

# UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE CAMPUS WALKING TOUR

*-- The tour begins on the Hill in front of Ayres Hall --*



Note: UT's campus is better seen on foot. Although many of these buildings are visible from a car, driving is off limits in parts of the campus, and awkward on others, especially those with one-way streets. Public parking is very limited, except in the large parking garages that permit it. Parking off campus, in Fort Sanders, World's Fair Park, or at metered spaces along Lake Avenue, is often an option. Also, in the daytime, the Orange Line trolley from downtown is free. Addresses have been provided for buildings where they are known.



## INTRODUCTION

The University of Tennessee occupies one of America's older campuses, dating back to 1828, although it retains only one academic building constructed before the 20th century, and none before the Civil War. Founded as Blount College in 1794, before Tennessee's statehood, the school was originally located downtown in one house on Gay Street at Clinch. In the 1820s, after its founder and most of its original supporters had died, trustees of the renamed East Tennessee College chose to expand the campus by moving it to the dramatically steep hill on the southwest side of town.

UT's campus is geographically distinctive, defined by water, located mostly on a peninsula formed by the serpentine Tennessee River. Second Creek forms UT's eastern boundary, while Third Creek separates the main campus from the College of Agriculture.



It's one of the very few campuses in America known to contain a prehistoric Indian mound. Although only a little is known about the people who established it, the steep mound overlooking the river on what's now the Agricultural campus is believed to be a burial mound built about 1,500 years ago, centuries before Columbus. The people who built it apparently left this area long before European settlement.

UT's most dramatic feature is its iconic Hill. The steepest elevation in central Knoxville, its summit is about 235 steps up from Second Creek (the precise number may vary with your choice of route).

Known as College Hill in the 19th century, that Hill is the oldest part of campus, and the main part of campus until the mid-20th century. What was known as East Tennessee College constructed its first buildings on the hilltop between 1826 and 1828. Trustees cited the adjacency of a spring (Second Creek) and the western road (Cumberland Avenue) as advantages. Its original building, a brick structure with two wings and a tower, known in its later years as Old College, stood in the current location of Ayres Hall.

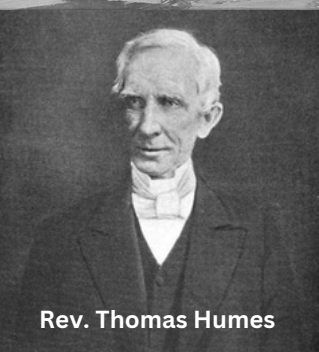


Its groundbreaking in 1826 unearthed a grisly surprise. Digging turned up two human skeletons, eventually identified as two U.S. soldiers buried there in the 1790s, their graves already forgotten after 30 years.

Completed in 1828, East Tennessee College evolved into East Tennessee University, the name by which it was known when it was damaged by Confederate artillery in 1863. A small Union fortification, Fort Byington, brandished cannons nearby on the western edge of the Hill, and soldiers were posted in trenches around campus, as the town was mostly surrounded by Confederate forces in November, 1863. Shelling damaged several buildings in Knoxville, but Longstreet's Confederates withdrew after their disastrous assault on Fort Sanders. The deadliest battle in Knoxville-area history took place only about a quarter mile northwest of College Hill.

The university's president then was Episcopal rector Thomas Humes, son of an Irish immigrant and a strong Unionist. After the war, on his orders, ETU students worked to fill in the trenchwork that scarred the western portions of the Hill. With Humes's influence, the postwar U.S. Morrill Act designation, then very unusual in the formerly Confederate states, gave ETU an advantage over other public colleges in Tennessee, and was to be a major factor in its designation in 1879 as the University of Tennessee.

Plans to demolish the original building for the construction of Ayres Hall in 1918 prompted an outcry among alumni. A fundraising effort to move the building south, to be used for ceremonial or symbolic purposes, fell short, further discouraged when its 90-year-old bricks were discovered to have deteriorated to such a degree that they might not survive the move.



Rev. Thomas Humes

*The walking tour starts at the top of The Hill at 1403 Circle Drive*



## 1. THE HILL, AYRES HALL, 1403 Circle Park Drive

Ayres Hall is probably the best-known work by Chicago architect Grant Miller, who had previously designed downtown Knoxville's second Lawson McGhee Library, and who consulted on UT projects for about 20 years.

**Dr. Brown Ayres (1856-1919)**, a former Tulane professor who had been publicly well known in New Orleans as a scientist and demonstrator of new electrical marvels, introduced radio technology to Knoxville when he conducted a demonstration here on the Hill in 1902, when he was still a Tulane professor. He became president of UT in 1904. He conceived and pushed this building project through, partly to give his adoptive campus, with a rapidly growing student body, a major architectural symbol. It was originally to be called the Administrative Building, but Ayres' unexpected death in early 1919 stirred popular sentiment to honor his name in the building he commenced. Canadian-born UT President Harcourt Morgan led the completion of the project.

Although Ayres Hall has been called Collegiate Gothic, a phrase perhaps suggested by its stone arches and actual gargoyles, architecture students are quick to insist that its perfect symmetry makes it more akin to Elizabethan Revival. The checkerboard design on its bell tower was reputedly the inspiration for Neyland Stadium's checkerboard end zone. Although part of the original design, the clock was not added until the 21st century.

Although the grassy quad is rarely used for major events today, in the late 19th century it was an informal playing field, the scene of UT's first footraces and football scrimmages. Later, from about 1902 to 1918, it was central to an annual intellectual festival called the Summer School of the South, a Chatauqua-like extravaganza aimed at schoolteachers from many states. It drew thinkers ranging from John Dewey to Jane Addams to William Jennings Bryan, as well as noted thespians and performers of classical music. Thousands attended, resulting in an enrollment much larger than that of the university itself at that time. An inexpensive wooden building to hold the crowds was known as Jefferson Hall or the Pine Palace. As these summer conventions faded after World War I, Jefferson Hall was moved down the Hill to the former site of the original football field on Cumberland Avenue, where it served for years as an ammunition warehouse for the National Guard—until its spectacular explosion in flames in 1934.



## 2. SOUTH COLLEGE (adjacent to Ayres Hall)

The oldest building on campus is the three-story (plus basement) red-brick structure immediately to the southeast of Ayres Hall. South College dates to 1871, used for various purposes during its long history. During its early decades, its neighbors included East College and West College, mid-19th-century buildings torn down more than a century ago.

Although built as a dormitory, in a style attributed to Nashville architect A.C. Bruce, South College contained classrooms by 1890, but also the offices of UT's president. Even though Ayres was originally planned as an administrative building, most administrative offices remained in South College for some years.

Within South College, at its basement level, is Ray's Place, arguably one of Knoxville's oldest restaurants, run here since the 1940s as part of a New Deal program to enable work for the blind.



## 3. AUSTIN PEAY BUILDING (adjacent to Ayres Hall)

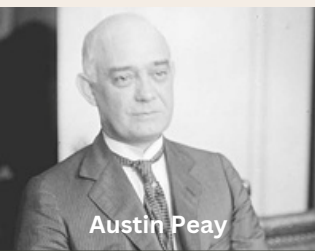
The Austin Peay Building could be called the second-oldest academic building on campus, albeit much changed from its original appearance, which included high arched windows, quoins, and a columned portico. The basic structure was built in 1911, originally to be a Carnegie Library. (Scottish-born philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, famous for funding public libraries, was 76 years old at the time, and at least heard about this building.) It was the first Knoxville building on which Grant Miller worked, then in the Chicago firm of (Normand Smith) Patton & Miller.

Only 15 years after its construction, its exterior was made over to conform to what was emerging as the light Collegiate Gothic style of most of the developing campus—but much of the interior is authentic to 1911. It includes a memorial to Cooper Schmitt, a popular mathematics professor who died that year after collapsing during a lecture in South College. (Schmitt was the father of a noted UT grad, Pulitzer-winning historian Bernadotte Schmitt.)

As UT built larger Hoskins Library, across Cumberland, this building became headquarters of UT's administration.

In October, 1935, with elaborate ceremonies including a bonfire, the old library was rededicated as a memorial to education-minded Tennessee governor **Austin Peay (1876-1927)**, who had suddenly died in office. In the last year of his life, Peay had initiated a UT building program.





Austin Peay

As an administration building, containing both the president's offices and the meeting room of the Board of Trustees, the Austin Peay Building witnessed some dramatic decisions for the university, including its desegregation: first of the graduate schools in 1952, then of the whole student body in 1960. In January, 1970, hundreds of students surrounded the building, ostensibly in reaction to UT's selection of a new president without consulting the student body, but also within the context of antiwar demonstrations that were already much more in evidence at UT than at most Southern public universities. The challenge remained mostly peaceful, but drew riot police and national reporters. Administration moved to Circle Park soon afterward. In recent decades, the building is used mainly for classrooms.



Dabney Hall



Ferris Hall



Alumni Memorial

## 4. OTHER BUILDINGS ON THE HILL

Several buildings on the Hill, like **Dabney Hall** (the original 1929 part of what's now Dabney-Buehler Hall) and **Ferris Hall** (1930), and **Hesler Biology Building** (1935) are early designs by Barber and McMurry, the firm whose work in the Collegiate Gothic style came to dominate the look of the campus, especially from the 1920s through the 1940s. Charles Barber (1887-1962) was especially fond of medieval-revival styles, and his esthetic, which peaked between the two world wars, is especially obvious in a couple of buildings in particular.

Although its location, wedged between the steep Hill and Neyland Stadium, obscures it from casual view, Alumni Memorial Auditorium, a long-delayed project to honor UT alumni killed in World War I, is a landmark both for its architecture and the fascinating array of events it has witnessed.

With Gothic arches and little gargoyles, or gremlins, in the design, Alumni Memorial is a definitive Charles Barber building, built in 1932. The iron sconces on the exterior are the work of internationally heralded Ukrainian-born Philadelphia metalworker Samuel Yellin (1884-1940), who worked with Barber on several occasions.

To many, **Alumni Memorial Hall** was mainly a sports facility, often known as "Alumni Gym." The Vols men's basketball team played there for about 30 years, and Pat Summitt's Lady Vols began their legendary multi-championship era here. However, the building is at least equally notable for the literary, musical, and political figures who have spoken and sometimes debated here. Among them, to name just a few who've drawn crowds here, are Eleanor Roosevelt, Carl Sandburg, Chick Webb, Tommy Dorsey (with his orchestra and young singer, Frank Sinatra), Jascha Heifetz, Bob Hope, Doris Day, Nina Simone, Tennessee Williams, Timothy Leary, Gene Roddenberry, the Clash, and the B-52s. It's especially notable as the site of the last piano performance of Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninoff's career; suffering from terminal cancer, he completed his 1943 concert here and canceled the rest of his American tour. (His statue, donated to the city by a Russian sculptor, is worth a visit, a stone's throw from campus at World's Fair Park.)

*-- Follow Middle Drive or Circle Drive downhill to Cumberland Ave --*



## 5. MIN KAO BUILDING, 1520 Middle Drive (at Cumberland Ave)

Known from Cumberland Avenue for its machinelike metallic cylindrical design, softened with faux brick gables, the Min Kao building is a sharp departure from the Hill's collegiate-gothic standard. It's named for its private benefactor, Min Kao (b. 1949), one of UT's most influential scholars in technology. The Taiwanese student attended UT in the 1970s, receiving two graduate degrees, including his 1977 Ph.D., then went on to lead the creation of the geolocating device the Garmin, released in 1989. Named playfully for first names of colleague Gary Burrell and Min Kao himself, the invention changed the way the world gets around. He returned to campus in 2012 for the dedication of the 150,000 square-foot Min Kao Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Building.



## 6. JESSIE HARRIS BUILDING, 1215 Cumberland Avenue

Hoskins and the less elaborate but still Collegiate-Gothic Jessie Harris Building represented the beginning of the expanse of UT's campus across Cumberland Avenue, into what had previously been a purely residential neighborhood. Built in 1926, the Harris Building was one of Barber McMurry's earliest UT designs; there's some suggestion Grant Miller, author of Ayres Hall, was involved, as well. In 1964, the Home Economics building was formally renamed for that department's longtime dean, Jessie Harris (1888-1972), who had been in charge of class work in the building from its earliest days. A home economist but no homebody, Harris spent much of the 1950s, when she still held the post of dean of Home Economics, working for the U.S. State Department in West Germany and expanding UT's programs to colleges in India. New wings were added in 1937 and 1959. The department was later renamed Human Ecology, but the building kept the name of its memorable honoree.

*-- Follow Cumberland Ave uphill --*



## 7. HOSKINS LIBRARY, 1401 Cumberland Avenue

An equally extravagant Charles Barber building is just across Cumberland Avenue from the Hill: Hoskins Library, notable from the street for its castellated tower. Completed in 1931, it was originally intended to be a much grander building, with an interior courtyard, but Barber's original dreams were curtailed by the Great Depression. Still, it has sufficient grandeur, with cathedral windows on the eastern face and gargoyle-like concrete ornaments similar to those at Alumni Memorial; inside, its grand stone staircase and high ceilings make it one of the most picturesque historical interiors in Knoxville. Artist Hugh Tyler, known as Uncle Andrew in James Agee's Pulitzer-winning novel, *A Death in the Family*, created the unusual wall painting (comparable to what he did at about the same time at nearby Church Street Methodist Church, Barber's tour de force on the next hill to the east), and stenciled philosophical slogans. The university's main library for about 40 years, Hoskins contained the office of John C. Hodges, the literature scholar and grammarian who became the honoree of UT's current main library. Hoskins has served, in recent years, as the headquarters of UT's Jackson, Polk, and Johnson presidential papers projects. Its tower once held a small art museum, the Audigier Collection of mostly European artwork; after it was burglarized twice in the 1970s, the remaining artifacts moved to McClung Museum.



At the northwestern corner of Hoskins is a ca. 1880 carriage house that originally belonged to the Woodruff mansion, an enormous Victorian built for the large family of former Union officer W.W. Woodruff, the hardware and furniture magnate. The stable, which included groom's quarters upstairs, became part of UT's campus in 1926. In 1945, it became a "Craft House" for teaching practical arts, and later as a textile laboratory. Since it was damaged in a 2002 fire, it has been used mainly for storage.



## 8. SCHOOL OF LAW, 1505 Cumberland Avenue

UT School of Law has origins in the late 19th century, when UT trustee, federal judge, and future U.S. Supreme Court justice Edward Terry Sanford (1865-1930) spearheaded the idea. Originally located in a former school for women near downtown, it occupied the new College of Law in 1950, designed by Barber and McMurtry. About 40 years later, it was massively expanded, doubling in size, at which time it became better known as the George C. Taylor College of Law, named for federal Judge Taylor (1885-1952), a 1908 graduate of UT's law school.



## 9. STUDENT UNION, 1502 Cumberland Avenue

The Student Union, substantially finished in 2018 after years of preparation, doubled the size of the old Carolyn P. Brown University Center that stood on the same spot since 1954. Its external design, by McCarty Holsaple McCarty, is intended as a somewhat abstracted evocation in the style of Ayres Hall.



## 10. PANHELLENIC BUILDING, 1531 Cumberland Avenue

The Panhellenic Building, a modernist building designed by Painter, Weeks, and McCarty in 1964, originally served sororities in an era when fraternities had individual houses, but sororities did not. Sororities would meet in this building, hosting events here, but members lived elsewhere like other students. UT established Sorority Village, with individual homes, on the west side of campus in the early 21st century. The Panhellenic Building has seen a variety of purposes since then, including classrooms.

*-- Turn right on 16th Street and go one block north --*



## 11. GARDENER'S COTTAGE, 1701 16th Street

At the southwest corner of White and 16th, is an odd building known as the Gardener's Cottage. Built around 1879, it sat behind the large and elaborate Cowan mansion. The Cowans had formal gardens, tended by a gardener from England (or Ireland, by some accounts) who lived in this cottage. In 1880, these formal gardens hosted a large and elaborate reception for a famous visitor, English author, lawyer, and member of Parliament Thomas Hughes, who founded the ill-fated colony of Rugby, Tenn., and is credited with popularizing rugby football in America. Hughes was feted in Knoxville for several days, but this is one of the very few buildings associated with that visit. The cottage was home to a series of UT professors, but didn't become property of the university until 1985. Long a dilemma, and at least once a target for demolition, the cottage became the subject of a renovation effort in recent years. Today it's one of the oldest structures on campus, though its original purpose was unrelated to UT, and it was not considered part of campus for more than a century.



## 12 SOPHRONIA STRONG HALL

Nearby is an architectural oddity: Built in 1925 in an elaborate Collegiate Gothic style, Sophronia Strong Hall, originally a women's dormitory—named for Sophronia Marrs Strong (1817-1867). She was not an alum—women were not admitted to UT during her lifetime—but she was the mother of wealthy benefactor Benjamin Rush Strong, whose will made the building possible. It was such a beautiful and beloved landmark that UT retained a small part of the original building on the White Avenue side in a massive 2017 rebuild of the building as a mostly new, mostly academic building known more simply as Strong Hall.



*-- Return to Cumberland Avenue, turn right and continue up hill and cross over for the Baker Center --*



### 13. THE BAKER CENTER, 1640 Cumberland Avenue

Completed in 2008, the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy hosts exhibits and lectures related to a wide range of political issues. Housed here are papers of several Tennessee statesmen, from Sen. Estes Kefauver to Sen. Fred Thompson, and of course Baker himself. Its honoree, former U.S. senator, Reagan White House chief of staff, and ambassador Howard Baker (1925-2014), a 1949 UT College of Law alumnus, attended its dedication and maintained an office in the building during his final years. Its visitors have included U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who was here for the opening. Noted for its rotunda and Tennessee marble floor, it's a McCarty Holsaple McCarty achievement.

*-- Return back downhill on Cumberland Avenue and turn first right on Volunteer Boulevard --*



Martha Henson

### 14. HENSON HALL, 821 Volunteer Boulevard

Henson Hall, finished in 1931, is another early Barber & McMurry collegiate gothic building, similar in style to that firm's buildings on the Hill, and built when the campus was taking its first tentative steps to the west. Originally a dormitory building, in recent decades it has been occupied by academic offices, it was endowed by Martha Henson, widow of James A. Henson, co-founder of Haynes-Henson Shoes. They had no children, and James' early death left Martha to distribute their wealth to her favorite causes. One of the charter members of Knoxville's first English-language Lutheran church, Martha Henson was behind the construction of St. John's Lutheran Church on Broadway, and she supported the Williams-Henson Lutheran orphanage on Maryville Pike, a farmlike setting now occupied by Dara's Garden. However, upon her death in 1927, her largest bequest went toward the construction of this women's dormitory; remarkably, considering that neither she nor her late husband were UT alumni, and in fact UT did not admit women when she was college age. It served as a women's dormitory until the 1970s, when it was converted for academic use.

Henson Hall later came to seem part of the U-shaped complex including much-later Barber McMurry buildings, Greve (1955) and Dunford (1963).



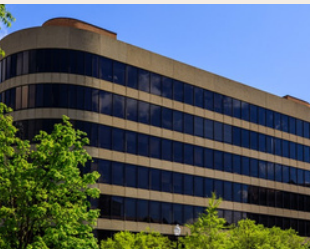
Lt. Lawrence Tyson

### 15. LAWRENCE DAVIS TYSON HOUSE, 824 Melrose Place (on the corner of Volunteer Blvd)

The house was originally built with a Victorian design for Lt. Lawrence Davis Tyson (1861-1929), a young cavalry officer who had recently been with the U.S. Army in their campaigns against the Apaches led by Geronimo. He married a Knoxville heiress, Bettie McGhee, and earned a transfer to Knoxville to lead the university's military science program. He spent the rest of his life as a Knoxville businessman, lawyer, and ultimately politician, but rejoined the army during major conflicts like the Spanish-American War—after which he worked as an administrator in occupied Puerto Rico—and World War I, by which time he was a brigadier general. He and Bettie raised a family in this house; their only son was McGhee Tyson, a World War I flier whose death in a crash in the North Sea prompted the parents to donate to the city a park—Tyson Park—with the proviso that the city's airport be named for their lost son, who loved to fly. Tyson was elected to U.S. Senate when the first McGhee Tyson Airport opened on Sutherland Avenue. The name was retained when the municipal airport moved to Blount County a decade later.

In 1908, the Tysons employed aging architect George Barber, whose famous Victorian designs were out of style, to rebuild the exterior to look neoclassical. (The result features some of Knoxville's few extant examples of a Corinthian column.) The grounds once featured elaborate terraced gardens. The interior is remarkably intact, and now known as the Tyson Alumni Center, used by UT for special events.

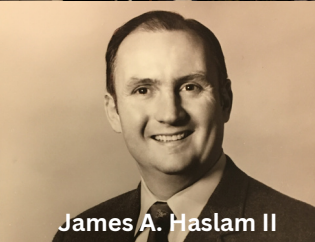
The grave of the Tysons' dog, Bonita, is still visible on the west side of the house. Through their daughter, Isabella, the Tysons were great-grandparents of Drew Gilpin Faust, author-historian and first female president of Harvard.



### 16. STOKELY MANAGEMENT CENTER, 916 Volunteer Boulevard

Almost immediately after its completion in 1975, the unusual shape of the Stokely Management Center almost immediately earned it the affectionate nickname, the Spam Can, even if its edges are more rounded than that familiar grocery item. Its design was a collaborative effort between the modernist firm of McCarty, Bullock, Church, and Holsaple, and the firm Morton and Sweetser, prominent in Knoxville modernist projects, sometimes in collaboration with McCarty, for about 20 years. The Toronto-born James Coulson Morton, who had also helped design Glocker Hall, died at age 63 as it was completed.

*-- Just past Stokely is Haslam Business College --*



James A. Haslam II

## 17. HASLAM COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, 1000 Volunteer Boulevard

UT has become well known for its business-administration curriculum, and the Haslam College of Business building has an unusual history. The brick façade was built more than half a century before the rest of it. It's an artifact of the short-lived architecture firm of (William P.) Bealer & (J. Fred) Wilhoit, which before then was known mainly for designing small churches and public schools. This large project of 92,000 square feet might have seemed a turning point in their careers, but before it was finished, Wilhoit died suddenly at age 52; Bealer retired and moved away soon after. Finished in 1952, the building was named for Prof. Theodore Glocker, a former Johns Hopkins scholar who authored a book about trade unions before his arrival at UT in 1913. He started a business program at UT's College of Liberal Arts in 1937 before founding UT's College of Business Administration, serving as its first dean. Glocker died in 1969. By the early 21st century, the Glocker Building was considered inadequate, and in 2005, rather than flattening the old building, UT chose to keep its façade and match it to a modern building almost twice the size. The result is a towering flourish above and behind the original façade, a collaborative design project of Weeks Ambrose McDonald and Ross/Fowler, and was named for the alumnus-businessman-philanthropist who had made it possible, **James A. Haslam II**. The completed building has a total square footage of over 174,000, and retains a Glocker Wing honoring the building's original namesake.



## 18. Hodges Library, 1015 Volunteer Boulevard

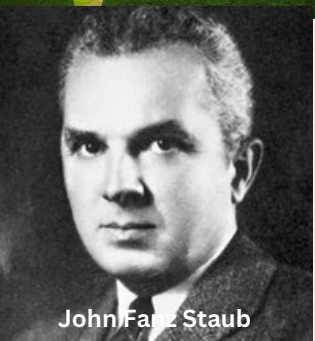
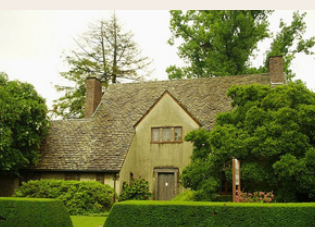
Originally built in 1969, UT's main library is named as a memorial for literary scholar and grammarian John C. Hodges (1892-1967), famous for the *Hodges Harbrace Handbook of English*. The building underwent a radical transformation in 1987, when it bloomed as the much-bigger "Ziggurat." One of the most striking buildings on campus, it's the result of a collaboration of architecture firms; the structure of the original, more conventional building is said to be incorporated into the design, though it's very hard to discern, inside or out. UT's main library, it's known for its Special Collections, including the papers of authors James Agee, Alex Haley, and many other notable authors and scholars.

-- Turn right on Melrose Place (between Tyson House and Hodges Library) and then left on to Melrose Avenue --



## 19. MELROSE HALL

Melrose Hall, built in 1947, is one of the last of Barber McMurry's collegiate-gothic buildings on campus, and remains with its elaborate courtyard. When it was built, it stood alongside its namesake, old Melrose Hall, an 1854 Italianate mansion that had been home to a marble magnate, a prominent attorney, and finally businessman-banker Thomas O'Conner, who was killed in the nationally notorious Mabry-O'Conner gunfight of 1882, which left all three combatants dead. O'Conner's widow, Fannie, remained in the mansion for 40 years afterward. (It was once an elaborate estate; Lake Avenue is named for Melrose's man-made concrete-bottomed lake, reportedly destroyed when trespassers attempted to use dynamite to poach fish there.) After her death, the house became the Melrose Art Center, one of Knoxville's first art museums, but it closed during the Depression. During UT's expansion in late 1950s, the Melrose house was torn down for the construction of Hess Hall, a large modernist dormitory which was one of the last works of the venerable firm of Baumann and Baumann (though no Baumanns remained with the firm at that time).



John Fanz Staub

## 20. HOPECOTE, 1820 Melrose Avenue

Melrose Avenue, named for a Civil War-era house long since torn down, is a rare part of campus where much of the original residential architecture is still intact. These houses built in the early 20th century were still private residences until UT acquired the neighborhood during its massive expansion in the 1960s. The most unusual of them is Hopecote.

The designer of the extraordinarily unusual English cottage style home, which took the 1920s revivalist ideal beyond the ordinary, was a UT graduate. His name was John Fanz Staub (1892-1981), and he designed the house for his aunt, Emma Fanz Hope. Famous as the model for the nationally popular art photograph known as the "Knaffl Madonna," she became the socially prominent wife of a downtown jeweler. By then, Staub was already working in Texas, where he made a career designing mansions for oil millionaires, but he occasionally returned to design a house in his hometown. The striking design of Hopecote, which is distinctive inside and out, earned attention in 1924 in several national architectural magazines, winning a national award from *House Beautiful* magazine. Emma Hope lived here until her death in 1977. Since the 1980s, UT has used it as a guest house, where well-known authors and scholars have stayed. Its guests have included politicians George McGovern and Shirley Chisholm, Pulitzer-winning author Buzz Bissinger, and Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy, who was here for a lecture. Since 2012, it has been on the National Register of Historic Places. (Perhaps the most famous architect who was born in Knoxville or graduated from UT, Staub designed at least four houses in Knoxville, but only one other remains today: the legendary Eugenia Williams house on Lyons View, built from a 1939 Staub plan.)

-- Return on Melrose Avenue and turn right on Melrose Place to Andy Holt Avenue --





## 21. CLARENCE BROWN THEATRE, 1714 Andy Holt Avenue

Clarence Brown Theater won regional awards for its 1970 design by architect Bruce McCarty, which includes a Broadway-sized house and an intimate lab theater tucked behind it. The project arrived as the result of a multi-million dollar gift from UT engineering alumnus Clarence Brown (1890–1987), a 1910 grad who became a major Hollywood director (*Anna Christie*, *National Velvet*, *The Yearling*, *Intruder in the Dust*); he was here for its opening, and attended shows here. Especially in its early years, the theater birthed some original plays, including one, *Sugar Babies*, which in 1979 became a major Broadway hit. The theater was for a couple of seasons in the early 1970s the home stage of Anthony Quayle, the British movie actor later to be knighted. Hollywood actors David Keith and Dale Dickey got their acting starts at the CBT, and it became a late-career stage for Carol Mayo Jenkins, familiar television actress who began her career at the Carousel. Speakers in this space have included authors Christopher Isherwood and Tennessee Williams.



## 22. CAROUSEL THEATRE, 1704 Andy Holt Avenue

*Note: The Carousel is undergoing a radical transformation, essentially being rebuilt in a more modern and practical style, as an homage to its heritage.*

Knoxville's first theater designed for local productions, the Carousel began as a community project, built on a part of town that in the early 1950s was still mostly residential and not associated with the university—although several faculty members, especially English Prof. Paul Soper, regarded as the father of UT's drama program, helped lead the effort. The volunteer designer was an imaginative TVA architect, MIT alum Frederick Roth, who imagined an octagonal theater in the round, in which moveable parts that could create different shapes, creating different arrangements of audience seating. Established in stages between 1951, when the first open-air nighttime performances were held here (the first was, appropriately, Moss Hart's *Light Up the Sky*), and 1952, when the structure was completed, it earned the name Carousel during its open-air era for its resemblance to a merry-go-round. Upon completion, the Carousel was instantly popular, using talent of both UT students and community thespians, some with Broadway credits. A couple of generations of Knoxville schoolchildren remember field trips to see daytime plays here. The unusual building launched several show-biz careers, including that of Broadway and TV star John Cullum (*Camelot*, *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*, *Shenandoah*, and CBS-TV's "Northern Exposure") and memorable Hollywood character actress Collin Wilcox (*To Kill a Mockingbird*, "The Twilight Zone"); even novelist David Madden was a regular performer at the Carousel in the '50s. Playwright Edward Albee gave a talk here in 1976, and a few years later, *Roots* author Alex Haley gave a reading of some unpublished memoir at the Carousel.

It became part of UT's campus during Urban Renewal in the 1960s. Complaints about hot and cold weather prompted efforts to enclose the space, first temporarily with removable walls, but in the 1980s, the walls became permanent, compromising the charm of its original appearance, prompting complaints that it had become an eyesore. By the 21st century, it was claimed to be the oldest theater in the round in the United States.



**Carol Mayo Jenkins  
& John Cullum**

**-- Return to Volunteer Boulevard on Andy Holt Avenue, which becomes Joe Johnson and John Ward Pedestrian Mall --**



## 23. McCLUNG TOWER, 1701 Volunteer Boulevard

McClung Tower is the tallest symbol of UT's major Urban Renewal expansion in the 1960s, the centerpiece of Malcolm Rice's design of the new campus. Bruce McCarty, by then Knoxville's most prolific modernist, designed the faculty office building, enabled by a gift from Ellen McClung Berry (1894–1992), the heiress whose melodramatically tragic life, parts of its too weird for fiction, are described in Barbara Aston Wash's book, *Bless Her Heart*.

Accompanying the building are the Humanities Building and Plaza, which includes one of only three copies of Swedish sculptor Carl Milles' 1924 cast bronze, "Europa and the Bull." (Similar statues stand in Halmsted, Sweden, and Michigan's Cranbrook Academy.) Milles (1875–1955), died several years before its installation in the 1960s, but photographs of this especially picturesque version appear in *Encyclopedia Britannica* and other discussions of Milles. Upon its unveiling in May, 1968, it elicited some discussion and controversy, because it's a beautiful evocation of what is sometimes portrayed as a bestial rape of Europa by Zeus, in the form of a bull. The statue was chosen by benefactor Ellen McClung Berry herself.

The Plaza was the site of antiwar and other counterculture demonstrations, and in early 1974, episodes of streaking, when some made credible claims that UT was the most unclad public university in America.



**-- Follow Volunteer Boulevard uphill to Circle Park --**



## 24. THE VOLUNTEER STATUE

The first statue ever built on UT's campus has a story much older than the statue itself. The Volunteer, known informally in recent years as "the Torchbearer"—has stood at the entrance to Circle Park since April, 1968, when it was in the center of the massive redevelopment project that resulted in the western part of UT's campus. In more than half a century, its flame has rarely been extinguished. However, its origin is much older, a reflection of prewar classical idealism. A university that wished for an inspiring symbol hosted an international competition in 1931, won by Yale University sculpture student Theodore Beck, in a competition judged by a remarkable three-member jury led by major American sculptor Lorado Taft, who came to Knoxville to perform that duty. The bearded Chicagoan was the toast of the town, feted by the Knoxville Art League at the Melrose Art Museum, near campus. The local jurors assisting Taft were UT architect Charles Barber, then at work on important UT buildings, and writer, artist and art teacher Robert Lindsay Mason, then at the height of his fame for a popular and stylish book called *The Lure of the Great Smokies*.

The original appeared to depict a somewhat older man, perhaps a scholar, holding a lantern, not a torch, and stark naked. In the first year after the award, and perhaps influenced by a runner-up who proposed a pioneer stepping forward while holding a torch, the statue was modified, into a more athletic fellow, a more classical ideal, with a draped toga of sorts, holding a torch, not a mere lantern.

At first it was intended to be much larger, and to be placed at the entrance to UT, at the foot of the Hill at Cumberland Avenue. The image, duplicated in desk-sized statuettes, inspired the term "Torchbearer"—all without ever seeing life as a full-sized statue. By some accounts, the Great Depression posed too much of a burden to consider such nonessential adornments. UT's president Harcourt Morgan, who had launched the project, left his job to become one of the original directors of TVA. By the 1960s, all three original jurors had died.

But UT's 1967 graduating class proposed reviving the forgotten idea. Although UT architect Malcolm Rice, an influential figure on the postwar campus and a lover of modernism, was said to dislike the design, they found support in the administration of outgoing President Andy Holt for erecting a nine-foot version of the Volunteer. It was cast in bronze at an arts foundry in Brooklyn, shipped to Knoxville, and erected here. As the first public statue to be unveiled in Knoxville in almost 30 years, it drew interest well beyond the student body. It has become a traditional starting point for the pre-game Vol Walk.



## 25. CIRCLE PARK

Tree-shaded Circle Park is a familiar UT gathering place, but has a deep history that may not be obvious. Part of the 1960s campus expansion enabled by Urban Renewal, the green park space is surrounded by modernist concrete buildings, the first of which was **McClung Museum**, an early-career design by Bruce McCarty, completed in 1963, and a subject of excitement in a city that before then had no permanent museums. Originally conceived as a place to store and sometimes display Native American relics found in areas disrupted by TVA dam projects, the long-delayed project was enabled by a gift from elderly attorney John Webb Green and his wife, Ellen McClung Green, and named as a memorial to her father, Frank H. McClung, a prominent merchant who had died more than 60 years earlier. The museum has seen a rich variety of exhibits, perhaps most memorably when UT art professor Kermit "Buck" Ewing christened it with a deliberately challenging show of very modern art, dominated by abstract expressionism, in 1963. In years to come, McClung would develop a reputation for interpreting prehistoric relics, with changing exhibits of international art. Today, a scale model of an *Edmontosaurus* skeleton, evoking a real one in the museum's collection, stands guard outside.

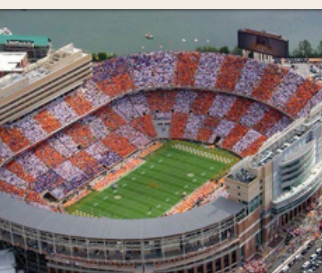


At the eastern end of Circle Park's arc, the **Communications and Extension Building**, built in 1969, includes the studios of public-radio stations WUOT and WUTK, the newsroom of the *UT Daily Beacon*, and a **Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame**. Attached to it, behind, is Andy Holt Tower, named for the popular president during UT's most ambitious geographical expansions from 1959 to 1969, is the headquarters of the university. Designed during a period of chaotic student unrest, it was built remotely from public gathering places, with access by way of a narrow walled bridge, intended to protect the university's president and other administrators.



Circle Park itself, however, is nearly a century older than its buildings. The small suburban park appears as "the Circle" in an 1886 map, and by the 1890s, it was a popular streetcar destination for picnics and baseball games, and a fashionable address for large Victorian homes, all of them razed during UT's expansion in the 1960s. However, Circle Park remains as a grassy remnant of another time, with some plantings that intrigue botanical historians, leading some to speculate it was the never-identified Knoxville project on which landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted was working in 1893.

-- Follow Peyton Manning Pass off Circle Drive down to Neyland Stadium --



## 26. NEYLAND STADIUM, 1300 Phillip Fulmer Way

Once the largest sports stadium in America, and still one of the largest, Neyland Stadium rose by degrees. Originally established in 1921 as Shields-Watkins Field, it was served by simple high-school-style stands on either side. In days before generous funding for athletics, the field was built by volunteer effort, enlisting students, engineering faculty, and other fans. Originally it was for baseball, football, and track, and was occasionally used for high-school tournaments. The original name was in honor of a major donor to the effort, prominent banker and UT trustee W.S. Shields and his wife, Alice Watkins Shields.





Gen. Robert Neyland



Coach Robert Neyland (1892-1962) began coaching here in 1926 when he was a young U.S. Army captain who had coached at West Point. Neyland's unusual defense-first strategy, and his habit of winning most games, garnered new interest in the Vols, who became national contenders. During the Neyland years, the stands' capacity rose from 3,200, when the stadium was little more than bleachers, to over 46,000, when it was a proper masonry stadium built in a horseshoe shape, with the northern end open. That 1940s stadium is still mostly intact, and visible through the superstructure of the later additions, which resulted in a stadium that seats, today, over 102,000. Although more than 109,000 have attended games here in standing-room-only situations, as in 2004, when UT beat Florida by two points, some recent luxury improvements have reduced the total seating capacity. The stadium was known as Shields-Watkins until 1962—when, just weeks before the heart-attack death of its former coach, it was renamed Neyland Stadium. However, the field itself retains the Shields-Watkins name.

Over the years, many of the great players of American football have performed on Neyland's turf, none much more famous than Peyton Manning, the rookie quarterback who began his rise to national fame here in 1994.

It's used almost exclusively for football, typically only about eight games a year. Several notable NFL exhibition games—including a game between the Green Bay Packers and the New England Patriots during the 1982 World's Fair; even though it didn't count for any championship purpose, it proved to be one of the best-attended professional-football games in national history. Neyland serves as the finish line in the annual Knoxville Marathon, and has on very rare occasions served non-athletic purposes, most dramatically in May, 1970, when it hosted a Billy Graham Crusade featuring President Richard Nixon's first appearance in public since the Cambodia bombings and the Kent State Shootings. That event engendered a major demonstration, resulting in national news coverage and dozens of arrests. It has only occasionally served as a music venue. The Jacksons, including the original Jackson Five and Michael, performed three shows here in 1985, to capacity crowds. Later, in June, 2003, Knoxville-born country star Kenny Chesney, famously a Vol fan who had recently recorded the song "Touchdown Tennessee," played a show here. However, proposals from many performers, including the Rolling Stones, who made a formal request to perform there in the 1970s, have been declined.

The stadium has occasionally appeared on film. Its old south end building, originally a dormitory, later included some academic offices and labs, including the anthropology department's experiments in forensic research involving corpses, is discussed in a humorous context in the 2009 football movie *The Blind Side*, and the stadium has a cameo in the 2017 motion picture *The Last Movie Star*, Burt Reynolds' final role, in which Reynolds and Ariel Winter share a scene with dialogue on the western side of the stadium.

A large statue of honoree Neyland, in his prime, kneels on the stadium's west side, where it was installed in 2010. Its sculptor was Utah artist Blair Buswell, sculptor of more than 100 busts in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He remarked at the time that the Neyland statue was the largest he'd ever accomplished.

Perhaps not yet familiar to many Knoxvilleans, the north side of Neyland Stadium features an array of **statues of African American Vols**, unveiled in 2021. Among them are Lester McClain, Condredge Holloway, Jackie Walker, and Tee Martin. UT became one of the first Southeastern Conference teams to field Black players in 1967, when end Lester McClain ran onto Neyland's field. In 1998, quarterback Tee Martin led the Vols to their first national championship in many years.

*-- Return to Volunteer Boulevard and head west on the right side of the street --*



## 27. ART AND ARCHITECTURE BUILDING, 1715 Volunteer Boulevard

Controversial when it was built in 1981, the Art and Architecture building is a "brutalist" example of functional concrete modernism by McCarty, Bullock, and Holsaple. Its charms are more obvious on the inside, where activity on several floors is visible from the lobby. The building includes the C. Kermit "Buck" Ewing Gallery, named for the artist (1910-1976) from Pennsylvania who launched UT's art program in 1948 and became Knoxville's most outspoken advocate of modern art. Ewing Gallery features regular shows and is open to the public.



## 28. THE NATALIE, 1741 Volunteer Boulevard

The Natalie L. Haslam Music Center, often known as "the Natalie," UT's second music building on this site, was completed in 2013, enabled by a major donation by the Haslam family. At the time, the honoree's stepson Bill Haslam was governor of Tennessee. The designer of the 123,000-foot building, considered state of the art at the time, was Barber McMurry. That venerable firm was once best known for revivalist neo-gothic designs in brick and stone; this award-winning design may be that venerable firm's most notable work of modernism. UT has its own symphony orchestra and opera company, and they regularly perform here in its 420-seat auditorium.

*-- Continue along Volunteer Boulevard to the corner of Pat Head Summitt Street --*



## 29. THE ROCK

0.7 miles ahead on left

This large chunk of limestone was unearthed during the massive construction projects associated with campus's expansion in the 1960s. Placed on end as a modernist sort of highlight beside the parking lots of Fraternity Row, on the south side of Volunteer Boulevard, it got little attention in its early years, only occasionally visited by a graffitist. However, by the early 1990s, "The Rock" had become a conspicuous medium for expression, often entirely painted over, sometimes with a new message daily. Most of the messages are humorous or athletics-related, and some are often just puzzling. But on a few occasions political statements have stirred controversy and outrage.

Recognizing its importance to the students as a symbol of free speech, a redesign of Volunteer Boulevard coinciding with construction of the Natalie prompted its move across the street to a new location.

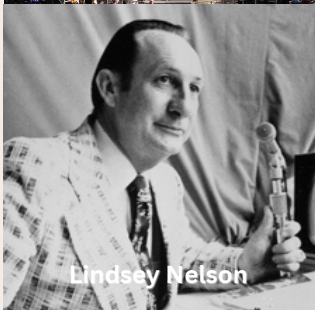
-- Cross Volunteer Boulevard here and head south on Pat Head Summitt Street --



## 30. LINDSEY NELSON STADIUM, 1511 Pat Head Summitt Street

UT's baseball stadium, which holds more than 4,000, was built in 1993 and named for colorful broadcaster Lindsey Nelson (1919-1995), who began his career as a sportswriter in Knoxville in the 1930s when he was a UT student covering Neyland's Vols. Later a radio and television broadcaster, he became a familiar face on NBC sports coverage in the 1950s, and may be best remembered in New York for his play-by-play coverage of the Mets in the 1960s and '70s. In retirement, he moved back to Knoxville, followed the Vols, and wrote a column for the *News-Sentinel*.

It's located on the site of old Hudson Field, part of which had been a football practice field during the Neyland era, when its address was south 18th Street—and was being used for baseball on occasion by 1949. Lower Hudson Field was refurbished especially for baseball in 1951, when one championship game with Georgia Tech drew over 5,000 fans. Football gets much more attention, but UT baseball has sent more than 50 baseball players to the big leagues since 1903. In the early 1990s, Vol star Todd Helton, who batted and pitched in some of the first games ever played in Lindsey Nelson Stadium, became a hitting star of the Colorado Rockies for 17 seasons, credited with over 1400 runs and 369 home runs in the majors. Todd Helton Drive connects Volunteer Boulevard with the baseball stadium where the honoree began his career.



Lindsey Nelson

Adjacent is Haslam Field, a football practice field, the site of a former armory christened Haslam Field in 2002, in honor of the 1952 Vol football captain Jim Haslam, who became a major UT philanthropist.



## 31. OTHER STADIUMS {Optional}

For completists, the cluster of sports fields on Joan Cronan Way and Stephenson Drive off Neyland Drive, is worth an extended visit, perhaps by car.

Regal Soccer Stadium (left) is a 3,000-seat facility named for Regal Cinemas, the locally owned theater giant, and completed in 2005.



Sherri Parker Lee Stadium (below left), named for philanthropist, was built in 2007 as a home for the Lady Vol softball team.

Nearby is the Joan Cronan Volleyball Center, 2321 Stephenson Drive, completed in 2014 and named for the longtime women's athletic director, who retired in 2012 after almost 30 years in UT sports leadership.

-- Continue on Pat Head Summitt Street and turn left on Chamique Holdsclaw Drive to Phillip Fulmer Way --



## 32. THOMPSON BOLING ARENA, 1600 Phillip Fulmer Way

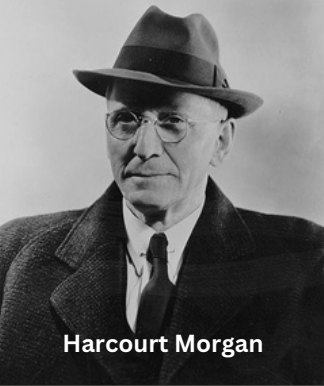
Thompson Boling Arena, built in 1987, is an enormous utilitarian building, clad in metal siding. It has served as a venue for both men's and women's basketball—including the later championship seasons of Pat Summitt's Lady Vols—and occasional arena concerts, among them those of Prince, REM, Stevie Wonder, and Paul McCartney.

The building's architecture doesn't offer much to look at, but for those not attending a game or a concert there, perhaps the most interesting thing to see is the **Pat Summitt statue**, by Texas-based sculptor Dave Adickes, at the corner of Phillip Fulmer Way and Lake Loudon Boulevard. It honors Summitt (1952-2016), who between 1974 and 2012 led the Lady Vols to eight national championships, and who was once the most winning coach in college basketball, all while raising the national profile of the game. The statue was installed in 2013, just after Summitt's retirement due to her struggle with Alzheimer's Disease, and she was present at the unveiling, along with dozens of her former players.





*-- A visit to the Ag Campus typically requires a bike or car ride. Take Neyland Drive to Joe Johnson Drive and turn first left on River Drive. Follow the road and turn right for Morgan Circle Drive to Morgan Hall and return the same way --*



Harcourt Morgan

### 33. AGRICULTURAL CAMPUS

Things gets quieter when you cross Third Creek to the Agricultural Campus, though it's home to one of the South's leading veterinary schools, with an associated animal hospital. It includes one of the most pleasant stretches of the Third Creek Greenway, as well as UT Gardens, which are open to the public.

UT had been a liberal-arts college, not emphasizing agriculture and other vocational education, until it received Morrill Act funding in 1869. As a rare exception in the federal Morrill Act, which generally applied only to non-Confederate states for decades after the war, it was the result of Congressional approval of money to improve agricultural education in Tennessee. Agriculture classes were on the Hill, but students could use this western land to put their learning into practice.

UT was the first southern university to receive that resource, intended to supply federal resources to enhance the practical sciences, agricultural, mechanical, and military education. This part of campus has its origins in those post-Civil War politics; it began its association with the university as an "experimental farm," probably around 1869. It probably had no permanent classroom, lab, or office buildings until after 1915, when UT acquired the much-larger Cherokee property—site of a failed residential development by that name—across the river. UT moved most of its crop-sized experiments over there, and began building buildings for offices, classrooms, and labs on the former experimental campus. Because of the nature of agricultural research and teaching, parts of the campus look almost industrial, with long buildings and big parking lots. The northernmost part of campus, set on a low hill, looks more like an old-fashioned college campus, with tree-shaded older brick collegiate buildings, including Morgan Hall named after Harcourt Morgan.



### 34. MORGAN HALL, 2621 Morgan Circle Drive

Morgan Hall is the western campus's landmark building, designed by Grant Miller as a sort of smaller companion piece to his tour de force, Ayres Hall. Both were completed in 1921. At its completion, Harcourt Morgan (1867–1950), one of UT's leading agricultural scholars, was the president of the whole university, during the early years of its most rapid growth. Though born and educated in Ontario, Morgan became famous for his work battling the boll weevil and malaria in the swamps of Louisiana. Befriended and trusted by Tennessee farmers, he was sometimes described as the first UT professor to wear overalls to class.

In the Sorority Village section just to the north of here, archaeologists have found multiple sites associated with Confederate occupation during the siege of Knoxville. in 1863. Considering the Union Army's Fort Byington was on the Hill, UT's campus is one of the few in America with sites associated with both sides in a significant battle.



### 35. McCORD HALL, 2600 River Drive

McCord Hall, named for Gov. Jim Nance McCord, the Middle Tennessee horse breeder who despite the fact that he didn't attend college secured major grants for UT, was built in 1949 as one of UT's last traditional brick and stone collegiate buildings designed by Barber McMurry, and built by contractor A.R. McMurry, a firm founded by the brother of architect Ben McMurry. At the end of his term in office, Gov. McCord himself spoke at the building's dedication.



### 36. Brehm Animal Sciences Building, 2506 River Drive

C.E. Brehm was, like Harcourt Morgan, one of a few UT presidents who began as agriculture professors. The Pennsylvania native (1889–1971) was a former horticulture professor from Purdue who came to teach in Knoxville in 1917; he eventually became dean of the agriculture school, but his accession to the presidency of the whole university in 1948 was unpredicted. This building, the first articulation of which was built during Brehm's administration, has been augmented and modified over the years. It was never more famous than when the original building had a moment as a show-biz venue in January, 1964, when it hosted two episodes of the folk-music show "Hootenanny," broadcast nationally on ABC-TV. Among the guests were Bill Monroe, Doc Watson, Mother Maybelle Carter with June Carter and her sisters, Eddy Arnold, Hoyt Axton, Pete Fountain, Homer and Jethro—and the Simon Sisters duo, including 20-year-old Carly Simon, all performing in a big room built for students to examine cattle.

*-- Turn left on Joe Johnson Drive and right on to Chapman Drive for the Indian Mound. Note: the only public parking is at the far end of the staff lot here for the UT Gardens --*



### 37. Veterinary Medical Center, 2407 River Drive

UT College of Veterinary Medicine is a leading institution, one of only 30 such colleges in America. Closely associated with it is the Veterinary Medical Center, the only academic animal hospital in Tennessee, and one of only a few in America.

At its fore, on the Neyland Drive side, is the War Dog Memorial, in honor of canines who have lost their lives serving U.S. forces in battle. The result of an effort enlisting San Francisco sculptor Susan Bahary, this statue of an alert Doberman is called "Always Faithful." There are now several around the world, beginning with one at a World War II dog cemetery in Guam; this one, dedicated in 1998, is the first ever erected on a college campus.



### 38. INDIAN MOUND

Perhaps surprisingly, considering development pressures in the center of Knoxville, this prehistoric mound, one of several encountered by early European settlers, may be the best preserved in the Knoxville area. The mound has been examined by anthropologists, who believe it to be well over 1,000 years old. Little is known about the Woodland Indians who built it, including whether they ever lived in the immediate area. Arrowheads prove the Knoxville area was a longtime hunting ground, for Native Americans, but there's been little evidence that any tribe made a longtime residence in what became Knoxville. The mound was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Just south of the mound, along a serpentine path with explanatory signage, is an interesting Native American Interpretive Garden featuring a variety of indigenous plants known and used by the Cherokee, for medicinal, food, and other purposes.



### 39. UT GARDENS, 2518 Jacob Drive

UT Gardens was recognized by Gov. Bill Haslam in 2013 as an official State Botanical Garden, one of only three in Tennessee. The garden was more than a century old then. It evolved over a period of decades, from what was originally known, perhaps as early as 1869, as the Agricultural College Farm.

Spread over 145 acres with few trees, it featured botanical experiments in progress. It remained even after 1914, when UT purchased the much-larger Cherokee property across the river for larger-scale experiments and demonstrations. That purchase allowed the university to establish a built agricultural campus on the former "college farm," though a smaller part of the "experiment station" remained as something more like a large garden than a farm. Over the years, its original acreage was trimmed down by construction of the buildings that now make up the agriculture campus. For decades, the big plot featured plants with signage combining numbers and Latin that only students and professors would appreciate.

In 1983, what remained of the Agriculture Experiment Station became better known as UT Trial Gardens, and gradually began to welcome the public with trails and benches and bits of sculpture, and even a children's garden. In 1993, the city completed the Third Creek Greenway along the eastern edge of the site, making the previously obscure area more familiar to bicyclists, joggers, and recreational pedestrians.

As it came to be used more by the public, it came to be known simply as UT Gardens. By the 21st century, it was a place for families with children to come on a summer evening, a destiny that would have seemed unlikely to earlier generations.

## THANK YOU

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The Knoxville History Project is an educational nonprofit whose mission is to research and promote the history and culture of Knoxville. For more walking and driving tours, stories, podcasts, and more, or to make a donation to support KHP's work, please join us online at [knoxvillehistoryproject.org](http://knoxvillehistoryproject.org) or call 865-337-7723