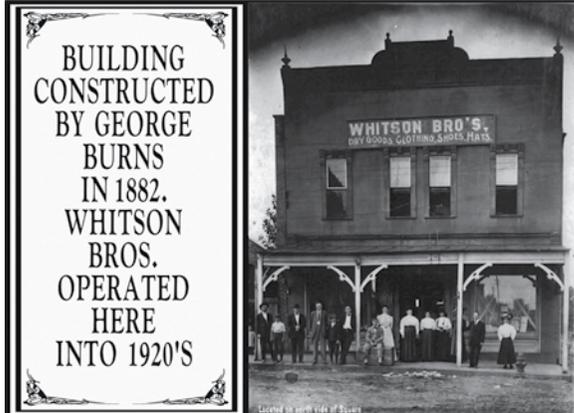


Exit 287. Go 2 miles north of I-40. The walk starts on the square and continues west on Broad Street to the WestSide.

## Step back in time as you stroll around the Courthouse Square.

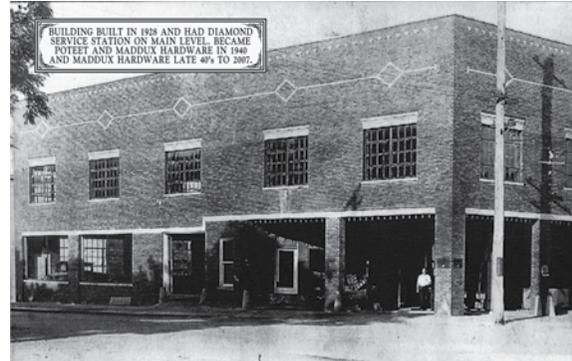
Enjoy pictures of the businesses and buildings that lined the streets in the early 1900's. See the people, the cars, and the buildings from the early days on the square.



It could be said the City of Cookeville sprang up from the waters of the Town Spring. The spring was located where Whitson Funeral home sits today and was a major source of drinking water for the early settlers. When Putnam County was established in 1854 there were two cities vying to be the county seat. The ready availability of water supplied by the Glade Spring and the Town Spring were strong influences in Cookeville being chosen.

In the spring of 1855, the original Courthouse was built on the square in Cookeville. The Courthouse was destroyed by fire three times in early years. The original Courthouse burned to the ground in 1857, only two

years after being built. It was rebuilt according to the original plans and again burned to the ground during the Civil War. After the war ended, David L. Dow, owner of a brick kiln, built a two-story brick courthouse which was lost to fire in 1899. In 1900, that building was replaced and still stands today.

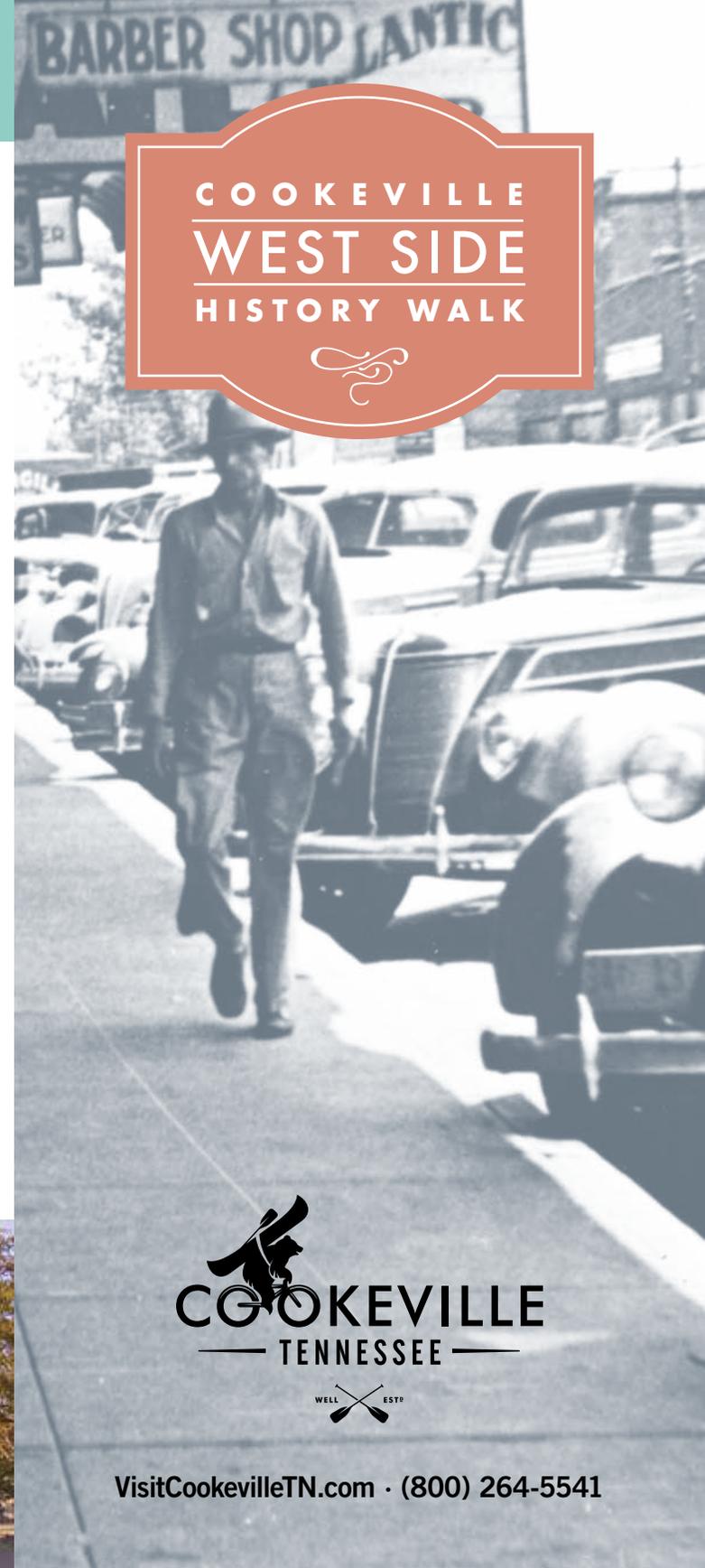
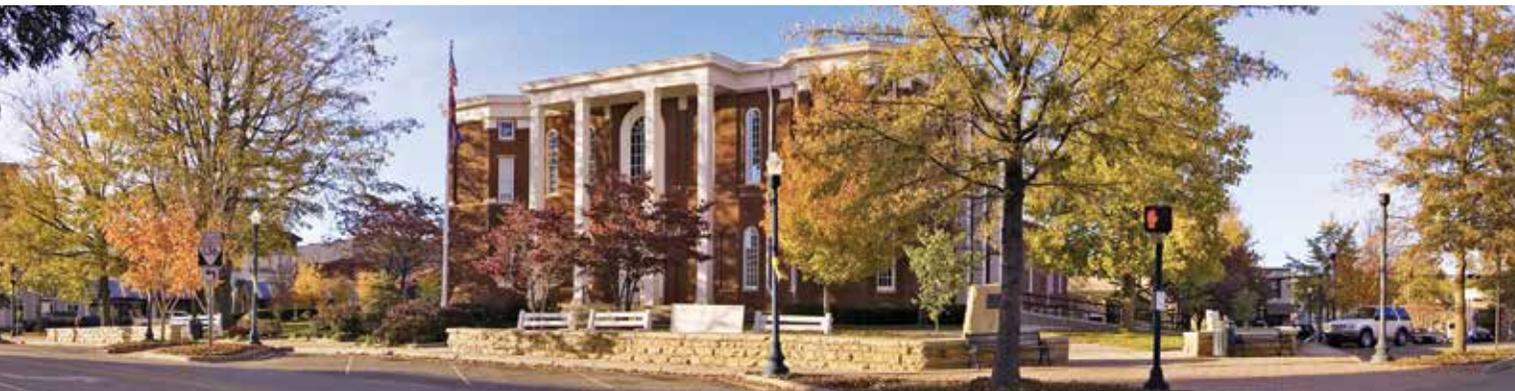


The square was also home to the first hospital in Cookeville. The Howard Hospital was built in 1921 and could accommodate 15 patients for \$3 per day.

What once was home to men gathering around the Courthouse to pass the afternoon whittling, is today still home to the Courthouse, Justice Center, and attorney's as well as shopping, dining, coffee shops, and dance studios.

The Courthouse Square History Walk and the WestSide History Walk meet at our cities beautiful Dogwood Park and the Cookeville History Museum. Take a stroll and enjoy the history, vitality and ambiance of our beautiful downtown areas.

Photo by: Rick Larsen



## COOKEVILLE WEST SIDE HISTORY WALK

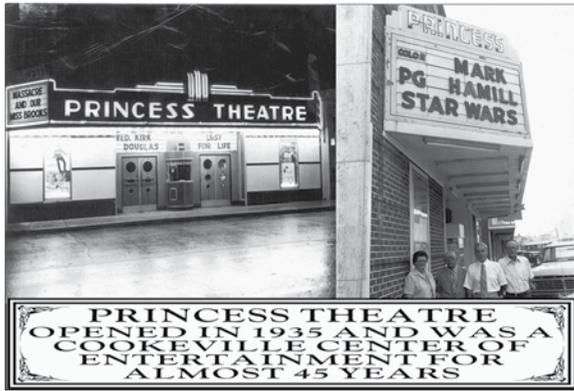


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Exit 287. Go 2 miles north of I-40. The walk starts on the square and continues west on Broad Street to the WestSide.

## Take a walk on the historic WestSide and relive the history, the nostalgia, the memories of times gone by.

The history walk features pictures of the times and lives on the WestSide in the early 1900's. The pictures are located on the buildings as you stroll through the area.



The WestSide boom started with the building of the Train Depot in 1890. The depot was quickly followed by retail businesses, saloons, poolrooms, the local movie theater and boarding houses. The WestSide came to life with the coming and going of passenger trains. Business flourished and the WestSide was the place to be. Time was told by the train whistle. Weather predicted by the way the smoke descended.

During WWII, maneuvers were held in Cookeville and a large USO Center was set up on the WestSide across from the Depot for rest and recuperation of the troops.



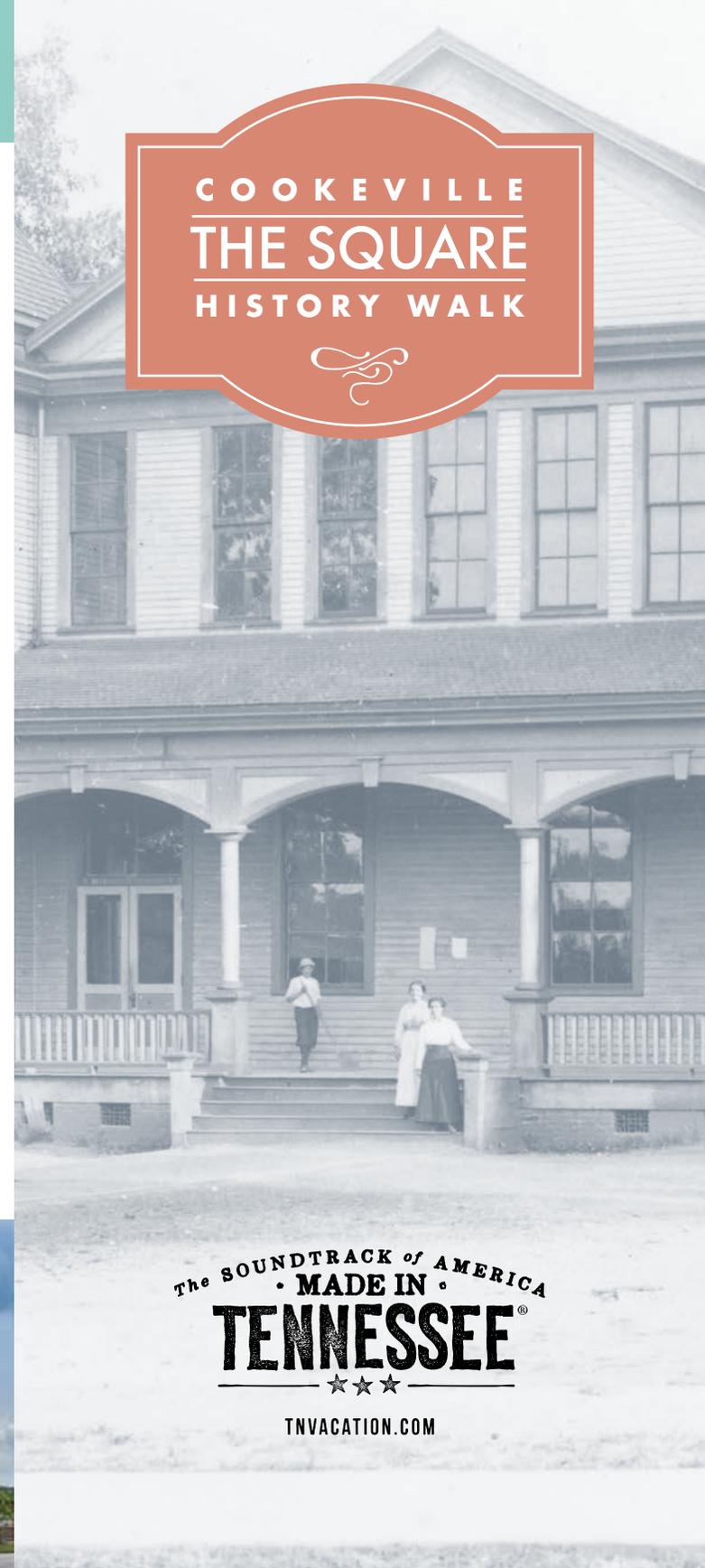
During the 40's and 50's a local policeman walked 'the beat' on the WestSide - meeting the passenger trains and escorting the young ladies safely to their destination and warning the young lads hopping the freight trains to ride across town.

As you stroll the WestSide be warned - In 1968, The Arlington Hotel had gone out of business and some local homeless men had taken up residence there. When the building burned down the men died in the fire and rumor has it their ghosts still roam the WestSide today.

Once known as the Red Light district, the WestSide has become a cultural district, home to art galleries and studios, entertainment, boutiques and dining. Once again - the place to be.



# COOKEVILLE THE SQUARE HISTORY WALK



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