

*Remarks for the
Mississippi Heritage Trust Reception
April 24, 2003*

- Often we think of history as focused on events and individuals
 - So much of history found in structures, in bricks and mortar

- Buildings speak to us, to our history
 - History found in humble buildings and massive structures

- This building we're in tonight speaks of those who have served our nation's military
 - An important lesson to remember in light of current conflict

- State capitol, which observes 100th anniversary this year, tells its own stories of our state's history
 - Famous and infamous legislators and legislation

- So many other buildings around the state that have a story to tell as well
 - Tonight we unveil the 10 most endangered historic places in the state

- Important to recognize not just the history but the value of these structures and resources to who we are as a people and as a state
 - Protect them as best we can
 - Preserve them for future generations

■ These 10 places are tangible, living history

- We learn from them
- We owe it to our children to protect them

■ Appreciate the work of the Mississippi Heritage Trust

- Thank them for their commitment to preserving history