Timeline

021

10% of global land owned by Indigenous people (Yes! Winter 2022).

2019

The Nashville Food Project partners with Metro Parks to grow on Mill Ridge property in Antioch, TN.
The Moore's sold it to Parks in a land trust in 2019.

2010

TNFP (The Nashville Food Project) was founded.

2010

Soul Fire Farm, a BIPOC led food organization in New York globally known for its culturally sustaining programming, was founded.

1993

La Via Campesina, transnational organization for food sovereignty founded.

202

Less than 2% of farmers are black.

2021

\$4 million allocated to BIPOC farmers in American Rescue Plan Act to start to account for the years of discriminatory loans from the USDA that have put Black growers out of business, *still to be distributed

2012

Mississippi Band of Choctaw is the only Native group that presently owns land trust in Tennessee (88.15 acres in Henning, TN).

2010

A Growing Culture, a leading food sovereignty organization that focuses on mobilizing globally and disseminating education, was founded.

1995

The National Park Service names canebrakes as a critically endangered ecosystem due to "livestock grazing, the clearing of land for crop fields, and fire suppression," while it was once what covered the majority of middle Tennessee, and served as a vital resource for the first Native people.

1989

H.R. 40 Bill, "Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act," introduced by U.S. Reps Sheila Jackson Lee and John Conyers; has been on the table every year in Congress since and 2019 first time it cleared committee stage (which means it made it the floor to be debated.)

1969

Fannie Lou Hamer's Freedom Farm Cooperative flourishes.

Timeline

1942

The Moore family is pushed to grow corn and oats pretty exclusively following USDA encouragement. They also practiced crop rotation using clover, grass, and alfalfa that replenished nitrogen in the soil in between corn and oat plantings. While claimed by the USDA, crop rotation was a practice made known by Black scientist George Washington Carver.

1935

The Moore property is registered in the census as a dairy farm. Crop production is still vigorous, but as markets change much of their time is spent growing their dairy business. Structures such as the milk barn still exist on site today.

1910

Laura Wilson, a descendant of enslaved people on this property, owned and farmed land in Antioch, TN on Kimbro Station Road (now known as Old Hickory Boulevard.) This property is supposedly still in the Wilson family.

1903

A soil map of Davidson County indicates that Anticoh is primarily loam soil, which is ideal for food production. It also highlights the benefits of rocky areas that created the habitat for eastern red cedar tree growth, a highly prized timber, (Andrews, 2018).

1865

General Sherman proclaimed
400,000 acres from South
Carolina to Florida would be set
aside for freed slaves to access 40
acres of tillable land; this order was
rescinded after Lincoln's
assisination.

1861-1865

Civil War.

1962

Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez founded United Farm Workers to protect migrant workers in California.

1942

US establishes H-2 to bring migrant workers to US farmlands each year; workers experience poor working conditions and high wage theft.

1919

The Moore family purchased Mill Ridge property in Antioch, TN (TNFP's largest growing space); many of the descendents of the enslaved people on the Holloway property stayed on through the Moore's ownership as sharecroppers and contract laborers.

1910

Peak of Black farm ownership in TN and nationally with 14% of national farmland owned by African Americans.

1901

Monsanto founded, which pushed farmers to grow acres of the same crops, use chemically treated seed, and increased use of pesticides and fertilizers, forever changing the way food is grown and land is used.

1862

Homestead Act that reallocated 270 million acres of public land, stolen from Indigenous peoples, almost entirely to white men to push for westward expansion.

1860

Start of forcing Native Americans into boarding schools across the US to destroy/erase ways of being including culture, language, and foodways.

Timeline

1838

Forced removal of Cherokee pushed Trail of Tears; TN as stolen land...

1830

1785

1850

Nashville's Andrew Jackson passes the Indian Removal Act, starting a formal Trail of Tears.

Treaty of Hopewell; the first treaty between US settlers and Cherokee

First documented census report of James Holloway owning Mill Ridge property; the Holloway's enslaved 32

ownership, which put them in the

upper "planter" class as some of the

people throughout times of

wealthiest people in Antioch

(Andrews, 2018).

1810-1840

The number of enslaved people in TN surged by 300% in these thirty years, as farmers focused on "labor-intensive commercial crops," (Lester C. Lamon, Blacks in Tennessee, 1791-1970 (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 16.)

people was signed that was supposed to signify peace. In this treaty the Cherokee people were forced to cede (relinquish without compensation) one million acres to settlers. This treaty was Chief Dragging Canoe unified Creek, also the first to be broken, when in the same year settler John Sevier began attacking Cherokee towns within this territory. In the same year, the US would also sign treaties with the including parts of middle Tennessee. Choctaw and Chickasaw at Hopewell While many of his fellow Cherokee (Cherokee Almanac, 2017).

Choctaw, formerly enslaved Black folks, and white allies to resist the Henderson Purchase (or Transylvania Purchase) that would move 20 million acres to settlers, signed, he refused. He and his unified, diverse band became key figures in the American Revolution resisting settlers (Cherokee Almanac, 2020)

1609-1924

American Indian Wars; has this actually ended?

1514-1866

Trans-Atlantic forcing enslaved Africans across the Atlantic.

1000 AD - ONWARD

Vast ecosystems of canebrake, which were tall forests of the only native bamboo species in the Southeast, occupied most middle Tennessee land. "Native Americans utilized river cane for numerous purposes, from baskets to arrow shafts, and for hundreds of years Indigenous peoples intentionally encouraged the growth of canebrakes using controlled burning as part of their agricultural and land management practices," (Andrews, 2018). This is where Cane Ridge, the neighborhood in Antioch, gets its name.

1000-1500 AD

Mississippian Period with Indigenous people stewarding land (Creek, Yuchi, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, Shawnee, and Seneca); land stewardship by Creek, Choctaw, Cherokee carried into the 1600s.

Timeline

1000 AD - 1000 BC

Woodland Period marked a change in the way of life of the humans living in TN lived; they constructed mounds for ceremonial practices, many of which still stand today, and they began to cultivate plants like sunflowers and corn.

8000 BC - 1000 BC

Archaic Period where Ice Age glaciers melted and forests grew all over.

10,000 BC - 8,000 BC

Paleo Period when some of the first humans in TN were hunting large animals (mammoth and mastodon) in a climate covered in snow and ice.

300 MILLION YEARS AGO

TN was covered in warm, shallow seas.