Robert L. Ireland
Volunteer Director of Historic Interpretation
Homestead Manor, Thompson's Station, TN

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CURRENT POSITIONS:
Director of Historic Interpretation (Volunteer), Homestead Manor, Thompson's Station, TN (2022-Present).

Battlefield Preservation and Interpretation Assessor (Volunteer), Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, Nashville, TN (2020-Present).

Historic Interpreter and Tour Guide (Volunteer), Stones River National Battlefield, Murfreesboro, TN (2020-Present).

EDUCATION:

Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN
Currently enrolled in Public History PhD program **2024-present**

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
Coursework in History PhD program **2021-2022**
Public History, Dr. Travis Ricketts, "Born in Slavery, Died in Freedom: A Study of Public and Local History Based on the Toussaint L'Ouverture Cemetery, Franklin, Tennessee"
Civil War Research, Dr. Steven E. Woodworth, "Bravely to the Last: Hood's Rear Guard on December 16-17, 1864"

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio
Geographic Information Science Certificate **2022**
Final Project: "A Geographic Analysis of the Battle of Thompson's Station, March 5, 1863"

American Military University, American Public University System, Charles Town, West Virginia
Master of Arts, History, with Honors, specialization in Civil War studies **2012**
GPA 4.0/4.0. Passed Final Comprehensive Exam with Distinction.
Golden Key International, Delta Epsilon Tau, and Pi Gamma Mu Honor Societies.

J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
Master of Management with Distinction, in Finance, Accounting, and International Business **1981**
Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society.

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
Bachelor of Arts in Economics **1980**
Admitted to prestigious 3-2 Honors Business Program.

Certified Public Accountant, State of Illinois. **1983**

AWARDS:

2024 Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association Mary Ann Peckham / Robert A. Ragland Award, "For having made significant contributions to the preservation and interpretation of Tennessee Civil War Battlefields."

MEMBERSHIPS:

Maury County Historical Society, Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, Tennessee Historical Society, Western History Association, Williamson County Historical Society, Wyoming Historical Society.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS:

ARBOR MANAGEMENT, INC., Itasca, IL **2015-2019**
Regional Food Service Management Company providing school foodservice management and consulting services to approximately fifty school districts in Illinois and Wisconsin.
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Retired)
- Responsible for all accounting, financial planning and analysis, budgeting, taxes, payroll, 401(k) administration, and treasury functions.

GRACE EQUITY, Chicago, IL **2014-2015**
Independent private equity investment firm seeking to make growth-oriented equity and buyout investments in U.S. based small and midcap quick serve and fast casual restaurant and foodservice companies.
Private Equity Consultant
Consultant on quick serve and fast casual restaurant investments and acquisitions. Responsibilities included M&A transaction execution support, analysis, valuation, strategy, contract review, and due diligence.

THE GROVE INC., Westchester, IL **2000-2014**
Nationwide airport food concessionaire operating over 25 franchised and proprietary quick serve and fast casual restaurants and retail food brands.
Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, and Treasurer
- Responsible for all financial planning and analysis, accounting, treasury, tax, information systems, human resources and insurance functions for nationwide airport concessionaire operating over 60 stores and restaurants.

WHITE HEN PANTRY, INC., Elmhurst, IL **1985-2000**
Regional convenience store chain operating nearly 400 stores primarily in the Chicago, Boston, and Milwaukee metropolitan areas with sales of over $320 million.
Senior Director, Corporate Finance and Controller (1996-2000)
- Reported to CFO and managed staff of 55. Responsible for all accounting, financial planning and analysis, and tax functions. Held increasingly responsible positions, including Assistant Controller (1985-1991), Director of Corporate Finance (1991-1995), and Senior Director of Corporate Finance (1995-1996).

WHITE HEN PANTRY DIVISION, **JEWEL COMPANIES, INC., Elmhurst, IL** **1981-1985**
$250 million convenience store division of multi-billion dollar publicly held grocery and drug store chain.
- Served as Financial Analyst (1981-1983) and Senior Financial Analyst (1983-1985).

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

Christ United Methodist Church, Elmhurst, IL **1995-2019**
- Treasurer (1995-1997), Chairman Finance Committee (1998-1999), Boy Scouts Charter Organization Liaison (1997-2000), Staff Parish Relations Committee (2000-2007 and 2013-2019), Worship Committee (2003-2004), substitute speaker (2003-2019), Trustees (2018-2019), and Investment Committee (2017-2019).

Boy Scouts of America **1996-2019**
- Den Leader (1996-1998), Charter Organization Liaison (1997-2000), and Merit Badge Instructor (2013-2019).

Chess Organizations **1988-2019**
- President Elmhurst Chess Club (1988-1994), Chess Instructor Elmhurst Council for the Gifted PTA (1989-1992), BSA Chess Merit Badge Instructor (2013-2019), School District 205 Chess Tournament Judge (2018-2019).

American Youth Soccer Organization/Northern Illinois Soccer League/Club Teams **1995-2014**
- Served in numerous positions, including Board Member, Regional Referee Administrator, Referee Instructor, Coach, Referee, and Team Manager.

AMERICA SCORES Chicago, Chicago, IL **2000-2003**
- Founding Board member for organization offering urban youth soccer, creative writing and service opportunities.