

# MATT GARDNER HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

## Happening Now at the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum

In the fall of 2023, the Tennessee Historical Commission awarded nearly \$900,000 for Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grants for historic preservation and archaeological projects throughout the state of Tennessee. One of the grant funding categories was brick-and-mortar restoration projects. The longstanding program (HPF) is one of the primary ways that the State Historic Preservation Office directly facilitates historic preservation in Tennessee.

The Land Trust for Tennessee applied for and secured a grant of \$25,000 from the Tennessee Historical Commission on behalf of the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum to fund the stabilization of the Homestead; in addition, the Land Trust will meet the match required by the grant with \$21,000 of institutional funds. The hope is that the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum will regain its 501(c)(3) status and, with support from the Land Trust for Tennessee, be able to apply for additional grants for future phases of this project. Ultimately, the goals are 1) the Homestead will be open again seasonally to the public, staffed by MTSU Center for Historic Preservation interns; and 2) preservation of the land as historic context around the home and outbuildings through a conservation easement, working with the Land Trust for Tennessee.

Currently, the Land Trust for Tennessee has hired a contractor with experience in historic preservation who is undertaking phase one of the stabilization of the Matt Gardner Homestead. The current scope of work includes roofing repairs, foundation and beam repairs in select locations, and trim/siding replacement on the south and front elevations.

The Matt Gardner Homestead Museum is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. If you would like to donate to the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum through the Land Trust for Tennessee, please use the following link:

<https://give.landtrusttn.org/give/406240/#!/donation/checkout>



Thankful for all the partners and support now and over the years



Pictured: Contractors and Gary Gardner locating the water line. Pictures courtesy of Tidal Gardner

The Matt Gardner Homestead Museum and The Land Trust for Tennessee are overseeing the stabilization of this site, supported in part by the Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and the Tennessee Historical Commission.

The MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area have a long-term partnership with the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum.

