

This fall the historic cabin on the site will be restored, in accordance with the Standards for National Historic Places, thus preserving it for generations to come. Funds for this \$150,000 project were raised last year.

The Lonesome Story began over 200 years ago when, after serving two enlistments in the Tennessee Volunteer Militia/War of 1812, including the Battle of New Orleans, William Green Austin and his young wife Dicy Horner Austin occupied the cabin, which had been built for him by his step-father. William and Dicy's 11 children and their descendants occupied the property until the early 1900's. It has remained in Austin family hands ever since. In 2015, the Austin family donated the site to the town of Burns, and in 2018 formed a non-profit, Friends of Lonesome Historic Site (FOLHS) to enhance preservation efforts. The site was awarded a Tennessee Historical Marker in 2017, and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in April, 2021.

After seeing the Master Plan drawings, Stuart Speyer, President of Tennesco, the largest employer in the county, said, "We are glad to help and confident the park will be a great addition to the local community. It is important that we preserve such an important historic landmark, and make it accessible to everyone in the community."

Upon receiving this generous pledge, Gail Jones, President of the Friends group stated "We greatly appreciate this gift. It is a game changer for completing our Master Plan. Our next big event is a Fund Raising Gala dinner to be held in Spring 2023. We welcome everyone to attend."

These efforts would not be possible without the contributions and support of friends, family, and local partners, especially the Town of Burns, TN.

About Friends of Lonesome Historic Site: FOLHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization devoted to the restoration and preservation of this site for the public good. For more information, to join, or to donate, go to www.lonesomehistoricsite.org. **Be a part of the Lonesome Story!**

[Click here](#) to see the Master Plan documents.

