's history.



To find America's 250 events throughout Rutherford County visit rutherford250events.com