

Franklin Grove Estate and Gardens *Main Mansion*

Originally a three hundred acres American Revolutionary land grant given to William Murfree in the 1790s, Murfree quickly sold parcels of the land in the early 1800s to interested buyers. The Hines and the Perkins families purchased parcels of land and built grand antebellum urban mansions. After the Civil War, William O'Neal Perkins built a fine red brick home in 1866. The Perkins first home burned in 1862. Federal soldiers encamped on the property helped to put out the fire. Unfortunately, his home suffered damages. Interestingly, Perkins built his new home on the foundation of his first home. In 1870, Perkins sold his home to the Winstead family, who later sold to the Jewell family. The Jewells added a few modernizations including plumbing and heating. After studying design in New York City and Paris, Ms. Eloise Pitts O'More, created a school for design, known as the O'More School of Design, upon from five-acre property. In 2018, O'More School of Design merged with Belmont University. In 2019, the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County purchased the property and renamed it Franklin Grove Estate and Gardens.

