



Samuel L. Johnson
1894 - 1961

Johnson served in WWI and was a buffalo soldier in the 351st field artillery battery, of the 82nd D Infantry. Blinded in war, he became very skillful with his hands and opened a broom factory in Franklin. Known as a philanthropist, he also taught craft workshops to the disabled community free of charge.

Narrated by:

~ Pastor Hewitt Sawyers



Mariah Bell Reddick
1838 - 1922

Reddick was one of the favored servants of the McGavock family. She was the head of the household slaves and took care of four generations of the family. Reddick also served the family of the President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis.

Narrated by:

~ Thelma Battle, Historian



Dr. Charles Claudius Johnson
1880 - 1966

Johnson was one of Franklin's first black physicians. He established the first and only black owned hospital and served the community for over 49 years. Franklin's Johnson Elementary school is named for him.

Narrated by:

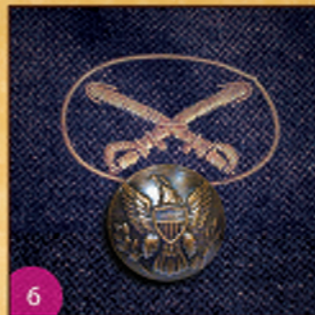
~ Tommy Murdic,
President of African-American
Heritage Society

Stop 12

- 1 Samuel L. Johnson
- 2 Mariah Bell Reddick
- 3 Dr. Charles C. Johnson
- 4 John Douglas House
- 5 A.N.C. Williams

Stop 13

- 6 Freeman Thomas
- 7 Robert Rucker
- 8 Mattie Otey Winstead
- 9 Ephraim Otey
- 10 Reverend John T. Patton



Freeman Thomas
1845 - 1936

Thomas, born a slave, was a Federal soldier during the Civil War. He was a member of Company K of the 12th regiment United States Colored Infantry and fought in the Battle of Nashville. After returning from war, he purchased a parcel of land for \$70 and built a little white cottage that still exists today at 303 Franklin Road.

Narrated by:

~ Dan Alexander,
Executive Director Franktown



Robert Rucker
1882 - 1954

Rucker was the only African-American land developer in Franklin during the mid 1900s. He established the first and only black-chartered subdivision in Franklin, still known today as the Rucker subdivision, located at the intersection of West Main street and Downs Blvd. Rucker was also instrumental in starting the only African-American recreational park once located on Downs Blvd.

Narrated by:

~ Eddie George,
NFL running back



Mattie Otey Winstead
1885 - 1937

Winstead was born only one generation out of slavery and was considered one of the most skilled nurses in Franklin during the early 1900s. Known for successfully handling typhoid fever cases, Winstead served the community for 22 years.

Narrated by:

~ Monique McCullough,
Community Leader



John Douglas House,
1901 - 1972

House was considered one of the finest musicians in Franklin during the mid-1900s. He founded the Patent Leather Kids, a local jazz band, which played at many esteemed establishments. J.D. House and his family lived in the legendary "Green House," the oldest remaining African-American houses left standing at the corner of 2nd Ave. and Church Street.

Narrated by:

~ Toby Mac, Grammy Award
Winning Artist

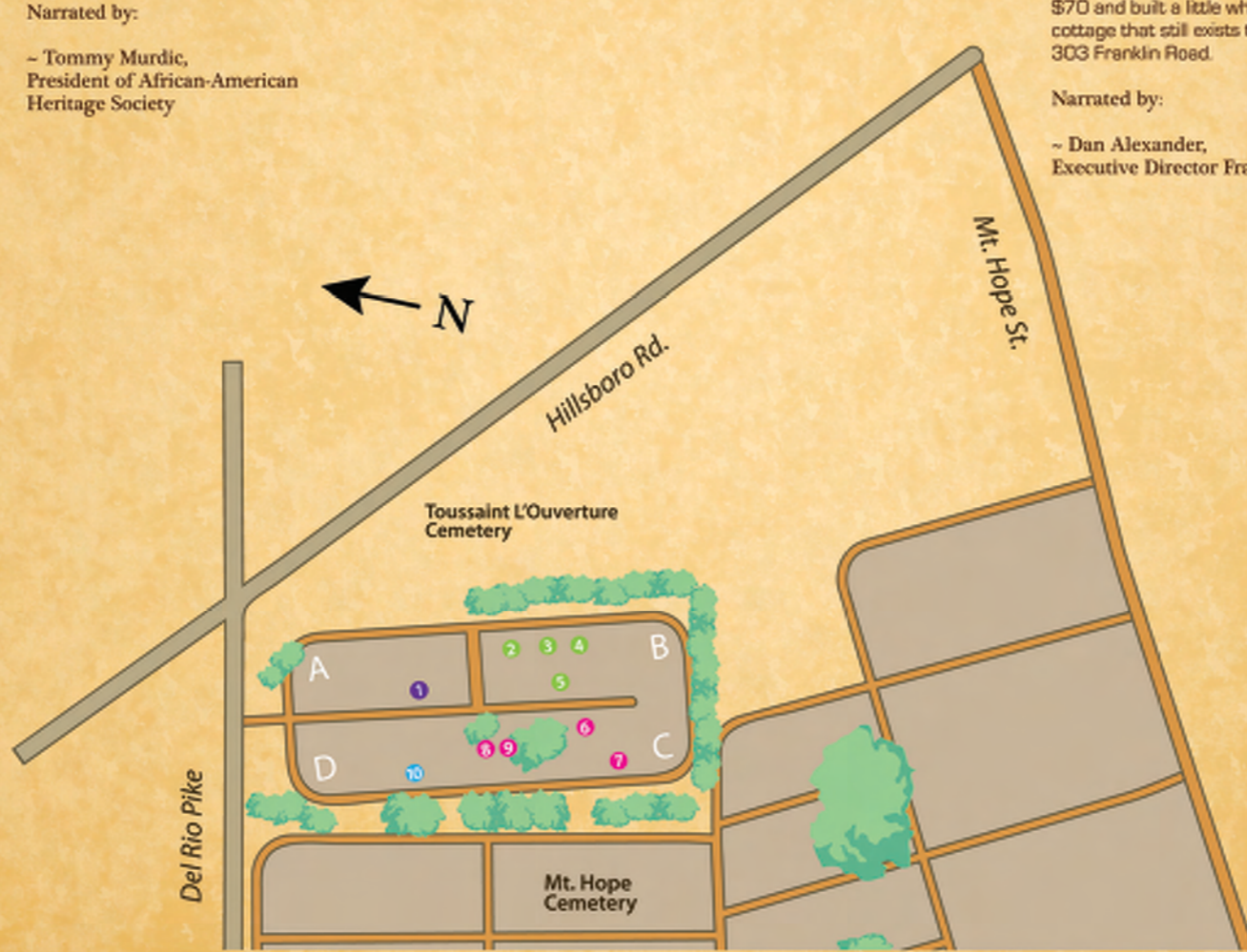


A.N.C. Williams
1844 - 1930

Williams, a highly recognizable name in the Franklin community, was a former slave, who built, owned and operated a mercantile store on Main Street. He opened the store in 1865 and it remained in his family for 115 years. Remnants of the frame of the store still exist in stores now located at 416 and 418 Main Street.

Narrated by:

~ Melinda Doolittle,
American Idol Finalist



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Ephraim Otey
1845 - 1923

Otey served in the 155th TN infantry in the Confederate Army. Born a slave, Ephraim, the father of Mattie Otey Winstead, served in the Civil War from 1862 until the end of the war in 1865.

Narrated by:

~ Dan Pitts, Music and
Film producer



Reverend John T. Patton,
1884 - 1964

Patton is a name associated with one of the oldest Middle Tennessee businesses in the African-American community. He was the owner and director of Patton Brothers Funeral Home, an establishment that existed for over 100 years. Also hear about J.T.'s son, Thomas Gordon Patton who served as a prestigious Tuskegee Airman during WWII.

Narrated by:

~ Chris Williamson, Pastor

Toussaint L'Ouverture Cemetery History

On January 1, 1884, 19 years after the Civil War, and only seven years after the reconstruction of the south, 44 black men of Williamson County, met in the town of Franklin Tennessee to purchase four acres of land to be used as a burial ground for persons of African decent.

The land purchased was located on the north side of the all-white Mount Hope Cemetery, and, ironically, was once occupied by the Union Troops in 1863 during the Civil War. White pine trees were deliberately planted in a straight line between the two cemeteries in order to establish a distinct partition.

"Toussaint L'Ouverture," is what the "well-informed" group of men chose to call the land. The name represented "dignity and freedom" for them, especially for those who had survived slavery. In 1791, before the Civil War, Toussaint L'Ouverture, a former slave, became the leader of the Haitian Revolution. His military genius and political acumen led to the defeat of the French leader, Napoleon Bonaparte, and transformed an entire society of slaves into a free, self-governing people. This was a defining moment in history for Africans in the New World and was a name that the 44 men were proud to display as the final resting place for African-Americans of Williamson County.

Toussaint L'Ouverture Cemetery is one of the few physically intact remnants of the Reconstruction period and is the only formally incorporated cemetery created for the interment of persons of African descent in Williamson County. It is located in "Hard Bargain," a historic African-American neighborhood that was established in 1875 and is often referred to as the cemetery "On the Hill."

Narrated by: Tom Randles
Newscaster, WSMV



The cemetery is located at the corner of Hillsboro Rd. and Del Rio Pike.

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FRANKLIN HISTORIC PARKS AUDIO CELL PHONE TOUR Toussaint L'Ouverture Cemetery Tour Stops 12 & 13

Presented by Leadership Franklin
Class of 2012-2013,
in partnership with The City of
Franklin Parks and Battlefield
Preservation Commission

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LEADERSHIP FRANKLIN



Introduction

On behalf of Leadership Franklin, Class of 2012-2013, the City of Franklin Parks Department and the Battlefield Preservation Commission, I would like to welcome you to the Toussaint L'Ouverture Cell Phone Audio Tour. Local historians, community leaders, and a few celebrities will guide you through the tour describing the lives of those buried at this cemetery who have richly impacted the History of Franklin. We hope you enjoy the tour!

Mayor Ken Moore

Acknowledgements

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Leadership Franklin 2012-2013 team members:
Mayor Ken Moore, Valarie Caldwell- Buford, Sara Butler,
Will Reid and Charita Upkins.



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