

THE AWARD-WINNING THIRD ANNUAL
NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION



presents
Spain Comes to Natchez

COMMEMORATING THE COLUMBUS QUINCENTENNIAL, 1492 - 1992

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

THURSDAY - SATURDAY, JUNE 4 - 6, 1992



-  Lectures on Spanish Natchez, 1779-1798, by international scholars and writers
-  Tours of 18th-century Spanish houses
-  Re-enactment of Spanish military regiments encamped at Natchez
-  Tales of Spanish Natchez for children by international storyteller
-  Exhibits of artifacts, paintings, and books about 18th-century Natchez
-  Lavish parties and meals in Spanish-era houses
-  Grande finale, "An Evening at Concord," a living history dinner, program, and concert

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Reservations are required for most events.

Prices range from \$5 per day (for lectures only) up to \$80 for three days of lectures, house tours, three meals, parties, and special events.

For Ticket Information
Call 1-800-647-6724 or (601) 442-9111 or write
Natchez Literary Celebration
P. O. Box 894
Natchez, MS 39121-0894

Presented by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and The National Park Service's Natchez National Historical Park and Natchez Trace Parkway

Program Partially Funded by The Mississippi Humanities Council

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SPAIN to COMES NATCHEZ



■ The Natchez Literary Celebration will celebrate the city's Spanish occupation.

By Linda Temple
Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Long before Natchez rose to royal prominence as the seat of the wealthy cotton kingdom, the town was the place for a civilized person.

Ravaged by Indian attacks and waves of marauders, 18th-century Natchez was little more than a crude outpost whose fortunes shifted with the winds of war on a distant continent.

When the Spanish wrested Natchez from English rule in 1779, they could hardly have known that their epoch would last fewer than 20 years. They might have taken comfort in the knowledge that their brief influence on this Mississippi town would be indelible.

Now, more than 200 years later, the city of 22,000 will celebrate its period of Spanish occupation when *Spain Comes to Natchez*, the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, June 4-6.

The conference, a commemoration of the Columbus quincentennial, will draw international scholars and writers to Natchez, this time to delve into the impact of the Spanish on the river town.

"There is an abundance of new information about this period in Natchez history that is thrilling and wonderful," explained Carolyn Vance Smith, a Copiah-Lincoln Community College literature teacher and co-chairman of the event.

Smith said the literary celebration allows the college — which co-sponsors the event with the Natchez National Historical Park — to provide enrichment activities to the community while inspiring widespread appreciation for the history of the Natchez area.

"Our audience ranges from families to high school students to scholars," she said. "We're hoping this year's celebration will offer interesting ways to make people up to their own culture and rich history."

Distinguished scholars and writers will provide a comprehensive overview of the period in a series of lectures. Lectures from across the state and around the

country — among them, Lewis Lord of *U.S. News & World Digest* and Dr. G. Douglas Inglis, a historian from Seattle, Spain — will converge on the historic Eola Hotel beginning Thursday.

The broad range of lecture topics will include the Spanish origins of Natchez, the African-American influences during the Spanish period, Andrew Jackson's exploits in Spanish Natchez and Spain's architectural influences on the town.

On the latter score, four newly shown private homes in the Spanish Quarter will be open for tours, along with numerous other Spanish-era buildings.

The conference will mirror the seasonal splendors enjoyed by Spanish rulers in 18th-century Natchez by re-creating the gardens of Concord, painted here to two Spanish governors, at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium. The seated dinner will be served there at 7 p.m. Saturday, followed by a performance of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble and a living history presentation.

While the dozen lectures will form the core of the conference, a host of other

events will lure participants deep into the history and culture of Spanish Natchez.

"Woodcock miles will crack and crumble on the grounds of the mansion Malrose, where the remnants of a Spanish military encampment will engage in ceremonial drills and mock battles Saturday and Sunday. These events are free and open to the public, as are a series of storytelling sessions for children by Betty McWilliams, a Hispanic folklorist.

Several thousand people are expected to attend the celebration, said Barbara Potter, an organizer for the event. Registration for the lectures and other on-site presentations will be held at the Eola Hotel, where schedules and tickets will be available.

Lecture tickets are \$5 per day, with a package including all 12 lectures, three meals, tours and entertainment offered for \$85. The event is funded largely by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council and local corporate sponsors.

For details about the celebration, call 1-800-647-6724.

■ How Spain came to rule. 2F
■ Blacks history in Natchez. 2F

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1/11 MARION SMITH
270 FOSTER MOUND RD
NATCHEZ, MS 39120-9065

2*

LOOKING AHEAD

The Natchez Literary Celebration
"Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992"
June 4-6, 1992
featuring

National Book Award winner Robert V. Remini
Tours of Spanish-era buildings
Storytelling of Spanish tales
A dramatic program, "The Yellow Duchess"
Exhibits of 18th century artifacts
much more

Space is limited. For information and reservations, call Celebration chair Carolyn Vance Smith, (601) 442-9111.

Board Member Gilbert Mason Honored

Dr. Gilbert Mason of Biloxi, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History since 1986, was one of six Mississippians presented an Award of Distinction by the University of Mississippi February 6. Others honored were B. B. King, Leonard Morris, W. A. McMillan, the late R. Jess Brown, and Earnestine Fountain.

Published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Albert R. Hilliard, director
Christy Wilson, editor
Please send newsletter correspondence to
MHN, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571

World War II Symposium May 1-2

A symposium on "World War II: The Homefront in the South" will be held May 1-2 at Georgia State University, Atlanta. The two-day session will examine a wide range of subjects, including the experiences of African Americans and women, culture in the South, trade and industry, and everyday life on the homefront. The keynote speaker will be General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., the first African American general in the Air Force and famed leader of the Tuskegee Army of World War II. For information on registration, contact David E. Hilbert, National Archives-Southeast Region, 1357 St. Joseph Avenue, East Point, GA 30344 (tel. 404-763-7477).

National Preservation Honor Awards

A call for nominations to the 1992 National Preservation Honor Awards has been issued by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Each year the Trust celebrates the best of preservation by honoring those individuals and organizations whose projects demonstrate outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in historic preservation. Tribute will be paid to recipients at the annual National Preservation Conference in October. To nominate someone—activist, architect, developer, archaeologist, journalist, planner, national, state, or local official or agency, etc.—request a nomination form from the Honor Awards Program Coordinator, NTHP, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, DC 20036 (202-673-4165).

Rural Community Design workshop April 23-26

A workshop on rural community design, co-sponsored by the National Trust, National Endowment for the Arts, and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, will be held in Olive Branch, Mississippi, April 23-26. The workshop is limited to 70 participants and is intended for those who provide rural technical assistance in economic development or land use or who influence the way rural communities will look and work in the future. Tuition is \$175. The conference center is the Holiday Inn. For information, contact Rural Heritage Initiative, NTHP, 1785 Mass. Ave., Washington, DC 20036 (202-673-4037).

News from the National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Main Street Meeting April 13-15

The sixth annual National Town Meeting on Main Street will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 13-15, 1992. Choosing Tulsa as the convention site on the 56th anniversary of Route 66 has given the National Main Street Center the opportunity to build on several important themes such as transportation issues, multiculturalism, and community liveability. For information on registration, call the NMSC (a program of the National Trust) at (202) 673-4219.

TOURS OF SPANISH NATCHEZ

and Sherry Party

Thursday, June 4, 1992

6:15 - 8:15 p.m.

\$15 ticket required

All four of these houses were constructed during Natchez Spanish-era in the late 1790s. They sit at the intersection of Wall and Washington streets, a block that can be seen on the 1822 landscape of Natchez by John James Audubon. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, these houses are being opened exclusively to Natchez Literary Celebration participants because of their relevance to this year's theme. Don't miss this unique opportunity to see a part of Natchez not usually open to the public.

Texada

Home of Dr. and Mrs. George Moss

According to an 1856 newspaper article, Manuel Texada's house was the first brick building in town and possibly the finest. The first floor, with exposed beam ceilings, was not as finely finished as the two upper floors and was probably used for businesses, such as the American Eagle Tavern, which advertised its location at Mr. Texada's. The upper floors probably constituted the main living space until the house was remodeled in the mid-19th century.



Texada

222 South Wall Street



Holly Hedges

214 Washington Street

Holly Hedges

Home of Dr. and Mrs. John O'Brien

Holly Hedges looks today as it appeared on Henry Tooley's 1835 landscape of Natchez, but it may incorporate the same house built in 1796 when John Scott, a carpenter at the Spanish fort, was granted the property with the stipulation that he allow no bull fighting in the side yard. Built close to the sidewalk, Holly Hedges is entered through a Federal style doorway with an elliptical fanlight and sidelights decorated with hollow-sided diamonds.



Griffith-McComas House

301 South Wall Street

Griffith-McComas House

Home of Mrs. Charles H. Pettkossek, Jr.

The Griffith-McComas House, named for the families that owned the house in the 19th century, was built between 1795 and 1796 as the home of tailor Hugh Coyle. Within a few decades the wooden first story was jacked up and placed on a new brick first story, a common practice in early 19th century Natchez. The asymmetrical arrangement of its doors and windows is typical of late 18th- and early 19th-century buildings of the region.

Governor Holmes House

*Co-owned by Mr. Robert Pully,
Mr. Hermann Stenz, and Mr. Rivet
Hedderick*

Home of Mr. Robert Pully

The Governor Holmes House was probably built for Maurice Stacpoole, who sold the house to master saddler Daniel Douglass in 1796. It has been greatly altered and enlarged since it was first built, but the second story bedroom survives intact to intercept the house's Spanish origin. It was home to David Holmes, the last governor of the Mississippi Territory and the first governor of the State of Mississippi when Mississippi became a state in 1817.



Governor Holmes House

307 South Wall Street

Sherry Party

The tour includes a Sherry Party honoring The Honorable Pablo Sanchez-Teran, Consul General of Spain; and Members of the Council, The Order of the First Families of Mississippi, 1699-1817.

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SPAIN

COMES

TO

NATCHEZ NHP



In conjunction with the Third Annual Natchez Literary Celebration, and in commemoration of the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992, Natchez National Historical Park will host a weekend of special events honoring the Spanish legacy of Natchez.



Spain gained control of Natchez in 1779 as a result of a successful campaign led by Bernardo de Galvez, governor of Spanish Louisiana, to wrest West Florida from Great Britain. Spanish troops under Captain Juan de la Villebeuvre accepted the surrender of Fort Panmure (formerly Fort Rosalie) from Captain Forster in the fall of that year. Natchez remained under Spanish control until 1798, when it passed into American hands as the first capital of the Mississippi territory.

During the Spanish era, Natchez became an important military, political and commercial center in the lower Mississippi Valley. The Spanish considered this area a crucial buffer against the threat of American expansionism.

Led by such governors as Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, Stephen Minor and Josef Vidal, Natchez began a process of transformation from a frontier river landing and military post to a prosperous port and thriving community.



1992 Natchez Literary Celebration

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ

There is no way to know exactly what was being read during the Spanish era in Natchez, 1779-1798. The following books would have appealed to a variety of readers.

- Adams, John. *A Defence of the Constitution of Government of the U. S. A.*
- Bartram, William. *Travels through North and South Carolina.*
- Blake, William. *Songs of Experience.*
- Bowtell, James. *The Life of Samuel Johnson.*
- Brown, William Hill. *The Power of Sympathy.* (The first American novel)
- Burney, Fanny. *Camilla. Cecilia. Evelina.*
- Burns, Robert. *Scots Who Hae. Tam O'Shanter.*
- Byrd, William. *A Journey to the Land of Eden.*
- Chesterfield, Lord. *Letters to His Son.*
- DeSade, Donatien Alphonse Francois. *Justine.*
- Dickinson, John. *Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania.*
- Edwards, Jonathan. *The Freedom of Will.*

Continued on other side

Continued from other side

- Fichte, Johann Gottlieb. *Foundation of the Whole Theory of Science.*
- Franklin, Benjamin. *Autobiography.*
- Freneau, Philip. *The Indian Burial Ground. The Wild Honey-suckle.*
- Gotho. *The Sorrows of Werther.*
- Gobsmith, Oliver. *Vices of Wakefield.*
- Gray, Thomas. *Poems.*
- Leath, Robert. *Introduction to English Grammar.*
- Madison, James. *The Vices of the Political System of the United States.*
- Paine, Thomas. *The Age of Reason. Being an Investigation of True and Fabulous Theology. Common Sense. Rights of Man. Part 2.*
- Priestly, Joseph. *History and Present State of Electricity.*
- Rousseau, Jean Jacques. *Confessions.*
- Sheraton, Thomas. *The Cabinet-Maker and Upholsterer's Drawing Book.*
- Southey, Robert. *Poems.*
- Sterne, Laurence. *Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy.*
- Walpole, Horace. *The Castle of Otranto.*
- Wollstonecraft, Mary. *A Vindication of the Rights of Women.*

Compiled by Joan M. McLennore.
COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Natchez

Natchez National Historical Park
Mississippi



Welcome to Natchez National Historical Park, one of America's newest national parks. Natchez National Historical Park was established in 1988 to "preserve and interpret the history of Natchez, Mississippi as a significant city in the history of the American South."

The park is currently comprised of two separate properties, the Melrose Estate and the Willian Johnson House.

A third acquisition, the Fort Rosalie Site on the bluffs of the Mississippi River, will complete Natchez National Historical Park.

MELROSE

Completed in 1845 as the residence of John T. McMurrin, a lawyer and planter originally from Pennsylvania, this estate is symbolic of the era in which Natchez was a major center of the South's cotton culture and economy.

The Melrose Estate is approximately 80 acres in size.

The main house contains many family owned and period furnishings, and a number of original outbuildings still exist.

Melrose was not a cotton plantation, but rather the estate of a prosperous cotton planter, which included a residence and working farm.

VISITOR INFORMATION

House tours are conducted between 9:00AM and 4:00PM.

Admission fees are as follows:

- Adults: \$4.00
- Age 62 and older: \$2.00
- Ages 6-17: \$2.00
- Under age 6: Free
- Educational Groups: Free

The grounds are open from 8:30AM to 5:00 PM.

Visitors may explore the grounds free of charge.

For additional information contact Natchez National Historical Park, P.O. Box 1208, Natchez, Mississippi 39121. Tel. (601) 442-7047.

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The items shown in the above pictures will be for sale by "Silent Auction," Private Counting of Robert F & Lela Harmon Costa. You may view these items and place your bids at T.A.S.S. HOUSE ANTIQUES (across from the Cole) Pearl St. apt. Bids will be accepted until 3 P.M. Sat. 50% of money over minimum bid will be donated to the Judge Armstrong Library (Genealogy Dept.) by Lela Harmon Costa, 25% of profit through Natchez Chapter D.A.R. & 25% of profit through Rev. Jerry Harlan Chapter Colonial Dames XVII Century.

1. Two VOLUMES (In Spanish) **ATAIA Y LOS NACHEZ POR CHATEAUBRIAND - ILLUSTRADA POR G. DORE.** Pub. 1876 - BARCELONA - Minimum Bid - \$350.00
2. LARGE, SIGNED - SAND CASTED - SILVER TRAY - INDIANS & ROYAL COURT. RARE & UNUSUAL - Minimum Bid - \$375.00
3. *Worlds Columbian Exposition 1893 - Chicago* ^(1893/1892) ^{1st P.A.R. Chap. Held. June} and Wood Engravings and Pen Drawings by the best artists of the American Revolution, held at a booth at the Exposition. A great! Mrs. Foster Palmer (D.A.R.) Pres. of World of Jerry Meagess. - Minimum Bid - \$55.00
4. *Rare Journal, Wedgwood like* ¹⁸⁷⁷ of Christopher Columbus, 1492, very early as it was written in Columbus' time ¹⁴⁹² and dated 1877 from his estate. Natchez - Minimum Bid - \$25.00



Eastern National

Eastern National Park & Management Association aids and promotes the historical, scientific and educational activities of the National Park Service. It also supports research, interpretation and conservation programs of the Service. As a nonprofit cooperating association authorized by Congress, it makes interpretive material available to park visitors and the general public.

The short statement on the cover summarizes our mission and those of more than 60 similar associations cooperating with the National Park Service in more than 300 parks throughout the nation. We produce and distribute publications, pictures and audiovisual programs as key parts of the Service's interpretive programs.

Eastern National, chartered in 1948, is a consortium of more than 100 agencies in parks in the eastern half of the country. Its policies and programs are guided by an elected board of directors. The board, the members and the professional staff are dedicated to the preservation and use of the parks for the benefit of all Americans, our visitors from all nations and future generations.

We see our mission as a double opportunity to offer quality educational materials to park visitors and the general public at fair prices, and to aid the Service with the income from sales. We now operate bookstores in 30 states, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico and contribute nearly \$1,000,000 to the Service each year.

During the last 40 years Eastern National's contributions have benefited the parks and visitors in many ways. We have supported research in cultural and natural resources to provide a sound basis for educational and park management activities. The publications program has produced an array of distinguished and informative books and hundreds of folders, many distributed free of charge. We have undertaken production of many fine audiovisual programs used in the parks and in homes and schools. We operate the Jamestown Glasshouse in Colonial National Historical Park, a fascinating demonstration of colonial glassmaking. At Gettysburg we operate the famous electric map program, an animated overview of that stupendous battle. We have purchased key tracts of land needed in parks, provided funds for park theaters, supported new and innovative interpretive programs, and in many other ways assisted the Service in managing the world's first and largest national park system.

The following is a small but representative sampling of our projects, which could not have been funded through the Service's regular budget.

Cover photography: Mike V. Stevens

Lincoln Boyhood NHP needed "one whole hog" for its living history demonstration; Cape Cod NPS wanted to rehabilitate a cranberry bog; Women's Rights NHP needed money for an interpretive tour; Minuteman NHP wanted to hire musicians to play period music; Gateway NRA wanted uniforms and equipment to demonstrate flintknapping; Gettysburg NHP needed interpretive devices for the handicapped; at Independence NHP they needed antique furnishings; Christened NPS in the Virgin Islands needed cultural assistance; San Juan NPS wanted to train and equip volunteers to help with interpretation; at Booker T. Washington NPS they wanted to prepare a Black studies kit; at Edison NPS they wanted to build models for demonstrations; Grand Portage NPS wanted an Ojibwa Indian exhibit; Guilford Courthouse NHP needed a reproduction of a cannon carriage. . .



Photograph: Tom Ayles

Eastern National welcomes the cooperation of all those interested in helping the National Park Service and its programs through our desirable donations and bequests.

Eastern National
 Contribution Plaza
 225 Chestnut Street, Suite 2212
 Philadelphia, PA 19106
 (800) 524-9000
 Inside PA: (215) 278-6666
 FAX: (215) 278-6675



"The Gardens" - Circa 1794

"The Gardens" was built in 1794 as a summer retreat by Stephen Minor on a land grant from the Spanish Crown. Minor, a native of Pennsylvania, but a loyal subject of the Spanish Crown, was appointed a Captain in the Spanish Royal Armies, then Adjutant-Major of the Post of Natchez, and finally as the last Spanish governor of the Natchez District from 1797-1798.

"The Gardens" is an excellent example of the early planters' cottages of the Lower Mississippi Valley. Its high-hipped roof is supported by slender balustrades and posts and a full-width 12' x 80' front gallery. This 12-room building is one-storied with an unfinished attic and basement.

It is finished by semi-circled lanterns above each of the twin front 12-paneled doorways, with deeply molded door and window surrounds, wooden wainscoting and Federal mantels.

Folding doors provide access to the main parlor, the hallway and the dining room. The large elliptical archway in the hall has a plaster treatment similar to that on the interior of the entrance doorways as well as the doorway at the back. The door hardware is brass - hinges, knobs and key plates.

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Open House
in
October



BOOKS BY
NATCHEZ LITERARY
CELEBRATION
LECTURES WILL BE SOLD
IN THE LOBBY OF THE
NATCHEZ EOLA HOTEL

THURSDAY 8 am-5 pm
FRIDAY 8 am-5 pm
SATURDAY 8 am-2 pm

AUTOGRAPH PARTIES

Honoring
Dr. Robert V. Fennel

Thurs., June 4, 2:00-3:00
Eola Lobby

Honoring
All Other Lecturers

Fri., June 5, 3:00-4:00
Alopec Restaurant, Eola



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Historic Downtown Natchez



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on any regular priced item.*

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Natchez Literary Celebration
Spain Comes to Natchez

ALMENDRAS FRITAS
Fried Salted Almonds

ACEITUNAS A LA SEVILLANA
Green Olives, Sevilla Style

PA' AMB TOMAQUET
Garlic and Tomato Bread

MERLUNZA BELLERNA DE PINONES Y TURSO
Fish Roll with Pine Nuts and Cheese

PISTO MANCHEGO
Stewed Zucchini, Peppers, and Tomatoes

CEBOLLAS EN ADOBO
Sweet and Sour Marinated Onions

Flan with Fresh Strawberries

Cherokee
Wednesday, June 3, 1992

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THE 1992 NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION



LECTURE HALL EXHIBITS

At the Front of the Natchez Eola Hotel Ballroom

THE SPANISH FLAG

This historic flag was carried by Spaniards for centuries, including Christopher Columbus in 1492, Hernando de Soto in 1540, and Bernardo de Galvez in 1779. Embellished with the golden castles of Castile and the lions of the province of Leon, the flag proudly flew over Spanish Natchez for the first decade the Spaniards ruled the area.

SPANISH DAGGERS, SPANISH BAYONET, BEAR GRASS
Yucca aloifolia, *Y. gloriosa*, *Y. recurvifolia*
Family: Agavaceae

Explorers to the New World found several species of *Yucca* native to the southeastern United States. Indians had medicinal uses for the plant, and early settlers used the fibrous leaves of Bear Grass to hang shanks of ham in their smokehouses.

Yucca is dependent on a certain species of moth for flower pollination and fruit set. The rigid, fibrous-margined leaves are often poisonous to human beings.

SPANISH MOSS
Tillandsia usneoides
Family: Bromeliaceae

Spanish moss is one of the few epiphytic plants in North America. Non-parasitic, it uses other plants (chiefly live oaks and cypresses) only for support, and absorbs water and nutrients directly from the atmosphere.

Early settlers found various uses for the moss, from saddle blankets to bed stuffing, and it is still used to some extent in the furniture and nursery industries.

Spanish moss is very site-specific in its cultural requirements, and is highly sensitive to air pollution.

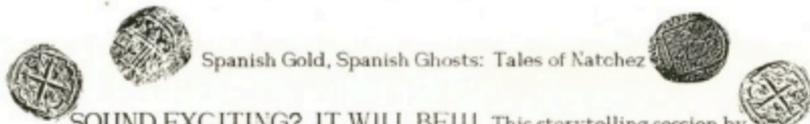
(Information courtesy of Rick Hartzog)

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FREE...FREE...FREE

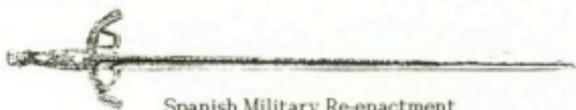
Portions of the Natchez Literary Celebration, June 4 - 7, 1992

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ



Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez

SOUND EXCITING? IT WILL BE!!! This storytelling session by internationally known storyteller Betsy McWilliams of Cleveland, Ohio, will be presented at the George Armstrong Library on South Commerce Street on Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m. This session is especially for children in ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.



Spanish Military Re-enactment

For the entire family will be a re-enactment of Spanish military regiments at the Melrose estate on Melrose-Montebello Parkway on Saturday, June 6, at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., and on Sunday, June 7, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tours of Melrose

Also tour the beautiful mansion, Melrose, on Saturday, June 6, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Ticket Information

For information about tickets to Natchez Literary Celebration lectures, meals, tours, and other events, call 1-800-647-6724, (601)442-7341, or (601) 442-9111.

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"CONCORDIA"

1 August, 1797

At the request of His Excellency the Governor General of His Majesty's Province of Louisiana, Don Manuel Gayoso de Lemos y Amorin, the Acting Governor of the Natchez District, Stephen Minor, is pleased to welcome the People of Natchez to an evening entertainment in the gardens of the Governor's Residence.

DINNER AL FRESCO

Roast Suckling Pig

Seasonal Vegetables of the Region

Bread-in-a-Pot

Peach Cobbler

Beverages of the Season

THE MISSISSIPPI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
STRING QUARTET

presents

A RECITAL OF EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY MUSIC

Quartet, K. 575, D major Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Allegro
Andante
Mozzetto - Allegretto
Allegretto

Intermission

Quartet No. 31, C Major Franz Joseph Haydn
Allegro moderato
Mozzetto - Allegretto ma non troppo
Allegretto Scherzando
Finale - Presto

Bonnie Banks O' Loch Lomond arr. A. Pochon
Turkey in the Quartet arr. J. Schlater

GREETINGS AND REMARKS

Governor Minor and Dignitaries

Estevan Minor
Governador pro tempore

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One of the most significant developments during this period was that for the first time the area on top of the bluff began to take on an identity of its own. It was called Spanish Town while the Natchez Landing became known as Irish town. Planning for the upper town began under commandant Grand-Prie before Gayoso's arrival. In 1788, Grand-Prie acquired three hundred acres of prime land on the bluffs from Stephen Minor for \$2000 and began laying out lots. In 1790 William Dunbar completed for Gayoso a survey and grid plan for the upper town. As depicted in a map drawn by Dunbar three years later, the town was seven blocks long and five blocks deep. A plaza was located at the town center. That plan has guided the development of downtown Natchez for almost two hundred years. Land directly adjacent to the bluff was reserved for an esplanade or public park, and no development was permitted between Front Street (later Canal) and the bluff's edge. From its elevated location, Fort Rosalie overlooked the southern end of the esplanade. It was continuously manned, and under Gayoso also served as the town jail. Only a few buildings from the Spanish period have survived in what is now downtown Natchez. These include the House on Hillcott's Hill, King's Tavern, and Tenada. Even before the Spanish took over, prosperous Natchezians had established a pattern of building their homes on spacious estates scattered around the periphery of the upper town. This trend continued under the Spanish, and Gayoso himself lived at Concord, one one and one-half miles east of the bluff. Other Natchez estates from the Spanish period which have survived include Airline, Richmond, Sage Farm and Linden.

The treaties fixing the boundaries of Spanish Louisiana and Florida and rights of passage on the Mississippi River at the end of the American Revolution were vague and contradictory. Boundary disputes between Spain, the U.S., and individual states resulted with the Natchez district being just one area of dispute. Thus the transfer of the Natchez District from Spain to the U.S. in 1798 was the result of nearly two decades of frontier rivalry, land speculation, western separatism, American expansionism, Spanish defensiveness, and factionalism among Natchezians.

The Treaty of San Lorenzo in October 1795 set the boundary of the U.S. and Spain's West Florida. This boundary change brought Natchez into U.S. territory, but the Spanish delayed the evacuation of Natchez for over a year, hoping for a turn of events. In response the U.S. dispatched surveyor Andrew Hillocott and a small army escort to Natchez in February 1797 with instructions to persuade the Spanish to evacuate. For several months Hillocott and Gayoso conducted a war of wills, bombarding each other with demands and counterdemands while seeking the backing of the town's various political factions. Conditions in Natchez became chaotic with the Spanish unable to maintain law and order. A citizens' committee formed to restore order, because the defective government. Without hope of reinforcements, Gayoso could not reinstiate Spanish rule, and he soon left to take up new duties as Governor of Louisiana. The remaining Spanish officials and troops stayed in Natchez until March 30, 1798 when the U.S. officially took control of the town.

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ - A BRIEF HISTORY

Although Natchez had been occupied by Europeans for over half a century when the Spanish took control, its potential had not been realized under the French or the English. Spanish rule was more conducive to growth and development, and Natchez began changing from a rude frontier settlement into a thriving river town.

Under the Spanish, Natchez continued to be the military, political, and commercial center of the Natchez District which had boundaries similar to the previous French and British districts. The Spanish considered the Natchez District a special buffer against the menace of American expansion, and they put considerable effort into building up the district and winning the loyalty of the populace. In a major concession to colonial policy, the formerly Anglo-American residents were allowed to remain in the district without becoming Roman Catholics if they would swear allegiance to Spain. During the early years of their rule, the Spanish also guaranteed cash payments and premium prices for tobacco, the area's principal cash crop. So important was Natchez and the Natchez District to Spain, that in 1787 the district's governmental status was elevated so that the military commandant was no longer the chief official. Instead, a district governor was appointed with the authority to deal directly with higher officials in Madrid and Havana and to conduct negotiations with other foreign powers.

The first district governor was Manuel Gayoso de Leones, a career army officer educated in England and who had spent most of his career at various diplomatic posts in Europe. Gayoso officially assumed his new post in 1789 and remained in Natchez until 1797 when he was promoted to the governorship of Louisiana and moved to New Orleans. Stephen Minor and Josef Vidal, who both held official posts under Gayoso, also served brief terms as acting governors of the Natchez District in 1790-1791 with Vidal staying on briefly as Spanish consul after Spain had ceded Natchez to the United States.

Of the Spanish officials in the Natchez district, Gayoso was the most influential in terms of setting Natchez on a course toward future prosperity. A genuine aristocrat, Gayoso was popular with the small group of wealthy families comprising Natchez society. He was also a shrewd politician who involved the district's men of property and influence in the governing of the district by appointing them to a council, or *cabildo*, or citizens' council, which adjudicated certain categories of criminal and civil cases and handled requests for various legal cases with the advice of the council or in some instances remanded them to officials in New Orleans. Keeping the peace in Natchez and the surrounding district was no small matter. Problems ranged from public brawling to more serious crimes such as kidnapping and cattle stealing by armed bands of brigands and counterfeiting. A citizens' patrol, or *milicia*, to pursue and apprehend suspected criminals supplemented the small garrison at the fort.

heritage, as found in biographies, histories, fiction and legends.

Specific lectures will trace the Spanish government's relations with the British, African-Americans in Natchez at the time, the origins of Catholicism in Mississippi, the beginnings of Natchez's planter society and biographies of leading citizens of Spanish Natchez.

"The tours, exhibits and special presentations will lead a 'living history' feel to the Celebration this year," Smith said. "Many events are free to the public, among them a re-enactment of a Spanish military encampment on the grounds of the mansion Malrose."

A special children's event will be Spanish legends told by Hispanic folklorist Betsy McWilliams of Cleveland, Ohio.

The conference will conclude with a dramatic program featuring the Spanish governor and his wife, "The Yellow Duchess," as well as a concert of period music by the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra's string ensemble.

Spanish-era buildings included on tours during the Celebration are King's Tavern, The House on Ellicott Hill and four homes in Natchez's Spanish Quarter which are rarely open to the public.

Exhibits of 18th-century artifacts and paintings will also be presented, as well as an autograph party honoring lecturers, sponsored by the conference's custom book shop.

"Since space is limited, reservations must be made for all lectures, tours and meals," Smith said. Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-647-6724 or (601) 442-9111 or writing the Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121-0894.

Jennifer L. Griesenow
Publicity Coordinator
Natchez Literary Celebration
P. O. Box 894 Natchez, MS 39121-0894
(601) 442-9111; 442-6761

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ: 1992 LITERARY EVENT SALUTES QUINCENTENNIAL

Of the varied cultures which left pre-1800 imprints on the historic river city of Natchez, Miss., only Spain's contributions remain abundantly evident today.

Tours of this physical evidence, as well as lectures by internationally known experts, special exhibits and lavish entertainments, will salute Natchez's Spanish era at the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration June 4-6.

Entitled "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992," the conference is co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the National Park Service's Natchez National Historical Park and the Natchez Trace Parkway.

"The Celebration will combine the most fascinating elements of history and literature from Natchez's Spanish period," said co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln.

Because of a \$15,000 grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council as well as other donations, the conference offers all lectures, most activities and related printed materials at low cost, Smith said.

"The three-day registration fee is only \$15," she said. "People may also register for one day only for \$5 per day. Related meals, house tours and parties are priced separately, also at very low cost."

Lecturers, including National Book Award winner Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois, will speak on Natchez's Spanish



The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
and
The National Park Service
*Natchez Trail Park
*Natchez National Historical Park

Post Office Box 894
Natchez, MS 39121-0894
(601) 442-9111
(601) 442-7047
FAX (601) 446-9967

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ:
COMMEMORATING THE COLCUMBUS QUINCENTENNIAL, 1492-1992
The 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration, Natchez, Mississippi

NEWS CONFERENCE
2:30 p.m., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1992

Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Billy B. Thames, President Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Announcement of Two Publications Resulting from the 1990 and 1991 Celebrations	Dean Travis Thornton Co-Lin Natchez Campus
Report of Publicity Generated By the 1991 Natchez Literary Celebration	Mr. Brad Chism Executive Director, Natchez Convention and Visitor Bureau
Announcement of Dates, Theme, Agenda, and Costs of the 1992 NLC	NLC Co-Chairmen: Stuart Johnson, Natchez National Historical Park Superintendent, and Becky Junkin Nevill and Carolyn Vance Smith, Faculty Members at Co-Lin Natchez
Announcement of Mississippi Humanities Council Grant for the 1992 NLC	Dr. Cora Norman, Executive Director, Mississippi Humanities Council, Jackson
Comments	The Hon. David Armstrong, Mayor, City of Natchez The Hon. Sassy Cauthen, President, Adams County Board of Supervisors Mr. Roger Saterstrom, President, Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce Mr. Jim Barnett, Director, Historic Properties Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History Mr. Bobby DeBlieux, Chief Executive Officer, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours Mr. Joe Fortunato, Chairman, Natchez-Adams County Economic and Development Authority
Concluding Remarks	Dr. Thames

Student Hosts: Members of S.H.A.R.F. and Members of the
Hotel/Motel/Restaurant Management Technology Classes.

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The Natchez Literary Celebration

Post Office Box 8094

Natchez, MS 39021-0894

(601) 442-9111

(601) 442-7047

FAX (601) 446-9067

Sponsored by
Cajun-Louisiana Community College
and
The National Park Service
Natchez Trace Parkway
Natchez National Historical Park

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ

COMMEMORATING THE COLUMBUS QUINCENTENNIAL, 1492-1992

JUNE 4-6, 1992

Lectures, Tours, and Entertainments
Revealing Spanish Natchez, 1719-1798

Financially Supported by the Mississippi Humanities Council

The Natchez Sole Hotel, Natchez, Mississippi

Director of Proceedings: The Hon. William Wister, President,
Board of Trustees, Mississippi Department of Archives and History

LECTURERS AND TOPICS

Mr. Lewis Lord, Writer and Editor, *U.S. News & World Report*,
Washington, D.C., "The Aste-Aztec/Indian Era: Natchez
Before Its First Visitors"

Mr. Jack Elliott, Historical Archaeologist, Mississippi
Department of Archives and History, "La Ciudad de
Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River
Town"

Mr. Ronald W. Miller, Director, Historic Natchez Foundation,
"The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez"

Dr. Robert V. Haynes, Western Kentucky University,
Bowling Green, "Natchez and the American Revolution"

Dr. Douglas Inglis, Siemens Misdorf, Seville, Spain, "The
Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez"

Dr. Robert V. Román, University of Illinois, Chicago,
"Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez"

Dr. Ronald F.S. Davis, California State University,
Northridge, "The African-American Experience During the
Spanish Era: A Clash of Cultures"

Mr. Vernon E. Smith, Bureau Chief, *Newsweek*, Atlanta, "The
Zorobias Experience in Natchez's Spanish Period"

Ms. Dorey McWilliams, Hispanic Folklorist and Storyteller,
Cleveland, Ohio, "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish
Natchez"

Dr. Michael Nazzari, The University of Mississippi, Oxford,
"Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of
Spanish Natchez"

Dr. William Coker, University of West Florida, Pensacola,
"Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin, and Other Leaders of
Natchez's Pledging Pioneer Society"

Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Buggess, Historian, Natchez, "Welcome
to 18th-century Natchez from the Stephen Minor Family"

TOURS, EXHIBITS, PARTIES, AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- Re-enactment of 18th-century Spanish and other military
regiments encamped on the grounds of the mansion Welrose
- Exhibits of 18th- and 19th-century artifacts, paintings, and
books about African-Americans, Concord mansion, and Spanish leaders

- Tours of 18th-century houses and buildings, including King's
Tavern, Governor Holmes' House, Saads, Griffith-McComas House,
Holly Hedges, Sage Farm, and The House on Elliott Hill; tours also
of the mid 19th-century mansions Welrose and Stanton Hall

- Luncheon at King's Tavern; dinner at Stanton Hall; shortly
party in the old Spanish Quarter; songbook party at The Sole
Hotel; cocktail party at The House on Elliott Hill

- Storytelling for children at Armstrong Library

- Grand finale: "An Evening at Concord," a "living history"
seated dinner in a facsimile garden of the 18th-century mansion
Concord, home of Spanish Governor Don Esteban Minor and his wife,
"The Yellow Duchess," with after-dinner program about Spanish
Natchez and a concert by the string ensemble of the Mississippi
Symphony Orchestra

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR ALL LECTURES AND EVENTS

Ticket options include full or partial packages. Prices range
from \$5 per day (for lectures only) up to \$80 for the three-day
package for all lectures, tours, three meals, parties, and special
events.

FOR INFORMATION

Call 1-800-667-6714 or (601) 442-9111
or write
Natchez Literary Celebration
P.O. Box 894
Natchez, MS 39121-0894

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NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION
JUNE 4-6, 1992

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Mark Your Calendar

- JUNE
4 - 6 Spain Comes to Natchez - The Natchez
Literary Celebration
- 13-14 June Victorian Tour - Natchez Pilgrimage
Tours
- 20-21 June Victorian Tour - Natchez Pilgrimage
Tours
- 26 Steamboat Jubilee and Floozie Contest
Natchez Under the Hill

Media Visit Natchez

During May, the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau hosted three major groups of media in our city. During the first weekend, Beverly Beyer and her husband, Ed Rabey, were guests of our industry over three days. Beyer and Rabey, members of the Society of American Travel Writers, produce a weekly travel column entitled "Footloose" for the Los Angeles Times newspaper. They were the guests of the River Park Hotel from April 30 through May 3. During this time, they enjoyed complimentary meals at Magnolia Grill, the Carriage House, The Wharf Master's House, the Eola Hotel, Scrooge's, and the Ramada Inn Hilltop. Natchez Pilgrimage Tours provided tickets to five homes, and the couple also toured the Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, Historic Jefferson College, and the Historic Natchez Collection Showroom. On their final night in Natchez, Mr. and Mrs. Rabey attended the performance of "Songs of the River, the opening production of the Natchez Opera Festival.

That same weekend, George Dunkley, Associate Director for Minority Affairs at the CVB, coordinated the press corps in Natchez for the Southwestern Athletic Conference baseball and tennis championships.

On May 6, a film crew representing ARD, one of the three major television stations in Germany, arrived in Natchez to film for a travel show on that station. Martha Sue Barnes of Natchez Pilgrimage Tours assisted our efforts by coordinating a two-part shoot at Linden, home of Mrs. J. Sanders Felts. They filmed the interior and exterior of the Federal home on the 7th, and Mrs. Felts's bed and breakfast guests enjoying their morning repast there on the following morning. Stacy Holyoak willingly donned an antebellum costume and conducted a tour of Mornmouth for the camera. The film crew was delighted with the making of a mint julep there, which they filmed, and the beautifully landscaped gardens. ARD also filmed several exteriors and street scenes around town, including Natchez Under the Hill at sunset.

Keep your eye out for the November issue of Bon Appetit. Their annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be laid out on Loveta Byrne's table at The Burn. The photographer, food designers and other crew members stayed at The Burn on May 6 and 7, and were accompanied by Tana Lane of the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development.

Natchez Pilgrimage Exhibit

"The Founding of the Natchez Pilgrimage," which opened May 3 at the Old Capitol in Jackson, MS, features artifacts and photographs commemorating the founding of one of the oldest and most successful tourism promotions in the state. "Mississippi History Newsletter," from the Department of Archives and History, has, in its May edition, an article about the exhibit and the history of the Pilgrimage. The exhibit hangs through September 6. For more information, call the Museum at 359-6920.

June Victorian Tour

The First Annual June Victorian Tour will, for two weekends, allow visitors and Natchezians to tour some homes which have never been open to the public before. From Queen Anne cottages with wooden shingles and intricate carving to late Victorian mansions boasting wide verandas, turrets and highly elaborate furnishings, we will be given the opportunity to glimpse the splendor of Natchez during the post-Civil War era. On June 13, 14, 20 and 21, Morning Tours are from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Afternoon Tours are from 1:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. The homes on the tour will be Glen Auburn, The Roos House, The Carby Residence, Twin Myrtles, The Keyhole House, Harper House, The Chatawa Cottage, Sweet Olive Tree Manor, The Hess Residence, and Camellia Gardens. For information and reservations, please contact Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, 1-800-647-6742 or 446-6631.

Tourist Appreciation Say Makes This Couple Happy

Joe and Ronda Brown of La Mirada, California, were bewildered when a Natchez Police Department patrol car pulled them over on the morning of May 6. Their dismay soon turned to pleasure when Anne Mohon and Rhonda Brown of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sergeant Sharon Carter of the Natchez Police Department assured them that they were not being ticketed, but had been randomly chosen for honors and gifts. In celebration of National Tourist Appreciation Day, the Browns were made honorary citizens of Natchez by Mayor David Armstrong, and were treated to a night at the Howard Johnson Lodge, a carriage ride, tours of antebellum homes, and lunch at the



Ramada Inn Hilltop. Mr. and Mrs. Brown joined our staff and guests later that day at a reception for our Tourism Employees of the Month at the Adams County Welcome Center. They were pleased to extend their stay in Natchez County another day, and gave heartfelt thanks to all who made it possible. Our staff would also like to thank George and Delores Vines for providing them with a carriage ride by Southern Carriage Company, Natchez Pilgrimage Tours for providing tickets to attractions, Debbie May and Sherril McCurley of the Howard Johnson Lodge for their generosity, Rhonda Stevens of the Ramada Inn Hilltop for her assistance, and Chief Eddie Jones and Sergeant Sharon Carter of the Natchez Police Department for their help.

Orchestra; and educators and scholars from major U.S. universities and colleges, including those in Mississippi.

The Hatcher Literary Celebration

Audiences at the lectures ranged from 250 to 350 per session. Related conference activities--such as the dedication of the mansion, Haines, to the National Park Service and a symphony concert--attracted more than 1,000.

People in the various audiences came from coast to coast: academicians, students, authors, professional and amateur historians, politicians, lovers of literature, history, music, and beauty, and general tourists.

In 1991, the conference honored writers Ellen Douglas, Brooks Barton, Alice Halworth Graham, Varina Howell (Mrs. Jefferson) Davis, and Richard Wright; top historians from The Sorbonne in Paris, the University of Hamburg in Germany, Yale University, the University of Chicago and the University of Toronto; the Deputy Director of the National Park Service; former governors of Mississippi; the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra; and, again, educators and scholars from across the country.

Lectures again attracted an audience similar to that in 1990, with crowds per lecture ranging up to 400. Related activities, including Hatcher's 175th birthday party, drew more than 1,000 people.

The idea of producing such an annual stellar attraction occurred in 1989 to Copiah-Lincoln English instructor and public information director, Carolyn Vance Smith. She was inspired by the success of the William Faulkner Conference at The University

There is cash in culture!

At least, that is what the organizers and sponsors of the Hatcher Literary Celebration have discovered.

In early June 1989, more than 1,000 people from coast to coast showed up in Hatcher for the first three-day Hatcher Literary Celebration, which was devoted to exploring the history, literature, and culture of the legendary Hatcher Tract.

In late May 1991, more than 2,000 attended a second celebration, which saluted the 175th anniversary of Hatcher.

Both conferences proved that people hunger after top-quality conferences devoted to history, literature, and the arts--and their related, not-so-serious events.

Both conferences also proved that people will travel long distances and spend lots of money to attend.

Since Hatcher in many circles around the globe is a household word, getting high-ranking authors, historians, scholars, musicians, statesmen, and politicians to be featured on the program both years has not been difficult.

Indeed, the 1990 conference honored such living and deceased writers as Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker Alexander, Richard Wright, John James Audubon, and William Faulkner; award-winning historians from the University of Chicago and the National Gallery of Art; Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan; both U.S. senators from Mississippi; the Mississippi Symphony

Spain Comes to Natchez. Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992

Openings are by The Natchez Area Hotel, Eola Lobby, unless otherwise noted.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

- 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.** Registration, Eola Lobby
- 9:00 a.m.** Welcome and Introductions
Dr. Billy B. Thomas, President
Coppell-Lincoln Community College
- 9:15 a.m.** "The Antiochianum Era: Natchez Before Its First Visitors"
Mr. Lewis Long, Writer and Editor
U.S. News & World Report
Washington, D.C.
- 10:15 a.m.** Coffee, Eola Lobby
- 10:45 a.m.** "Natchez and the American Revolution"
Dr. Robert V. Haynes
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green
- 11:30 a.m.** "La Ciudad de Natchez, The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town"
Mr. Jack D. Elliott, Jr.
Historical Archaeologist, Mississippi
Department of Archives and History
Mississippi State University, Starkville
- 12:30 p.m.** Luncheon, 18th-Century King's Tavern
(\$18 Ticket Needed)
- 3:30 p.m.** "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez"
Mr. Ronald W. Miller, Executive Director
The Historic Natchez Foundation
- 4:30 p.m.** Coffee, Eola Lobby
- 5:00 p.m.** "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez"
Dr. Robert V. Ramo
Professor of History and
Research Professor of Humanities
The University of Illinois, Chicago
- 6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.** Tours of Homes in Natchez's
Old Spanish Quarter: Governor Holmes
House, Griffin-McComas House, Holly
Hedges, and Texas, with Sherry Party
(\$15 Ticket Needed)

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

- 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Registration, Eola Lobby
- 9:00 a.m.** "African-Americans in 18th-Century Natchez"
Dr. Ronald L. P. Davis
Professor of History
California State University, Northridge
- 10:00 a.m.** Coffee, Eola Lobby
- 10:30 a.m.** "Africans and Other African-Americans: Notes from a Native Son"
Mr. Vernon Eneke Smith
Burrill (Chief, Newswatch
Atlanta, Georgia
- 11:30 a.m.** Luncheon on Your Own
- 3:00 p.m.** "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez"
Dr. G. Douglas Inglis
Siemens (Madrid)
Seville, Spain
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Autograph Party Honoring
All Lecturers, Eola Lobby
(Free and Open to the Public)
- 7:00 p.m.** Tour, Reception, and Dinner
Historic Stanton Hall and the Carriage
House Restaurant (\$15 Ticket Needed)
- 9:00 p.m.** "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez"
A Presentation at the Carriage House
Ms. Betty McWilliams
Storyteller and Hispanic Folklorist
Cleveland, Ohio

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1992

- 8:00 a.m. - Noon** Registration, Eola Lobby
- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** Re-enactment of Spanish
and Other Military Regiments Encamped
on the Grounds Behind the Mangrove
Maison (Free and Open to the Public)
- 9:00 a.m.** "Catholics in Mississippi: An Enduring
Legacy of Spanish Natchez"
Dr. Michael V. Ramonino
Associate Professor of History
The University of Mississippi, Oxford

10:00 a.m. Coffee, Eola Lobby

10:30 a.m. "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Brim, and
Other Leaders of Natchez's Pledging
Patriot Society"
Dr. William B. Tucker
Professor and Chairman
Department of History
The University of West Florida
Pensacola

11:30 a.m. Luncheon on Your Own

1:30 p.m. "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales
of Natchez"
A Storytelling Presentation
Amusing Library
Ms. Betty McWilliams
(Free and Open to Children of All Ages)

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tours of the Mangrove
Maison (Free and Open to the Public)

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tours of Hope Farm,
Former Home of Spanish Governor
Don Carlos de Grand Pri

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Tours of House on Ellicott
Hill, with Cocktails (\$5 Ticket Needed)

7:00 p.m. "Welcome to Natchez, Welcome to
Concord" - A Seated Dinner in a
Ficuslike Garden of the 18th-Century
Natchez Mansion Concord, Home of
Spanish Governor Stephen Minor
The Natchez Municipal Auditorium
(\$20 Ticket Needed)

8:00 p.m. "An Evening with Don Sebastian"
An After-Dinner Living History
Presentation with Commentaries,
Exhibits, and Concert by the Mississippi
Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble
The Natchez Municipal Auditorium
Featuring
Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess
Natchez Historian

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1992

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Re-enactment of Spanish
and Other Military Regiments Behind
Maison (Free and Open to the Public)

RESERVATION AND TICKET FORM

Since space is limited for all lectures and related events, reservations and payment of fees will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. Walk-ins will be welcomed only if space is available.

	Number Wanted	Total Cost
General Package @ \$80 Includes all lectures, presenta- tions, coffee parties, house tours, lunch and dinner June 5, cocktails and dinner June 6, and all printed materials	_____	_____
Family Package		
A. All Times: \$20 @ \$10 Includes all lectures, presenta- tions, coffee, tour of Hope Farm, printed materials	_____	_____
B. Thursday, June 4 @ \$1 Includes lectures, coffee, printed materials	_____	_____
C. Friday, June 5 @ \$5 Includes lectures, presentation, coffee, printed materials	_____	_____
D. Saturday, June 6 @ \$5 Includes lectures, presentation, coffee, tours of Maison and Hope Farm, printed materials	_____	_____
E. Luncheon, June 4 @ \$10	_____	_____
F. House Tours, June 4 @ \$15	_____	_____
G. Tour & Dinner, June 5 @ \$15	_____	_____
H. Tour & Cocktails, June 6 @ \$5	_____	_____
I. Dinner, June 6 @ \$20	_____	_____
TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED	_____	_____

A Note About Name Badges

The name badge issued to each participant serves as an admission card. Please wear the badge to all lectures and events. Color name Badges with bright ribbons of green, black, and red are issued to lecturers and other VIPs. Badges with red and black ribbons indicate full package participants. Badges with two green ribbons indicate III package participants. All other badges issued here as ribbons. These participants will receive tickets for admission to events.

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This program is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi River Council.

The 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration

presented by

"Spain Comes to Natchez"

Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992

This event features lectures, readings, dramatizations, tours, meals, and entertainment exploring the literature, history, and culture of Natchez, Mississippi, during the Spanish era. Events where noted, all events will take place at The Natchez State Hotel, 111 North Pearl Street, Natchez.

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3 - SUNDAY, JUNE 6 - Concurrent free exhibits.

- **AFRO-AMERICAN MUSEUM OF CULTURE & HISTORY, 207 Market Street** *Vignettes of African-American Life in Natchez History, 1699-1838* p.m. Friday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Saturday.
- **HISTORIC NATCHEZ FOUNDATION, 108 South Commerce Street** *Historic Natchez Collection, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Wednesday-Friday.*
- **JUDGE GEORGE ARMSTRONG LEISNER, 101 South Commerce Street** *Display Case Exhibits: Christopher Columbus, Summer Reading Program for Children, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday, Free Reception at 1:00 p.m. Saturday.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration, *State Lobby*
- 9:00 a.m. - Welcome and Introductions, Dr. Billy B. Thomas
- 9:15 a.m. "The Auto-Archaeology Era: Natchez Before Its First Excavation," Mr. Lewis Leal, page 5
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee, *State Lobby*
- 10:45 a.m. "Natchez and the American Revolution," Dr. Robert V. Haynes, page 6
- 11:00 a.m. "La Ciudad de Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town," Mr. Jack B. Elliott, Jr., page 7
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon, *18th Century King's Tavern (Tickets Needed One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)*
- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Autographing of Books by Dr. Robert V. Haynes, *State Hotel Lobby (Free and Open to the Public)*
- 3:00 p.m. "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez," Mr. Ronald W. Miller, page 8
- 3:30 p.m. Coffee, *State Lobby*
- 4:00 p.m. "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez," Dr. Robert V. Haynes, page 9
- 5:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Tours of Homes in Natchez's Old Spanish Quarter: Governor House, Griffin, McGowan House, Holly Hedges, and Trevelin, with Heavy Party - Honoring The Honorable Pablo Sanchez Yvan, General Counsel of Spain, and Members of the Council, The Order of the First Family of Mississippi, 1897-1927, Celebrating the 50th Anniversary, 1947-1992, page 10-11 (Tickets Needed One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration, *State Lobby*
- 9:00 a.m. "Natchez-Americans in 19th-Century Natchez," Dr. Ronald L. P. Davis, page 12
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee, *State Lobby*
- 10:30 a.m. "Natchez and Other African-Americans: Tales from a Native Era," Mr. Vernon Smith Smith, page 13

11:00 a.m. Luncheon on Your Own

- 1:00 p.m. "The Cherokees and Some Cherokees of Spanish Natchez," Dr. G. Douglas Inglis, page 14
- 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Autograph Party Honoring All Lecturers, *State Hotel, page 15 (Free and Open to the Public)*
- 3:00 p.m. Tour, Reception, and Dinner: Historic Natchez Hall and the Carriage House Restaurant, page 16 (Tickets Needed One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)
- 4:00 p.m. "Tales of Love and Loss in Spanish Natchez," Mr. Stacy McWilliams, page 18

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

- 9:00 a.m. - Noon Registration, *State Lobby*
- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Re-enactment of Spanish Military Regiments Encamped Near the Masonic Museum, page 17 (Free and Open to the Public) One Map, pages 26-27, for Location
- 9:00 a.m. "Victrolas in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez," Dr. Michael W. Swannick, page 19
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee, *State Lobby*
- 10:30 a.m. "Great Baptisms: Cooper, Brink, and Other Leaders of Natchez's Pivotal Pioneer Society," Dr. William S. Coker, page 20
- 11:00 a.m. Luncheon on Your Own
- 1:00 p.m. & Reception Presentation at Armstrong Library, "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez," Mr. Stacy McWilliams, page 20 (Free and Open to Elementary School Children) One Map, pages 26-27, for Location
- 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tours of the Masonic Museum, page 20 (Free and Open to the Public) One Map, pages 26-27, for Location
- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tours of Hope Farm, Former Home of Spanish Governor Don Carlos de O'Faly, page 20 (Free Registration Participants) One Map, pages 26-27, for Location
- 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tours of Home on Elliott's Hill, with Cocktails, page 20 (Tickets Needed One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)
- 7:00 p.m. "Welcome to Natchez, Welcome to Concord" - A Seated Dinner in a Family's Garden of the 18th-Century Natchez Masonic Council, Home of Spanish Governor Stephen Haynes Stone, The Natchez Municipal Auditorium, page 21 (Tickets Needed One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)
- 8:00 p.m. "An Evening with Don Esteban" - An After-Dinner Living History Presentation with Commentary, Rehearsal, and Dinner by the Mississippi Synchro Orchestra Living Ensemble, The Natchez Municipal Auditorium, page 21 (One Map, pages 26-27, for Location)

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Re-enactment of Spanish Military Regiments Near the Masonic Museum, page 17 (Free and Open to the Public) One Map, pages 26-27, for Location

Note

The Natchez Literary Celebration's custom luncheon at the lobby of the State Hotel will be open Thursday-Saturday, June 4-6, featuring books, articles, and memorabilia relating to this year's theme.

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The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
and
The National Park Service
•Natchez Trace Parkway
•Natchez National Historical Park

Post Office Box 894
Natchez, MS 39121-0894
(601) 442-9111
(601) 442-7047
FAX (601) 446-9967

Enclosed you will find information of interest to your students and their parents, friends, and teachers, pertaining to the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, to be held June 4 through June 7, 1992.

You will note that this series of lectures and associated events, entitled "Spain Comes to Natchez," is commemorating the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America. Of particular interest are several events which are open to the public free of charge.

The enclosed flier may be reproduced for distribution to the teachers at your school. We will be glad to furnish additional information, if you will call one of the telephone numbers above.

Yours truly,

Carolyn Vance Smith
Co-chairman
Natchez Literary Celebration

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The Natchez Democrat

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Miss.

50 CE

Literary

Continued from Page 1A

of the Natchez National Historical Park. "This becomes one of the park's programs for the public. One of our roles is preserving America's important natural and cultural resources and educating the public about those resources."

Various parties and meals will be scattered throughout the three-day event.

Conference ticket options include full or partial packages. Prices range from \$5 per day for lectures only to \$80 for the three-day package for all lectures, tours, three meals, parties and special events.

The low cost to attend the conference, Smith said, is due to donations and grants, including a \$19,058 grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Smith said 170 people already have signed up to participate in the event.

Smith also said each of the series lecturers come to the 1992 conference with three or four references.

"We really want to make sure that these lectures are presented in such a way that they can hold the audience's attention," she said.

As a part of the conference, four privately-owned homes in Natchez's old Spanish section will be opened to the public. Governor Holmes' House, Texada, Griffith-McCombs House and Holly Hedges will be open free of charge.

Also open to the public will be King's Tavern, Hope Farm, and The House on Ellicott Hill.

A third facet of the conference will be the National Park's living history and reenactment which will take place at the Natchez National Historic Park.

Historical reenactors from Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama will perform bits of live Natchez history for the public June 6 and 7.

"I think the Park Service benefits from this, in a sense," said Stuart Johnson, superintendent. See LITERARY, Page 10A

Literary festival on track

1992 session honors Spain's history here

By KRISTEN SAMS
The Natchez Democrat

Spain will come to Natchez again this spring as the Natchez Literary Celebration honors the Columbus Quincentennial.

The June 4-6 conference, with the theme "Spain Comes to Natchez," will investigate several facets of history and literature from Natchez's 20-year Spanish period with a series of historical lectures, tours of homes in the city's Spanish Quarter and historical reenactments.

"The purpose of the Natchez Literary Council is to explore the literature, history and culture of Natchez in a scholarly way and have fun at the same time," said Natchez Literary Celebration co-chairman Carolyn Smith.

"The theme is our way to salute Spain's interest in the New World and it's continuing interest because they ended up ruling here for a long time."

One part of the celebration will be a series of lectures given by 12 history enthusiasts at the 400-person capacity ballroom in The Natchez Eola Hotel ballroom.

"The real joy of the lecture series is that we've had nothing but spectacular lecturers since we started in 1990," Smith said. "Every one of them has had a charm and the ability to hold the audience in the palm of their hand."

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Chamber agrees to help fund 1992 literary celebration

The Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce will continue its financial support of the Natchez Literary Celebration again this year.

Members of the board of directors voted Tuesday to donate \$500 to the third annual celebration sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Natchez National Historical Park and the Natchez Trace Parkway.

The celebration will be June 4 to 6 this year, with the theme "Spain Comes to Natchez." In addition to the \$500 donation, which likely will help sponsor a performance of the Mississippi Symphony String Quartet, the

chamber board agreed to co-sponsor a social event during the festival.

In other business, the board:

- Voted to send a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encouraging a speedy decision on the permit requested by dockside gaming developer Andrew Tompkins, who has plans to put a development at Natchez Under-the-Hill.

- Heard reports from the task force chairmen on the consolidation task force and the transportation task force.

- Accepted the resignation of office manager Robin Price.

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Tourists guide to historic Natchez

Natchez puts best foot forward in March . . .

Welcome to Natchez on the Mississippi River! This calendar of events tells you about tours, entertainment, festivals, sites to see and more. As Natchez's beautiful seasons blend one into the other, events to suit every taste fill the calendar.

In the hot summertime, when locals head for beaches, a lakeside retreat or air-conditioned rooms, travelers from cold climates come to relish the warm, humid days.

In the fall, winter and spring, visitors frequently are amazed at the beauty and color this small Mississippi city has to offer. Here today? Come tomorrow, soon—and next month or next season.

■ **MARCH** comes to Natchez when many people barely have recuperated from the Mardi Gras season of purple and gold. However, Spring Pilgrimage begins with a fanfare—dates for 1992 are March 7 through April 5—and everyone catches the spirit.

■ Throughout the month-long special event, 30 antebellum houses open their doors for visitors on a rotating schedule, and the city puts its best foot forward for the thousands of tourists from across the world who come to taste the finest in Southern cooking, admire the artistry and experience hospitality Natchez-style.

Tours of houses are divided into morning and afternoon tours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tours are color-coded and easy to follow throughout the city and countryside. For more detailed description of houses, sites and events during Pilgrimage, see *The Natchez Democrat's 1992 Spring Pilgrimage Guide*.

Tickets for all Pilgrimage events are available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, corner of Canal and State streets, open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

■ Spring Pilgrimage is a time for many complementary events to accompany the grand tours of houses—the play "Southern Exposure" runs at the Natchez Little Theatre, for example. In it, Natchezians poke fun at themselves. This comedy depicts a typical old Natchez family that decides to put its home on tour.

The play is performed every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 per person and available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ The Confederate Pageant, highlighted by grand balls for the kings and queens, features Natchez's young men and women in tableaux depicting antebellum life. The pageant is co-sponsored by the Natchez Garden Club and the Pilgrimage Garden Club and is presented at the City Auditorium at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$8 and available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ "The Southern Road to Freedom," a stirring musical tribute to struggles of black people in the old South, is performed



The Natchez Democrat/Gloria Corcoran

PRACTICING: Youngsters of all ages practice for many weeks for The Confederate Pageant.

by the Holy Family Choir at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at The Natchez Enola Hotel. Tickets are \$8 and available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ Art exhibits include two special showings at the Mossy African Market, where Project Southern Cross is hosting five artists from the Neighborhood Gallery of New Orleans. The exhibit opened in December and continues through March at 125 St. Catherine St. Call Thelma Williams for more information about the gallery, 442-5448.

■ Historic St. Mary's Catholic Church will sponsor "Bless This House" four Sundays in March, beginning at 8:30 p.m. on March 8, 15, 22 and 29. The pageant, tickets at \$8, will include slides, narration and live performance and will tell the story of Mississippi's only church built as a cathedral.

■ Spring Arts and Crafts Show will be held March 7 and 8 at the Natchez Convention Center. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Sunday, the show will be open noon to 6 p.m. with a \$1 admission both days. More information is available at 442-1527.

■ Throughout the month, a few houses operate independently and are open daily for tours. One is Weymouth Hall, which overlooks the Mississippi River and is located on the north side of town; another is Ravenaside, a late 19th-century house of extravagant style at the end of South Union Street.

■ In addition, tourists may visit lovely antebellum Melrose, the Natchez National Historical Park, which is open daily and the year around. The grounds are open at no charge. House tours, offered every half hour between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., with small admission fees for house tours.

■ **APRIL** enters gloriously—the final week of the 1992 Natchez Spring Pilgrimage. Beautiful gardens burst with spring flowers throughout the month, and many of the famous Natchez mansions continue to open their doors to tourists

after the close of Pilgrimage and for the rest of the year.

■ A new addition to the calendar this year is "Swine Days on the Mississippi," a barbecue cookoff sponsored by Main-Street Natchez Partnership. The cookoff, set for April 10 and 11 on the Natchez bluffs, will award \$1,000 to the grand champion barbecue cook and other impressive cash prizes. Call 445-4611 for more information or to sign up for the contest.

■ The annual Natchez Garden Club Antiques Show opens April 30 at the Natchez Convention Center. The show continues through May 1, 2 and 3. Call the Natchez Garden Club office, 442-6672, for more information.

■ **MAY** is the month-long celebration of beautiful music in Natchez with the Natchez Opera Festival offering many events every week. Young and rising operatic stars from throughout the country come together in Natchez to present some of the finest musical entertainment heard anywhere. More information is available at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ **JUNE** will kick off a glorious celebration of the days when Spanish dons

reigned in Natchez, as the Natchez Literary Celebration, scheduled June 4 to 6, gets under way.

The literary event combines scholarly lectures with lighter entertainment and tours of some of the area's historic sites. Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez National Historical Park, the celebration will take place at the theme of "Spain Comes to Natchez," bringing into play the Columbus Quincentennial.

Conference tickets range from \$5 for a single lecture to \$80 for the entire package of events. Information about tickets is available at 1-800-647-6724 or, locally, 442-9111. Address correspondence to Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 804, Natchez, Miss. 39121-0804.

■ June is steamboat time in Natchez, with the annual Steamboat Jubilee and Floore Parade taking place at Natchez Under-the-Hill on June 26, when the Mississippi Queen and Delta Queen steamboats stop at Natchez during their annual race from New Orleans to St. Louis.

■ June also is the month for the Mississippi Heritage Festival, where some of the region's finest musical artists perform on the Mississippi River bluffs in Natchez—blues, rock and gospel. Dates for 1992 have not been announced.

■ **JULY** is bicycling month in Natchez. It's magical: The Natchez Bicycle Classic is a multi-stage race, to which cyclists from all over the country come to compete for cash prizes as thousands line Natchez streets and byways to cheer on the competitors.

■ **AUGUST** is a hot month in Natchez—no doubt about it. Touring continues to be pleasant, however, with early morning carriage rides and late afternoon trips to the surrounding countryside.

■ About 25 miles from Natchez in Franklin County is Percy Quins State Park, a beautiful hideaway tucked in the middle of beautiful woods with a large lake, pavilion and picnic grounds and great opportunities for bird watching. And

See Page 5

Visit one of Natchez's oldest and most beautiful homes.

Enjoy this unique and interesting mansion.

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Bed and Breakfast

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(601) 442-2600

The Wigwam
C-1790



Estelle Mackey, Owner

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PROGRESSIVE

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"THE HISTORIC NATCHEZ FOUNDATION"

"Hearis Resolved and Hands Prepared, The Blessings They Enjoy to Guard," - Smollet

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VOLUME XIV

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

MARCH 1992

NUMBER 1

NLC Salutes Spanish Era



Stuart Johnson announces details of the upcoming 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration during press conference.

Spain's pre-1800 imprint on Natchez will be explored June 4-6 during the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration.

"The registration fee for all three days of lectures is only \$15, made possible by a grant from the Miss. Humanities Council and other generous donations," co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith said. "House tours, meals and parties are priced separately at very low cost. A full 3-day package costs \$80." Reser-

vations are required for all lectures and events.

Co-sponsors for the event are Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the National Park Service's Natchez National Historical Park and Natchez Trace Parkway.

"The National Park Service is happy to again be a co-sponsor," said co-chairman Stuart Johnson, Natchez National Historical Park Superintendent. "One important special event we'll be doing is a weekend of living history and military reenactment at Melrose on June 6-7. We are bringing in groups from Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama. They will be reenacting various aspects of the history of Natchez...almost up to the time of the Civil War. In addition, there will be free house tours of Melrose."

For a detailed brochure of speakers and registration information, call (601) 442-9111 or 442-7047, or write: The Natchez Literary Celebration, P. O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121-0894.

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Tourists guide to ...
Historic

Natchez

April 1992

A monthly reader service of *The Natchez Democrat*

Natchez, Miss.

■ JUNE will kick off a glorious celebration of the days when Spanish dons reigned in Natchez, as the Natchez Literary Celebration, scheduled June 4 to 6, gets under way.

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Tourists guide to . . .

Historic Natchez

May 1992

A monthly reader service of *The Natchez Democrat*

Natchez, Miss.

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The Miss-Lou

Remini will return to Natchez again for literary celebration

Special to The Democrat

Robert V. Remini, an internationally celebrated scholar who says he can't get enough of Natchez, will return to the city in June to speak for the third time at the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

This award-winning conference, set for June 4 through 6, is co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Natchez National Historical Park and the Natchez Trace Parkway.

The theme is "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992."

"I look forward to coming again to Natchez," said Remini, winner of the prestigious American Book Award and an acclaimed historian at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

"I find in Natchez total graciousness, kindness and hospitality," he said. "I love it and can't get enough of it."

Literary celebration audiences say they can't get enough of Remini, either, said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln, co-chairman of the conference.



Remini

"Elbert Hilliard of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and other historians who've attended the 1990 and 1991 conferences have told us that Dr. Remini is the most eminent scholar in America," Smith said. "His books are required reading for college history majors."

"Many, many members of the audience have told us he's the best speaker they've ever heard," Smith added.

"People sit on the edge of their seats so they won't miss a word," she said. "One person even said that Dr. Remini is so good he doesn't just lecture. He seduces the audience."

At previous literary celebrations Remini's subjects were Andrew Jackson's use of the Natchez Trace and Henry Clay's Natchez connection.

Remini will speak this year on "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez." His talk will take place at 5 p.m., June 4, at conference headquarters, The Natchez Eola Hotel.

Because of space limitations, registration for all 12 lectures throughout the conference is required, Smith said.

"The Eola ballroom holds only 400 people," she said. "We already have about 300 people registered for Dr. Remini's talk, and the other lectures already have about 250 people."

Registration may be made by sending \$5 (for four lectures on one day) or \$15 (for all three days of 12 lectures) to Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, Miss., 39121-0894.

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STATE/METRO

THE CLARION-LEDGER ■ JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI DEATHS — 2
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FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1992

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**DANNY
MCKENZIE**

Columnist
The Clarion-Ledger
May 8, 1992

Festival celebrates Spanish influence in Natchez history

With less than a month remaining before the third annual Natchez Literary Festival, Carolyn Vance Smith decided she'd better get out of town for a long weekend and catch one final, long, deep breath.

Well, not *final* — but certainly long and deep. Anyway, when this year's edition of the celebration of literature, history and culture in one of Mississippi's oldest regions finally does get under way come June 4, neither Smith nor any of the hundreds of festival volunteers will have the opportunity to relax.

Smith, who teaches English at the Natchez campus of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, insists no one is complaining.

"People call up all the time wanting to know if we have a job for them," she said. "It's absolutely amazing."

Not nearly as amazing, though, as the literary festival itself.

Co-sponsored once again by Co-Lin and the Natchez National Park, this year's version (June 4-7) centers on the Spanish influence on the history and culture of Natchez, and will also celebrate the 500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage to America.

Experts from everywhere

And once again there will be literary and historical "experts" from all around the country on the program of the four-day festival.

Guest lecturers are coming from *U.S. News & World Report* in Washington, from the University of Illinois in Chicago, from California State University in Northridge, from the Atlanta bureau of *Newsweek*, from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, from the University of West Florida in Pensacola, and from Cleveland, Ohio.

Ole Miss and Mississippi State will, of course, be represented on the program as will the University of Seville — as in Spain.

So there.

While many are familiar with the Natchez of the Old South, Smith said had it not been for the Spanish there might very well not have been the Natchez we all know and love.

"Natchez is well-known for its rich cotton tradition," she said, "but many of what would later become the wealthy plantations of the middle 19th century began as Spanish land grants in the late 18th century. The Spanish laid the ground work."

Natchez was, Smith said, "the jumping-off point" for the exploration of the West, and the Spanish are also given credit for changing what was then the frontier from military rule to civil rule, thereby developing the town of Natchez.

Detailed records

Because it was so involved in exploration of the New World, the Spanish government of the 18th century was noted for its detailed and voluminous records.

And those records have, in turn, led to the uncovering of so much Spanish history in the Natchez area.

What makes the Natchez Literary Festival different from so many other festivals — literary and otherwise — is that once a lecture is completed you can step out the door and be in the midst of history.

For example: One of the features of this year's conference is a tour of four homes in the Spanish Quarter of Natchez — all built in the late 1700s and rarely open to the public.

Also on tap are re-enactments of a Spanish military regiment. The group of "re-enactors" is coming from Pennsylvania for the festival.

Smith said more than 320 people had already registered for the lecture series, and before it's all over more than a thousand will probably attend the discussions.

"There's no telling how many people will come for the tours and for the military re-enactments. I'm sure it'll be in the thousands."

That alone surprises a lot of people. Smith, however, is not one of them.

"So many people have a real hunger to learn more about their culture, and so many people have roots in Natchez.

"It's just a natural combination."

Danny McKenzie's column appears Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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June spotlight will be on Spain

An international conference and gala event is coming to Natchez the first weekend in June. Parties, tours, luncheons and dinners will be enjoyed by guests from around the country. Internationally known lecturers will add to our knowledge of Spanish in Natchez.

Dozens of committee chairs and program planners are working on this event at this very moment.

What is this event? It is the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration scheduled for June 4 to 6. "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992" is this year's theme.

The celebration is in its third year and it gets better every year. My first experience with it was in June of 1991, right after my husband and I moved here from Tulsa, Okla.

I attended all the lectures I could and learned a great deal about Natchez's history, fascinating to newcomers and natives alike. This year I'm assisting in the planning, and it's even more fun.

Events this year include military re-enactments, Spanish and otherwise, free to the public at the mansion Melrose, and free tours of



Top of the Morning

JENNIFER GREENHOW
Natchez resident

the mansion itself. Spanish storytelling at Armstrong library is also open to children of all ages, free of charge.

Among the lecturers are several local people, many Mississippi scholars, and lecturers from across the country. Dr. Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois will tell us about Andrew Jackson of Natchez, and Dr. G. Douglas Inglis from Seville, Spain, will discuss the unique character of Spanish Natchez and those who lived here at that time.

Many parties, luncheons, and dinners, to be presented in local historic homes, are available at low cost.

Also, Governor Holmes House, Texada, Griffith-McCormac House and Holly Hedges

will be the site of a sherry party and tour. These homes are rarely open to the public!

To top it all off, a dinner in a fascimile garden of the 18th century mansion Concord, home of Spanish governor Stephen Minor, can be enjoyed. It will be followed by a "living history" presentation by our own Elizabeth MacNeil Beggess, and a concert by the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra Spring Ensemble.

What a neat opportunity all of this provides for entertainment, fun and learning, right here in our own hometown. It's wonderful that such an outstanding array of events and lecturers is to be presented in Natchez. Most towns this size never see such high quality events.

Reservations are filling up fast for the Literary Celebration, and time is of the essence. Most lectures already have 250 places filled, and one is at 300. Only 400 spaces are available. It would be a shame for local people to miss out on this event.

Make your reservations now! You can call 1-800-647-6734 for information and reservations, or in Natchez, call Louise Doughty at 442-7341 for event costs and questions about reservations.

Historic



Natchez
on the Mississippi

Tourism Highlights

P.O. Box 1485 • Natchez, MS 39121

May 1992 • Newsletter

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Spain Comes to Natchez

The Third Annual Natchez Literary Celebration presents *Spain Comes to Natchez*, commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, June 4 - 6, 1992. This year's event, co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the National Park Service's Natchez National Historical Park and Natchez Trace Parkway, features events saluting the Spanish era in Natchez, 1779 - 1798.

Lectures will trace the Spanish government's relations with the British, African-Americans in Natchez at the time, the origins of Catholicism in Mississippi, the beginnings of Natchez's planter society and biographies of leading citizens of Spanish Natchez. A free special children's event will be Spanish legends told by Hispanic folklorist Betsy McWilliams of Cleveland, Ohio, at the Armstrong Library on June 6. Other free events include tours of Melrose, an autograph party honoring all lecturers and re-enactments of Spanish and other military regiments encamped on the grounds behind Melrose.

Spanish-era buildings included on tours during the Celebration are King's Tavern, The House on Ellicott Hill and four homes in Natchez's Spanish Quarter which are rarely open to the public. Space is limited for all lectures and related events, so secure your reservations now with payment of the small (\$5 to \$20) fee for individual lectures, tours and meals. The complete package is also available for only \$80. Call 442-9111 for reservations or 800-847-6724 for information.



JUNE 4 - 6

SPAIN COMES TO NATCHEZ

by Beckie M. Johnson



Como se dice "Literary Celebration" en Espanol?

Easy.

"Fantastico! Maravilloso! Increible!

All of the above adjectives apply to the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration, according to NLC co-chairman Stuart Johnson of the Natchez National Historical Park.

Theme for the conference is "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492 - 1992."

"Distinguished lecturers from across the United States and from Spain will explore the Spanish connection in Natchez from DeSoto to Gayoso, from antebellum to anti-pollution, from Ibrahima to Andrew Jackson," Johnson said.

"The story of the Spanish in Natchez, from 1779 - 1798, may be short lived and little known, but it is a fascinating chapter in American History.

It is particularly appropriate as the theme this year as America celebrates the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovering of the New World.

Lectures at the conference begin June 4 at 9 a.m. when Natchez native Lewis Lord, editor and writer for *U.S. News & World Report* in Washington, D.C., presents "The Ante-Antebellum Era: Natchez Before Its First Visitors." Focusing on the Natchez Indians, Lord will present evidence that DeSoto in the 1540s encountered the Natchez Indians.

Dr. Robert V. Haynes, vice president for academic affairs at Western Kentucky University and author of numerous books and articles, will then speak on "Natchez and the American Revolution."

Haynes will discuss how early Natchez settlers showed little interest in the American Revolution but were eventually brought into the war and came under Spanish rule.

Next lecturer on June 4 will be Jack Elliott, historical archaeologist, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Widely recognized as an expert on early Natchez, Elliott will discuss "La Ciudad de Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town."

Under Spanish rule, Natchez transformed from frontier territory into a city.

At 3:30 p.m. June 4 Ronald Miller, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation, will speak on "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez." His comments will precede a tour of Spanish houses in Natchez.

The afternoon will conclude with award-winning author and historian Dr. Robert V. Rerrini of the University of Illinois, Chicago. His topic is "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."

His lecture is based on research of Natchez records at the archives in Seville, Spain, with particular reference to the mystery surrounding the marriage of Jackson and Rachel Robards near Natchez.

Lectures on June 5 begin at 9 a.m. when Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis of California State University - Northridge, speaks on "African-Americans in 18th-century Natchez." His comments will focus on the origins and character of slaves in the colonial era.

The African-American theme will continue when Vernon Emile Smith, a Natchez native who is bureau chief for *Newsweek* in Atlanta, speaks on "Ibrahima and Other African-Americans: Notes from a Native Son." He will tell of his personal research into the story of Ibrahima, an African prince sold into slavery in Natchez.

The afternoon of June 5 will feature Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain, who will present "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez." He will chronicle the famous and the infamous in Natchez from 1780 - 1800.

Following an evening reception and dinner at Stanton Hall and the Carriage House Restaurant, Beisy McWilliams of Columbus, Ohio, will present "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez." An internationally known storyteller with a reputation for Hispanic lore, McWilliams' tales for children will be featured June 6 at 1 p.m. at Armstrong Library.

Lectures on Saturday, June 6, will begin at 9 a.m. when Dr. Michael V. Namorato will discuss "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez." Namorato is associate professor of history at the University of Mississippi.

Next will be Dr. William S. Coker, chairman of the history department, University of West Florida, Pensacola, whose talk is "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin and Other Leaders of Natchez's Pioneering Planter Society."

Spain encouraged Anglo-Americans to come to Natchez, attracting them through liberal land grants. These properties were fashioned into large plantations which became the basic economic unit of 19th-century Natchez.

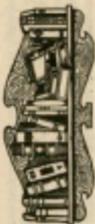
The conference lecture program concludes Saturday evening at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium, when Natchez historian Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess presents a living history program. The auditorium will be transformed into the garden of Concord, home of Natchez Spanish Gov. Stephen Minor. Boggess and others will re-enact Minor and his wife, "The Yellow Duchess," who will discuss Spanish Natchez, their home and their lives.

The evening will conclude with a concert of Spanish-era music by the string ensemble of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets for the three-day celebration range from \$5 for one event to \$80 for the full package. They are available by writing P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121 or by calling 1-800-647-6724.

June 4-6
THE NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION
Natchez, Miss.

The third annual celebration is titled "Spain Comes to Natchez." This event features lectures, readings, discussions, tours, ceremonies and entertainments exploring the literature, history and culture of Natchez from 1716 - 1991.



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May, 1992

Country Roads
ADVENTURES CLOSE TO HOME

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NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI 39121

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Literary celebration returns

Fantástico! Maravilloso! Increíble! Distinguished lecturers from the United States and Spain present the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration, which will explore the Spanish connection in Natchez from DeSoto to Gayoso, from antebellum to anti-pollution, and from Ibrahima to Andrew Jackson. The story of the Spanish in Natchez (1779-1798), although short-lived and little-known, is a fascinating chapter in American history and particularly appropriate as America this year celebrates the 500th Anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the New World.

The celebration begins on Thursday morning, June 4, when Natchez native Lewis Lord, assistant managing editor of *U.S. News* in Washington, D.C., presents "The Antebellum Era: Natchez Before its First Visitors." Focusing on the Natchez Indians, Lord will present evidence that DeSoto in the 1540s encountered the Natchez Indians. Next, Dr. Robert V. Haynes, vice president for academic affairs at Western Kentucky University, who has written numerous historical publications, will address "Natchez and the American Revolution." Early settlers showed little interest in the American Revolution, but were eventually brought into the war and came under Spanish rule during the war. The last lecturer on Thursday morning is Mr. Jack Elliott, historical archaeologist with the Mississippi Department of Archive and History. Widely recognized as an expert on the early history of Natchez, he will outline "La Ciudad de Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town." Under Spanish rule, Natchez was transformed from frontier territory into a city.

Thursday afternoon lectures begin with Ron Miller's discussion of "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez." Miller is the director of the Historic Natchez Foundation and has spent the past 20 years studying the history and architecture of the area. He will highlight specific buildings with ties to the Spanish period. Then Dr. Robert V. Remini, award-winning author and research professor of humanities at the University of Illinois, will take center stage with "Andrew Jackson in Natchez." A highlight of the conference, Dr. Remini's lecture based on research at the Archives in Seville, Spain, will unveil some of the mystery surrounding Jackson and his marriage to Rachel Robards. Thursday afternoon ends with a tour of the Old Spanish Quarter.

"African-Americans in 18th Century Natchez" by Dr. Ronald L.F.

Davis, award winning author, teacher and professor of history at California State University - Northridge, is the first lecture on Friday, June 5. An expert on African-American history, Dr. Davis' address will focus on the origins and character of slavery in the Colonial era. The African-American theme continues with Vern Emile Smith's presentation of "Ibrahima and Other African-Americans: Notes from a Native Son." Born in Natchez, Smith is bureau chief for *Newsweek* in Atlanta. He has won numerous awards for journalism and writing and will tell from his personal research the remarkable story of an African prince sold into slavery in the late 1700s.

After lunch Dr. G. Douglas Inglis will present "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez," which chronicles Natchez famous and infamous from 1780-1800. Dr. Inglis is director of the department of systems engineering, Siemens Nixdorf, Seville, Spain. Other Friday afternoon activities include an autograph party for lecturers, tour, reception and dinner at Stanton Hall, and "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez," a special presentation by Ms. Betsy McWilliams, professional storyteller.

The last day's lectures begin on Saturday morning, June 6, with Dr. Michael V. Namorato's discussion of "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez." Dr. Namorato is associate professor of history at the University of Mississippi. Next Dr. William S. Coker, professor and chairman of the department of history at the University of West Florida, details "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin, and Other Leaders of Natchez's Fledgling Planter Society." From 1779-1798, Spain controlled the Natchez area and encouraged Anglo-Americans to come to Natchez, attracting them through a liberal policy of land grants, which were fashioned into large plantations that became the basic economic unit of Natchez.

Saturday afternoon events include storytelling at the George W. Armstrong Library, tours of Hope Farm and Ellicott's Hill, and tours and military reenactments at the Natchez National Historical Park. The conference concludes with a seated dinner in the City Auditorium, which will be transformed into the garden of Concord, home of Spanish Governor Stephen Minor. Entertainment will feature a living history presentation by Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Bogges, local archaeologist and Minor descendant, and a concert by the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble.

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Spain leaves mark on Natchez forever



"As people got more and more money, people began to tear down and build up. You tend to preserve your finest architecture, not your run-of-the-mill buildings."

—Richard Miller

tain "the city's bare bones." They designed the city's grid plan to encompass five city blocks. The first road is down, Miller said, was Canal Street—actually an open gully filled with water with bridges connecting the town to the bluffs.

"For the first half of the Spanish era, there was no town on the bluffs. There was something there, but there was not a town. There were only scattered 'v-

isions on the bluff top," Mr. Miller said. "There was a group of wooden buildings on the waterfront, about where the ferry landing is now, but the buildings mostly were crude wooden or log structures."

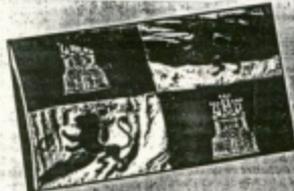
And when the Spanish finally did lay out the town, they built a park facing the Mississippi River. While Mr. Miller said Spanish influence impacted Natchez only with its style of road and city-

street design, many homes were constructed during the era. And since Natchez's settlers were of English descent, the homes were built in English design.

Many of the homes have endured time to become examples of Natchez architecture during and directly following the era of Spanish rule including King's Tavern, the Griffith-McCormac house, Adair, the Governor Hilditch House, Hope Farm, Richmond and Texas.

Texas was the only home built by a Spaniard that is still standing today. And it is the finest example of Spanish architecture in Natchez today, he said.

Other buildings built by Spaniards did not survive, said Mini



Spanish era leaves town gentle society, city design

By KRISTEN SAMS

The Natchez Democrat

While the Spanish rule over Natchez has long passed, its influence is still felt. For almost 400 years in Natchez, the European people left their mark on Natchez's history, architecture and design.

And this will be the topic of discussion at the many lectures which take Natchez during its annual History Celebration to be held June 2-6. The series of lectures and activities will lead to the Natchez National Historic Landmark in the 18th century.

Rob Miller, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation, will discuss "what architecture we do have from the time that the Spanish assisted Natchez and what it has meant to the development of our architecture," he said.

Natchez fell to Spanish rule in 1779 following Spain's declaration of war on the British. The Spanish ruled in Natchez through 1781, and a great deal of sealing and building Spanish buildings and forcing Natchez's largely English business population to modify their lifestyle was not the order of business during their rule.

"The speakers of this region were English," Mr. Miller said. "This was a very sparsely populated area in the 18th century. Our

town in 1769 had about 100 people, a handful of a few buildings, most of them were English and American colonial buildings, up above and a few French. Their strong defining architectural character in New Orleans, but not in Natchez. The architecture of Miller and Americans loyal to England, the Texas, and the Natchez, from the East Coast colonies in America was very different. They were not in the tradition of Natchez, but they could mean a lot. They could lead, though the same time, they could mean a lot. They could lead, though the same time, they could mean a lot. They could lead, though the same time, they could mean a lot.

For instance, the Spanish hired an English architect to construct Spanish buildings. Even Manuel Gayson, Natchez's governor during Spanish rule, earned an English education and married an American woman. "We were an Anglo people under Spanish rule," he said.

The Spanish never required Natchez's settlers to attend the Catholic Church or conduct business transactions in Spanish. Spain never forced its native language on Natchezians. Mr. Miller said life remained very much English during this time. And one of Spain's finer contributions, he said, was indeed its gentle style of rule in Natchez.

The Spaniards who ruled in Natchez also laid out what Miller

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Miller, an architectural historian with the Historic Natchez Foundation and Mr. Miller's wife. Those structures, she said, were not as fine as Texada. "As people got more and more money, people began to tear down and build up," Mrs. Miller said. "You tend to preserve your finest architecture, not your run-of-the-mill buildings."

Manuel Texada built the home in the traditional style of a Spanish middle-class, urban family home, Mr. Miller said, with a central passageway through the house leading from the street to the rear courtyard. Mr. Miller said the home's "blocky," square appearance and

the fact that it lines up with public sidewalks is very typical of how Spanish homeowners of modest wealth had their homes constructed.

While a Spaniard built Texada, it is not the same type of Spanish building one would find in Mexico or Peru, for example. "If you have a French colony, the people who live in that country are not going to be as fashionably dressed as people are in the mother colony. And the same goes for architecture," Mr. Miller said. "So you would not expect to find an elaborate, highly styled building in a remote outpost built for a man who was not wealthy." Mr. Miller said the architecture of cultural and arts centers in Spanish-speaking countries can be very ornate, but do not have to be, depending on the time and place in which the building was constructed.

The Millers said they are surprised King's Tavern survived through the years. "It was not a fancy building. It was a plain building that was a family home for years," Mrs. Miller said. And it survived, they said, because Natchezians have recognized the structure as the oldest building in town as early as the Civil War.

The architectural heritage of Spanish Natchez will be Mr. Miller's topic of discussion during the Natchez Literary Celebration.

"I will talk about what we have inherited from Natchez under Spanish rule and will look at each building and describe the architecture and what has been its influence in Natchez."

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'Spain Comes to Natchez' June 4-6

Natchez, Miss., will host its third annual Natchez Literary Celebration June 4-6, focusing this year on "Spain Comes to Natchez," a commemoration of Columbus' arrival in the New World 500 years ago.

A full schedule of lectures by nationally known historians, as well as tours of homes, re-enactments of Spanish military regiments and other events is planned for each day.

June 4 speakers will include Lewis Lord, writer and editor for *U.S. News and World Report*, "The Ante-antebellum Era: Natchez Before Its First Visitors;" Robert V. Haynes, vice president for academic affairs, Western Kentucky University, "Natchez and the American Revolution;" Jack D. Elliott Jr., Department of Archives and History, Mississippi State University, "La Ciudad de Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town;" Ronald W. Miller, executive director, The Historic Natchez Foundation, "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez;" and Robert V. Remini, professor of history at the University of Illinois, "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."

June 5 speakers will be Ronald L.F. Davis, history professor at California State University in Northridge, "African-Americans in 18th-Century Natchez;" Vernon Emile Smith, bureau chief of *Newsweek*, "Ibrahima and Other African-Americans: Notes from a Native Son;" and G. Douglas Inglis, Seville, Spain, "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez."

On June 6, speakers will be Michael V. Namorato, associate professor of history, The University of Mississippi, "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez;" and William S. Coker, history professor, University of West Florida, "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin and Other Leaders of Natchez's Fledgling Planter Society."

Betsy McWilliams, storyteller and Hispanic folklorist, Cleveland, Ohio, will give a presentation on "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez" on June 5 and "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez" on June 6.

June 6 at 7 p.m., a seated dinner is

READINGS AND WRITINGS

planned in a facsimile garden of the 18th-century Natchez Mansion Concord, home of Spanish Gov. Stephen Minor.

Total cost of all lectures, coffee parties, house tours, luncheon and sherry party on June 4, tour and dinner on June 5, cocktails and dinner on June 6 and all printed materials is \$80. Partial packages are available for each day. For a reservation and ticket form, call 1-800-647-6724.

Natchez

May 24, 1992

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The Miss-Lou

Natchez joins in celebration of America's Spanish heritage

This year the National Park Service joins in a nationwide celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's "discovery" of the New World. This event unfolded in an age of far-reaching exploration and discovery which brought about profound change in the existing world order as cultures of the Old World encountered those of the new.

The National Park System is well suited to celebrate the Columbus Quincentennial. Some three dozen national parklands represent America's Hispanic heritage in some fashion. These parks, designated Columbus Quincentennial Parks, will be offering visitors a variety of programs on Spain's role in shaping this nation.

On June 4-6, the Natchez National Historical Park and Copiah-



Stuart
Johnson

National Park
Superintendent

Lincoln Community College will hold the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration. The Natchez Trace Parkway is also a co-sponsor. In honor of the Columbus Quincentennial, this year's celebration, "Spain Comes to Natchez," will focus on the Spanish heritage of Natchez and will feature lectures, tours, entertainments and special events saluting the Spanish era in Natchez, 1779-1798.

Spain gained control of Natchez

in 1779 as a result of a successful campaign led by Bernardo de Galvez, governor of Spanish Louisiana, to wrest West Florida from Great Britain. Spanish troops under Captain Juan de la Villebevre accepted the surrender of Fort Panzacola (formerly Fort Rosalie) from Captain Foster in the fall of that year. The Spanish viewed the Natchez District as an important Spanish-controlled lands to the west. Natchez remained under Spanish control until 1798 when it passed into American hands as the first capital of the Mississippi Territory.

Spanish rule was conducive to growth and prosperity, and Natchez began a process of transformation from a frontier river landing and military post to a prosperous port and thriving community. Cotton, which became the lifeblood of

Natchez during the antebellum era, became the dominant cash crop during the latter years of Spanish rule. Also under Spanish rule, Natchez On-Top-of-the-Hill was surveyed and lots were laid out for sale and development, thus forming the basis for the development that was to occur in ensuing decades. Manuel Luis Ojeyero de Lermon, Governor of the Natchez District from 1789 to 1798, was the most influential of the Spanish commanders and governors, and much of the progress enjoyed by Natchez during this period can be attributed to him.

Spanish soldiers will once again be part of the Natchez Landscape on Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7. The Melrose estate, one of the properties managed as part of the Natchez National Historical Park, will be the site of an living

history encampment depicting military life as it would have been in Spanish Louisiana during the 1779-1798 period. Military drill and firing demonstrations will be conducted on both Saturday and Sunday. Each program will last approximately 30-45 minutes. Visitors will be able to view camp life and talk with soldiers throughout the day.

Other special programs for the weekend include free ranger-guided walking tours discussing the Spanish legacy of Natchez. How did Natchez change under Spanish

rule? Did profound physical and political changes occur in the Natchez District during this period? These and other issues will be explored on Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7, during 30-minute tours conducted at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.

In addition, on June 6 from 1 to 5 p.m., free tours of the antebellum house Melrose will be offered. The Melrose Estate is located at 1 Melrose-Montebello Parkway and can be reached from U.S. 51 and Sergeant Preston Drive.

ARTS & LEISURE

THE CLARION-LEDGER ■ JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Spanish rule brought order to old Natchez

By Linda Temple
Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Natchez had existed in squalor for more than 60 years by the time the Spanish took control in 1779.

The river settlement was founded by the French as a military garrison in 1716 and it weathered attacks from without and within for nearly 50 years. The British, victorious over France in Europe's bloody Seven Years' War, inherited the town in 1763 as a spoil of battle.

Sixteen years later, Spaniards already prospering in neighboring Louisiana offered aid to the American Revolutionaries in hopes of a British defeat. In 1779, Spain expelled the beleaguered British from Natchez and claimed it as its own.

Almost immediately, the military government set Natchez on the course that would change it from a crude frontier settlement into a thriving river town.

The order and resolve of their new Spanish leaders inspired the admiration of the tobacco growers, who were guaranteed premium prices for their crops, in cash. The town prospered.

Within 10 years, Natchez had been elevated by Spain from a military outpost to a district government. Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, an English-educated career army officer and diplomat, was named the first district governor of Natchez in 1789.

Agriculture and commerce thrived, and the construction of magnificent homes on sprawling estates at the edge of town reflected the city's prosperity during this period.

The Spanish acquired prime land on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River and midway through Gayoso's tenure, a city district seven blocks long and five blocks deep was established — the same plan that would influence the growth of Natchez for the next 200 years.

The Treaty of 1795 between the United States and Spain brought Natchez into U.S. territory, but the Spanish refused to relinquish their river city.

Surveyor Andrew Ellicott and a small army escort were dispatched by the fledgling U.S. government in 1797 with orders to send the Spanish packing. Gayoso engaged Ellicott in a political sparring match that lasted for months, while Natchez, split into factions, fell into disarray.

The once-solid relationship the Spanish enjoyed with the influential businessmen of Natchez disintegrated. Gayoso's hold on Natchez weakened until in 1798, after scarcely two decades, the town slipped ingloriously from Spanish grasp.

PUZZLES — 2

BOOKS — 3

WINE — 5

F

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 1992

The Natchez Literary Celebration will examine the contributions of African-Americans to 18th-century Natchez.

Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis of California State University in Northridge, Calif., is chronicling the black experience in this country for the National Park Service. He'll speak at 9 a.m. Friday at the Eola Hotel.

"I hope to fit the African-American experience in Spanish Natchez into a larger contextual framework," he said.

Slaves in Natchez provided the labor to operate the tobacco factories, Davis said. Evidence also suggests slaves were captured by or voluntarily joined area Indians, fighting with them against the French.

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June comes in with Spanish flavor



Samuel E. Smith



John Lewis



Louis Larré



St. Martin



S. Higgins



William Steiner



Samuel Davis



Douglas Eyles



St. Martin



William O'Leary



Robert Higgins



Robert Steiner

June 1910

1910
By Grant
page 1

Want to know what it was like when Spain ruled Natchez 200 years ago?

During the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration June 4-6 you can see for yourself by visiting numerous homes and buildings in existence during Natchez's Spanish reign, 1779-1798.

Four houses to be opened to the public are clustered in Natchez's Old Spanish Quarter, corner of Wall and Washington streets. They are Texada, Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McComas House and Holly Hedges.

Three other Spanish-era houses to be opened are King's Tavern, 619 Jefferson St.; Hope Farm, 147 Homochitto St.; and The House on Ellicott Hill, 200 North Canal St.

Throughout the three-day event, prominent lecturers will weave stories about the Spanish era in Natchez into the related tours, entertainments and meals.

Lecturers include Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess of Natchez, who will help bring to life some important events in Spanish Natchez. Her program will be accompanied by music from the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble.

Serving as director of proceedings throughout the celebration will be William Winter, former governor of Mississippi and president of the board of trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Other lecturers are Lewis Lord, an editor with U.S. News & World Report, Robert V. Haynes of Western Kentucky University, Jack Elliott, an archaeologist with the Department of Archives, Ronald W. Miller, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation, and Robert Remini of the University of Illinois.

Also, Ronald Davis of California State University, Vernon E. Smith of Newsweek magazine, Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain, Betsy McWilliams, a Cleveland, Ohio, storyteller, Michael Namorato of the University of Mississippi, and William S. Coker of the University of West Florida.

The Spanish Quarter tour, which costs \$15 per person, will take place Thursday, June 4, from 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Tickets are available for the tour and all other Literary Celebration events by calling (601) 442-7341, (601) 442-9111 or 1-800-647-6724 or by writing P. O. Box 894, Natchez, Miss. 39121.

Spanish sherry and other refreshments will be served during the tour at Texada. Guests of honor will be the Consul General of Spain, Pablo Sanchez-Teran, and officers of The First Families of Mississippi Inc., a genealogical group celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

"Texada is a large brick building with a steeply pitched roof so distinctive that it is easily identified in John James Audubon's 1822 landscape of Natchez," said Miami Miller, architectural historian with the

Historic Natchez Foundation.

"Manuel Texada's house was the first brick building in town," she said. Sometime after 1798, Manuel Texada operated the American Eagle Tavern on the premises.

Today Texada is home to George and Margaret Moss.

Gov. Holmes House was built before 1796, when it was sold to master saddler Daniel Douglass. "Its Spanish origins are evident in an upstairs bedroom, which retains its original early millwork," Miller said.

"Like the Griffith-McComas House, the Gov. Holmes House may have been jacked up for the later construction of a brick first story," she said.

The house's name comes from its association with David Holmes, the last governor of the Mississippi Territory and the first governor of the state of Mississippi, when it became a state in 1817.

Today, Gov. Holmes House is owned by Robert Pully, Hermann Stenz and Rivet Hedderel.

The Griffith-McComas House was built between 1793-1796 with a first-story entrance "beautifully elaborated with a Federal-style elliptical fanlight, sidelights and four slender columns," Miller said. An outside staircase on the front gallery leads to the second floor.

The house is named after the Griffith and McComas families, who owned the house in the 19th century. Today it is the home of Shirley Petkovsek and her family.

Holly Hedges may be the same house built by 1796 when John Scott was granted the property "with the stipulation that he allow no ball fighting in the side yard," Miller said.

Close to the sidewalk, "Holly Hedges is entered through a Federal style doorway with an elliptical fanlight and sidelights decorated with hollow-sided diamonds,"



TO MAKE MUSIC: The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble

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JUNE EVENTS



■ Current events of statewide interest compiled by the Mississippi Department of Economic Development, Tourism Division, and other sources. We suggest you call to confirm times and dates, since some events may be subject to change.

□ **STATEWIDE:** June is Hospitality Month, special activities at Welcome Centers, 1-800-647-2290

□ **NATCHEZ:** June 1-7, Elderhostel Program, week-long studies of Natchez history with lectures, tours & special events, hotel-based conference, 442-9111

□ **MERIDIAN:** June 3-13, National Fishing Week, Meridian Fish Hatchery, Hwy. 11 South, 483-1362

□ **NATCHEZ:** June 4-6, a conference featuring lectures, tours, entertainment on the theme, "Spain comes to Natchez," 1-800-647-6724

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Tourists guide to . . .

Historic

Natchez

June 1992

A monthly reader service of The Natchez Democrat

Natchez, Miss.



The Natchez Democrat's Barbara Girard Ketter

BIG PLANS: Natchez Literary Celebration chairmen Becky Nevill, Stuart Johnson and Carolyn Smith at Governor Holmes House. "Spain Comes to Natchez" in June. See story, page 4.

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he said.

It is the home today of John and Betty O'Brien.

King's Tavern, standing by 1789 and considered the oldest building in downtown Natchez, will be the scene of a luncheon June 4. A limited number of tickets are available for \$10 each or by buying the NLC's \$80 complete package.

The building has long been associated with Prosper King, who kept a tavern there in the 18th century. The property is owned by the Pilgrimage Garden Club.

Hope Farm "is probably the house purchased by Don Carlos de Grand Pre, Commandant of the Natchez District," Miller said. The one-story house consists of three rooms across, two rooms deep, and a front gallery set under a low roof.

At the rear is a two-story wing set at a right angle to the original dwelling. Today Hope Farm is the home of Ethel Banta and her family.

Tours of Hope Farm are part of the events June 6, available for all participants who pay \$80 for the full package, \$15 for the three-day lecture package or \$5 for the June 6 lecture package.

The House on Ellicott Hill was built on the hill where surveyor Andrew Ellicott in 1797 raised the American flag in defiance of Spain.

NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. *13

June 1992

Guide to historic Natchez

"The half-brick, half-timber house has many architectural features that suggest it may have been constructed by a ship builder," Miller said.

The house, owned by the Natchez Garden Club, will be the scene of a tour and cocktail reception June 6 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5, available separately or by buying the \$80 complete package.

Although Natchez had been occupied by Europeans for over half a century when the Spanish took control, its potential had not been realized under the French or the English.

Spanish rule was more conducive to growth and development and Natchez began changing from a rude frontier settlement into a thriving river town.

Under the Spanish, Natchez continued to be the military, political and commercial center of the Natchez District, which had boundaries similar to the previous French and British districts.

The Spanish considered Natchez a crucial buffer against the menace of American expansion, and they put considerable effort into building up the district and winning the loyalty of the populace.

In a major concession to colonial policy, the primarily Anglo-American residents were allowed to reside in the district without becoming Roman Catholics if they would swear their allegiance to Spain.

During the early years of their rule, the Spanish also guaranteed cash payments and premium prices for tobacco, the area's principal cash crop.

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*Especially for alumni, friends, faculty, staff, students
of Copiah-Lincoln Community College*

June 4-6

'Spain comes to Natchez... 1492-1992'

By BECKIE M. JOHNSON, Natchez Campus

¿Cómo se dice "Literary Celebration" en Español?

Easy.

"Fantástico! Maravilloso! Increíble!"

All of the above adjectives apply to the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration, according to NLC co-chairman Stuart Johnson of the Natchez National Historical Park.

Theme for the conference is "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992."

"Distinguished lecturers from across the United States and from Spain will explore the Spanish connection in Natchez from DeSoto to Gayoso, from antebellum to anti-pollution, from Ibrahima to Andrew Jackson," Johnson said.

"The story of the Spanish in Natchez, from 1779-1796, may be short-lived and little known, but it is a fascinating chapter in American history.

"It is particularly appropriate since the theme this year as America celebrates the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the New World."

Lectures at the conference begin June 4 at 9 a.m. when Natchez native Lewis Lord, editor and writer for *U.S. News & World Report* in Washington, D.C., presents "The Ante-Antebellum Era: Natchez Before Its First Visitors."

Focusing on the Natchez Indians, Lord will present evidence that DeSoto in the 1540s encountered the Natchez Indians.

Dr. Robert V. Haynes, vice president for academic affairs at Western Kentucky University and author of numerous books and articles, will then speak on "Natchez and the American Revolution."

Haynes will discuss how early Natchez settlers showed little interest in the American Revolution but were eventually brought into the war and came under Spanish rule.

Next lecturer on June 4 will be Jack Elliott, historical archaeologist, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Widely recognized as an expert on early Natchez, Elliott will discuss "La Ciudad de Natchez: The Spanish Origins of a Mississippi River Town."

Under Spanish rule, Natchez was transformed from frontier territory into a city.

At 3:30 p.m. June 4 Ronald W. Miller, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation, will speak on "The Architectural Heritage of Spanish Natchez." His comments will precede a tour of Spanish houses in Natchez.

The afternoon will conclude with

award-winning author and historian Dr. Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois, Chicago. His topic is "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."

His lecture is based on research of Natchez records at the archives in Seville, Spain, with particular reference to the mystery surrounding the marriage of Jackson and Rachel Robards near Natchez.

Lectures on June 5 begin at 9 a.m. when Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis of California State University - Northridge, speaks on "African-Americans in 18th-century Natchez."

His comments will focus on the origins and character of slavery in the colonial era.

The African-American theme will continue when Vernon Emile Smith, a Natchez native who is bureau chief for *Newsweek* in Atlanta, speaks on "Ibrahima and Other African-Americans: Notes from a Native Son."

He will tell of his personal research into the story of Ibrahima, an African prince sold into slavery in Natchez.

The afternoon of June 5 will feature Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain, who will present "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez." He will chronicle the famous and the infamous in Natchez from 1780-1800.

Following an evening reception and dinner at Stanton Hall and the Carriage House Restaurant, Betsy McWilliams of Columbus, Ohio, will present "Tales of

Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez."

An internationally known storyteller with a reputation for Hispanic lore, McWilliams' tales for children will be featured June 6 at 1 p.m. at the Armstrong Library.

Lectures on Saturday, June 6, will begin at 9 a.m. when Dr. Michael V. Namorato will discuss "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez." Namorato is associate professor of history at The University of Mississippi.

Next will be Dr. William S. Coker, chairman of the history department, University of West Florida, Pensacola, whose talk is "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin, and Other Leaders of Natchez's Fledgling Planter Society."

Spain encouraged Anglo-Americans to come to Natchez, attracting them through liberal land grants. These properties were fashioned into large plantations which became the basic economic



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: William Winter, left, president of the board of Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and award-winning historian Robert V. Remini, above, are back for the third year of the Natchez Literary Celebration. "They are perennially popular," says NLC co-chairman Stuart Johnson. Winter will serve as director of proceedings for the conference. Remini will lecture on "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."



- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Tennessee
- Natchez Trace

SOUTHLAND EXPLORER

A chronicle of events and happenings in the Gulf South Region of the USA

Volume 2, Number 6

Late Spring 1992

Third annual conference

Natchez Literary Celebration will explore city's Spanish connection

**by George & Rosalie Leposky
Special to the Explorer**

To celebrate the quinquennial of Spanish influence in the New World, the residents of Natchez, Miss., have adopted a Spanish theme for their third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, June 4-6.

"Spain Comes to Natchez," they call it. Through a series of lectures, panel discussions and tours, celebration participants will recall the community's almost two decades of Spanish rule, from 1779 to 1798, and trace the influence of that experience on present-day Natchez.

Natchez's first European settlers were the French, who built Fort Rosalie in 1716 atop a high bluff overlooking the Mississippi

River. The English took over in 1764, administering the Natchez area as a separate colony.

By the late 1770s, most of the settlers in Natchez were Anglo-Americans. They were amazed when Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish governor of New Orleans, arrived in town one day to make them subjects of his king. Six years before, the British had redrawn the boundary of West Florida to 32 degrees, 28 minutes. This placed Natchez and Montgomery, Ala., within West Florida, which fell into Spanish hands in 1779. Thus, the Spanish controlled the last non-American government of Natchez.

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Spanish influenced Natchez history

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"The Spanish adopted the American, French and English residents of Natchez and changed their names to the closest Spanish form," said Ronald W. Miller, a literary celebration speaker who is executive director of The Historic Natchez Foundation. "Thus Charles de Grand Pre became Don Carlos de Grand Pre and John Scott, master carpenter at Fort Rosalie and a native of the British Isles, became Don Juan Scott."

Experts don't know much about the buildings believed to have been constructed in Natchez during the Spanish occupation. Miller says the Spanish

hired many local English and American workmen, including master carpenter Scott. Many Caribbean residents also moved to Natchez.

During the Spanish period, local merchants cut lumber into pre-fabricated buildings that they shipped down the Mississippi River from Natchez to the Caribbean. One of the oldest surviving structures in Natchez, King's Tavern, was a typically English prefabricated building erected in 1789.

"Early Natchez architecture was a blend of the building styles that were taking shape in the new American nation to the north, and what settlers were building in the

Caribbean," Miller says. "Ten years after the Spanish left Natchez, visitors remarked that it looked like St. Johns, Antigua."

Settlement of Natchez began at the base of the bluffs, in an area called Natchez Under the Hill which has been eroding into the Mississippi River throughout the city's history and today is practi-

Grand Pre hired Scottish scientist Sir William Dunbar in 1791 to survey Natchez and design a grid plan. Dunbar drew up a plan that is still in use. His map shows a community seven blocks long and five blocks deep, with a plaza in the town center and an esplanade or public park along the top of the bluff.

"Ten years after the Spanish left Natchez, visitors remarked that it looked like St. Johns, Antigua."

— Ronald W. Miller

Elliott opts for a third version based on his own research. "After the Spanish took over Fort Rosalie," he says, "there was a movement from military to civilian government and a capital was needed. In

1788 Grand Pre hired William Bousdan to make a survey that was never used. In 1791, Governor Manuel Gayoso de Lemos hired Jean Girault to make a land survey. Dunbar had nothing to do with the original surveys but did help to resolve problems created by inaccuracies in the 1791 survey."

Other topics of discussion at the literary celebration include:

— "The Character and Some Characters of Spanish Natchez."

— "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez" and "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghost," two stories told by a Hispanic folklorist.

— "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez." As part of the literary celebration, five homes from the Spanish period will be open for tours.

— Hope Farm, home of Commandante Don Carlos de Grand Pre. In 1789, he bought the 1775 Federalist-style home (now operated as a four-room bed-and-breakfast establishment) and added onto the front of it.

— Texada Tavern, home of

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Varied topics provide backdrop for annual Natchez literary event

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Manuel Garcia de Texada, a Castile native who was a lawyer, planter and tavernkeeper. Erected by 1789, Texada still welcomes travelers to five bed-and-breakfast rooms. "Texada probably was built as both a private home and a tavern," says current owner Margaret A. Moss. "We open it to tours during the fall pilgrimage and by appointment."

— The home of Governor David Holmes (also known as Conti House), built in 1794 by Don Lewis Favre, a surgeon in the Spanish navy. It's a two-story, 14-room brick stucco dwelling with shuttered windows, slate steps and four bed-and-breakfast rooms.

— The Griffith-McComas Home, built in a West Indian style around 1794. Its original owner was either Hugh Coyle, a tailor, or shopkeeper Leonard Pomet. The dwelling's second floor, with doors and windows irregularly placed, was originally the first floor. Early in the 19th Century it was jacked up and a Federal-style brick first floor was added below.

— Holly Hedges, built in 1796 by master carpenter Don Juan Scott in a style common to many old Natchez homes, with a short, narrow front hall separating two front rooms.

In addition, two other buildings dating from the Spanish period will attract literary celebration participants: King's Tavern, owned by the

Pilgrimage Garden Club and operated as a restaurant; and Connelly's Tavern (also called the House on Ellicott Hill), a brick and frame structure now owned by the Natchez Garden Club that was built in 1795 out of old ship timbers.

A highlight of the literary celebration this year will be "An Evening with Don Esteban," a living-history presentation that includes period music played by the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra's string ensemble. It depicts an American, Stephen Minor of Pennsylvania, hired by the Spanish to serve as their last governor in the Natchez District. Minor and his wife, Katherine, are part of a clan with over 600 living descendants in North America, including the performers and the author of the script, Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess, a Natchez historic archaeologist.

"The year is 1797," Boggess says. "Acting Governor and Mrs. Minor are hosting an official reception in the gardens of the governor's mansion."

For information on Natchez Literary Celebration events and lodging arrangements, contact the Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121-0894, phone (800) 647-6724 or (601) 442-9111. ...

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TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1992

Stories a special treat at library

The Natchez Literary Celebration and Armstrong Library will combine efforts for a glorious event for children.

The Natchez community is honored this week with the many dignitaries, speakers, visitors, and guests who will be attending the events of the Natchez Literary Celebration.

Much of the celebration is planned for adults, but one event is especially for children. On Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m., storyteller Betsy McWilliams will present Spanish folktales for elementary age children and interested adults. This event will be held at the Armstrong Library, 220 S. Commerce, and is free and open to the public.

Not only will this event be part of the Natchez Literary Celebration but it will also serve as the kick-off activity for the summer reading program at Armstrong Library.

This year's theme is "Explore New Worlds — Read" and uses as a motif the 500th



Top of the Morning

DONNA JANEKY
Natchez resident

anniversary of the Columbus exploration to the new world. Children who have turned 3 through those completing grade 6 are invited to join in the summer fun.

Registration for the program begins officially at the library on Monday, June 8. The Saturday storytelling program is an added bonus to a summer program filled with challenges, programs, and fun.

Children attending the Saturday session can

pick up the information sheets for the summer program as well as enjoy a professional storyteller along with lemonade and cookies.

Betsy McWilliams comes from Cleveland, Ohio. One of her main interests is in developing literary programs in Central America. She believes that "books can make a difference" and works to provide books and other printed materials for children.

She has traveled to more than 40 countries to collect material for her story programs. Her current focus is a repository of stories that present the rich Spanish legacy in our American culture. This interest fits well with the Natchez Literary Celebration theme of "Spain Comes To Natchez."

Plan to bring your children to this very special event on Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m. at the Armstrong Library.

Donna Janeky is director of the Judge George Armstrong Library in Natchez.

The Natchez Democrat PEOPLE

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SECTION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1992

Storyteller to join annual literary celebration

Special to The Democrat

Internationally known storyteller Betty McWilliams of Cleveland, Ohio, will present two sessions of Hispanic folklore in Natchez this coming weekend, heard her first stories at the knees of her Welsh grandfather.

"After World War II, I was one of the first American children to arrive in occupied Germany," she said.

"The magical kingdoms of the Brothers Grimm enchanted me during the years my father worked to re-establish the German potato crop for the U.S. military government."

The seeds of global awareness and

international understanding found fertile soil in the young girl's vivid imagination, and this weekend in Natchez she will return to those magical storytelling kingdoms for her presentations.

"My current focus is the rich Spanish legacy in our American culture," McWilliams said. Her repertoire of stories coincides with the 500th commemoration of Columbus' 1492 arrival in America.

McWilliams will entertain an adult audience Friday evening after dinner at the Carriage House Restaurant with a storytelling program called "Tales of Lust and Love in Spanish Natchez."

Preceding the free storytelling will be a

tour of Stanton Hall, a reception and dinner. A few tickets, which cost \$25 each, are still available. Tickets must be purchased by Thursday noon at The Natchez Bolo Hotel lobby.

McWilliams also will present stories Saturday at 1 p.m. in a free program for elementary school children at the Armstrong Library, 220 S. Commerce St.

This program is called "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez," taken in part from McWilliams' audiocassette of 10 stories from the days of Spanish conquest entitled "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts."

Both storytelling sessions are part of the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration's

"Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992." The event runs Thursday through Saturday.

A dozen lectures by international scholars and writers, several tours of Spanish-era houses and buildings, three meals, and a Spanish military re-enactment near the mansion McBratton and the storytelling sessions will follow the celebrations theme, said co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith.

"We expect a capacity audience of 400 for all the lectures at the Bolo Hotel," Smith said. "The house tours, the military re-enactment and Saturday's storytelling session for children have unlimited space, and everyone is welcomed."



McWilliams

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Natchez plans program

The theme of the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration slated for June 4-6 is "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992."

The conference, which is headquartered at the Natchez Eola Hotel, features a dozen lectures on Spanish Natchez by internationally-known scholars and writers. They will focus on such figures as DeSoto, Gayoso, Andrew Jackson, African-Americans and early planters who enabled Natchez to become one of the wealthiest cities in America.

There will be period re-enactors encamped on the Natchez bluffs and storytelling sessions, as well

as entertainment centering around the Spanish period in Natchez.

A tour of four homes in the Spanish Quarter will include Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McComas House, Holly Hedges and Texada, all built in the late 1700s.

The three-day registration fee is \$15. Those wishing to register for one day may do so for \$5 per day. Related meals, house tours and parties are priced separately, also at a low cost.

The complete package of 12 lectures, three meals, tours and entertainments will be \$80.

More information is available by calling 1-800-647-6742, 601-442-7341 or 601-442-9111.

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The Natchez Democrat

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Miss.

50 CENTS



The Natchez Democrat/Barber General Kaiser

WELCOME TO NATCHEZ: Bob Pully is always ready to welcome guests to the Governor Holmes House.

Pully welcomes guests in Old Spanish Quarter

■ Spanish storytelling, 1C
By KATE MAGANDY
The Natchez Democrat

Bob Pully has been entertaining guests almost all of his life, so "retiring" and moving to Natchez to open a bed and breakfast is right up his alley.

Pully has been in Natchez for about 18 months, living at the Governor Holmes House and running the bed and breakfast establishment there. He and two other men, Hermann Stenz and Rivet Hoddrel, own the house located in the old Spanish Quarter on Wall Street.

The house will open for a tour on Thursday as part of the opening day festivities of the third

Newsmaker

annual Natchez Literary Celebration. This year's theme is "Spain Comes to Natchez." The celebration is Thursday through Saturday and will feature lectures, lunches, dinners, and other special presentations, including the tour of the old Spanish section of Natchez.

The Governor Holmes House, along with Texada, Holly Hodges and Griffith-McCormac House, will be open from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. Pully expects about 400 people to come through on the tour. Four housewives will guide visitors through the house.

See FULLY, Page 8A

Pully

Continued from Page 1A

The house was built in 1704 for Maurice Stacpoole, who sold the house to Daniel Douglass in 1796. Jefferson Davis also was reportedly an early owner of the house.

The house is one of five, which also includes Dixie, located at the intersection of Wall and Washington streets, one of Natchez's oldest neighborhoods.

The house was later the home of Gov. David Holmes, the last Territorial governor of Mississippi and the first state governor when Mississippi gained statehood in 1817. Holmes served two terms, in 1817 and in 1826.

"This house was then probably

the center of society," Pully said.

The house has changed hands many times during its long lifetime; it was left vacant for five years before Pully, Stenz and Hoddrel bought it and opened it as a bed and breakfast.

Pully made his first visit to Natchez when Hoddrel served as king of the Krewé of Phoenix's Mardi Gras celebration in Natchez.

Pully worked for more than 30 years at the Algorquin Hotel in New York, but he doesn't miss the hassle and bustle of the big city life.

"I grew up in a small town," he said. "I like it here. It's lovely — a very quiet part of town, and people really enjoy it here. It's really different from the Victorian houses."

"The others are more opulent and quite different."

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

Festive celebration is under way today

A big welcome goes out to all the dignitaries and participants who are in Natchez for a gala weekend of lectures, social events and tours.

The third annual Natchez Literary Celebration begins today, and visitors from all over the United States have arrived to take part in the three-day event.

Congratulations to the hard-working volunteers who have put together an excellent program. And to the visitors — enjoy our beautiful city and the exciting history and arts about which you will learn much in the next couple of days.

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The Natchez Democrat

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Miss.

50 CENTS

Literary

Continued from Page 1A

The finale of the celebration promises to be an exciting one, Smith said. People will participate in a living history presentation, pretending they are guests in the home of Spanish governor, Stephen Minor.

The presentation will be led by Natchez historian Elizabeth Boggess. Boggess is a descendant of Minor's and has researched him thoroughly, Smith said.

"It's going to be a special conference," Smith said.

Some special VIP's will be at the conference, as well. The consul general of Spain will be attending, Smith said. Also the executive director of the Mississippi humanities council and the executive director of Mississippi Community Colleges will be on hand, she said.

This year marks the third anniversary of the literary celebration. The idea for the conference was born when Smith and Co-Lin dean Howell Garner attended and international conference in Texas. The conference impressed Smith so much, she wanted to hold a conference in Natchez, she said.

"Natchez is such a wonderfully rich place," she said. "The themes for conferences could be endless," Smith said.

The first literary festival theme centered around the Natchez Trace Parkway and Eudora Welty's short story "A Worn Path," which is set on the Natchez Trace, Smith said. The highlight of that conference was Welty's reading of her story, Smith said. "It was the most powerful reading," she said.

The theme of second literary celebration was the 275th anniversary of the founding of Natchez.

The birthday party on the bluff that the conference through for Natchez was the high point of that conference, Smith said.

"The literary celebration is just one more thing for Natchez to be proud of," Smith said.

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The Natchez Democrat

O PINION

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FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

Good opportunity offered at Melrose

Locals who have not had an opportunity to tour Melrose, the centerpiece of the Natchez National Historical Park, should take the opportunity to do so this weekend.

On Saturday, free tours of the mansion will be given between 1 and 5 p.m.

It is a great outing for a Saturday afternoon — see the house, visit the gardens, and also take in the living history demonstration that will be offered twice during the afternoon as part of the “Spain Comes to Natchez” literary celebration theme.

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Literary festival opens weekend

Friday, June 5, 1992

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss. •7A

Lord finds a colorful history in legacy of Natchez Indians

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

Natchez is taking its rightful place as one of the true cultural centers of the region Natchez Literary Celebration participants were told Thursday morning.

But former Natchez resident Lewis Lord said Natchez has been a cultural center much longer than most might think.

Lord, assistant managing editor of "U.S. News and World Reports," gave people a glimpse of the American Indian culture in Natchez before any Europeans

came to America during the first presentation of the conference.

In his presentation, "The Antebellum Era: Natchez Before Its First Visitors," Lord focused on the Natchez Indians and their contact with the Spanish and French explorers.

The Natchez Indians have been described as one of the grandest, most civilized Indian nations on the North American continent, Lewis said.

"They were the last of the mound builders," he said. Many

See LORD, Page 8A

Lord

Continued from Page 1A

of their mounds still exist around Natchez.

The mound builders held other American Indians and Europeans in awe, Lewis said.

And, there are many similarities between the Natchez Indians and the Aztecs and Mayans of South America. So many, in fact, that many people thought that the Natchez were related to them, he said. It was later discovered that the Natchez were related to older mound builders near St. Louis.

The Natchez Indians and the French settlers lived in relative har-

mony for a long time, Lewis said, and LaSalle even smoked a peace pipe with the Natchez when he explored Louisiana.

Unfortunately, in the late 1700s, the Natchez Indians were annihilated by French settlers in retaliation for the Natchez massacre of the French, Lewis said.

Lewis first researched American Indians last year for a "U.S. News and World Reports" cover story about Columbus' voyage to the new world, he said.

"I found out their was no such thing as a dull Indian tribe," he said.

He researched the Natchez Indians when he was asked to speak at the literary celebration. "I found it very fascinating," he said.

The conference participants were mesmerized by Lewis' presentation. "I really loved it; I didn't know much about the Natchez Indians before this," said Jerry Olsen of Prescott, Ariz.

Amanda Taylor, director of libraries for Concordia Parish, said the lecture gave her more understanding about the Natchez Indians. Taylor said that there is plenty of local interest in the Natchez. "A lot of people come into the library wanting to know about the Natchez Indians," she said.

Lewis has firm roots in Natchez. He grew up in Natchez; his family moved here when he was 9, and his parents now live on Lake St. John in Concordia Parish.

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The Natchez

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Democrat

Natchez, Miss.

50 CENTS

Robert Remini shares his tales of Andrew Jackson's exploits

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

An overflow crowd at the Natchez Literary Celebration was treated to the exploits of Andrew Jackson Thursday night.

In the ballroom of The Natchez Eola Hotel, Robert Remini held the audience spellbound as he gave his presentation "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."

The lecture capped off the first day of the celebration. "It's exceeded our expectations," said Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman of the celebration.

"The celebration gets just a little better each year," added Billy Thames, president of Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Jackson had quite a history in Natchez, according to Remini. Letters and records that Remini uncovered in Seville indicate that Jackson traded and even owned property around Natchez, he said.

"The Spanish are marvelous at keeping records," Remini said.

Jackson supposedly was married in Natchez, however, no records can be found to substantiate.

See REMINI, Page 8A

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Remini

Continued from Page 1A

ate that, he said. Whether or not Jackson married Rachel Donaldson for the first time in Natchez is quite a historical controversy.

At least some of the conference participants think that Jackson did indeed marry Donaldson even if there are no records.

"Jackson won't have said he married her if he didn't," said Mrs. Lawrence Long of Yazoo City.

No one doubts that Jackson loved Donaldson very much, Remini said. "He never went to bed without looking at her picture which he car-

ried" next to his heart, Remini said. Jackson also loved his country and hated the Spanish and the British. "Jackson said 'I wish to see them all in the ditch,'" Remini said.

The tales of Jackson are still pertinent to today's political scene, Remini said, adding that Ross Perot reminds him a little of Jackson.

"They both came out of nowhere." Other politicians today could take a few lessons from Jackson as well, Remini said. "Jackson was had a vision; what we need to day are statesmen with vision," he said.

Remini has spoken at all three literary celebrations. He became interested in Jackson when he was

doing his doctoral dissertation on Martin Van Buren.

"The more I got to know about Jackson, the more I knew I wanted to write a biography on him and then come back to Van Buren," he said. From there, the antebellum and Jacksonian Era became Remini's specialty.

Remini was forced to leave the first celebration because of a death in his family. At the second celebration, Remini had to leave to give a presentation to President Bush at the White House.

This year, Remini has to leave to speak in Kentucky. "I love (Natchez), I'm sorry I never get to spend a lot of time here," he said.

MISSISSIPPI

Quincentennial Celebration
Natchez, June 4-6 (contact
Natchez Literary Celebration,
P.O. Box 894, Natchez 39121-
0894).

Summer Festival Byhalia,
Hillside Farms, June 4-6.

Arts and Crafts Shows
Clarksdale, Commerce Plaza,
June 4-6; Crystal Springs,
downtown, June 6.

Oleput Festival Tupelo,
downtown, June 5-6.

Mississippi Broiler Festival
Forest, Gaddis Recreational
Park, June 6.

Ole Brook Festival Brook-
haven, elementary school cam-
pus, June 6.

**Shrimp Festival and Bless-
ing of the Fleet** Biloxi, Point
Cadet Plaza and Small Crafts
Harbor, June 6-7.

Vicksburg Theatre Guild
Presentation *Gold in the Hills*
Vicksburg, Parkside Playhouse,
June 25-27, July 1-4, 9-11.

**International Balloon Clas-
sic** Greenwood, high school and
Whittington Park, June 25-28.

Mid Delta Arts Association
Presentation *Oklahoma!* Indi-
anola, Little Theater Building,
June 25-July 1.

Southern Living

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Bonus: More Than 20 Recipes Low in Fat

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AROUND MISSISSIPPI

NATCHEZ

Editor: City endowed with culture

Former Natchez resident Lewis Lord, now assistant managing editor of *U.S. News and World Report*, said Thursday the Mississippi River city is taking its place as a cultural center of the region.

Lord spoke to participants in the Natchez Literary Celebration on the American Indian culture in Natchez before any Europeans came to America. The Natchez Indians have been described as one of the grandest, most civilized Indian nations on the North American continent, Lord said.

Saturday, June 6, 1992 ■ The Clarion-Ledger ■ 5B

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The Miss-Lou

Spanish 'soldiers' to camp again at Melrose

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

The Spanish will occupy Natchez again this weekend and they will be camped at Melrose. But there's no need to call in the National Guard.

It's not an invasion; it's living history and a part of the Natchez Literary Festival.

A Spanish military re-enactment will treat visitors to a glimpse of what life was like for a troops guarding the frontier from 1779-98, said Gerry Gaumer, a Natchez National Historical Park ranger.

Groups from Jean Laffite Historical Park in New Orleans and from Pennsylvania will be putting on the re-enactment.

The actors are spending the weekend camped behind Melrose, the park's estate, and they will be living the Spanish soldiers experience, Gaumer said.

"It's a very valid interpretive program," Gaumer said. The public is invited to come and see the re-enactment free of charge.

See MELROSE, Page 4A

Literary festival speaker to be honored at reception

The Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture has invited the public to a reception for Vernon Emile Smith from 8 to 9 p.m. today.

The reception will be held at the Natchez Museum of Afro-American History and Culture, 307-A Market St.

Smith, a Natchez native, is bureau chief for *Newsweek* magazine in Atlanta. He is the author of several books and he won the 1981 National Magazine Award for his article, "Charlie Co."

He was one of the featured speakers this week at the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

In addition to the reception, people visiting the museum this weekend will enjoy the opening of "Sacred Space: Photographs from the Mississippi Delta," a traveling exhibit on loan from the Mississippi Department of Archives.

The exhibit will be on show in Natchez through July 31. The museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Melrose

Continued from Page 1A

The actors will be eating, sleeping and drilling as if they were real Spanish soldiers guarding Natchez, Gaumer said.

"Everything is authentic as possible," Gaumer said. Soldiers will be using flint-lock muskets, wearing the wool uniforms and eating with the same type of utensils the Spanish soldiers would, he said.

The Spanish camp will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

There will be military drill demonstrations at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. today and Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tours of Melrose will be free both Saturday and Sunday.

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Literary fest to end with a flourish

Living history presentation
aims to recreate Natchez
as it was under Spanish rule

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

The Natchez Literary Celebration will end with a flourish tonight as organizers present "An Evening Don Estaban" at the Natchez City Auditorium.

The living history presentation begins at 8:00 p.m. "For this presentation, actors will impersonate Stephen Minor (one of the Spanish Governors of Natchez) and his wife, who will be acting as hosts at Concord for a garden party," said Elizabeth Boggess, who helped organize the presentation and will play Mrs. Minor.

In the skit, they will relate the Minor's personal histories, Boggess said. They also will present some of the flavor of Spanish Natchez through political and humorous anecdotes of the time.

"We want to give people a sense of being in Natchez in the Spanish period," Boggess said. The Mississippi Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble will open the evening with a concert of period music.

Before the program, guests will be asked to step back in time as they come to a dinner at Concord—or at least a recreation of the 18th-century Natchez mansion home of Spanish governor Stephen Minor. For this, the city auditorium has been decorated to resemble the gardens around Concord, which since has been destroyed by fire.

The dinner and program do require a \$20 ticket, and more information on tickets is available at the registration table at The Natchez Eola Hotel.

Everything for the evening has been painstakingly researched, Boggess said. "Everything has been carefully researched so they can be as correct as its possible to make them."

At the presentation, many descendants of the Minors will be present, including Boggess herself.

See LITERARY, Page 4A

Literary

Continued from Page 1A

As a professional archaeologist, Boggess said she is constantly running into Minor and his descendents when she does her research on land use around Natchez.

"Stephen Minor owned land all of Southwest Mississippi and Concordia Parish and other parts of Louisiana," she said.

Boggess said she ran into Minor in her personal life as well. Shortly after her marriage to her late husband, he figured out that he was a descendant of Stephen Minor's uncle, she said.

"My son is descended from Lincott-Minor's on both sides," she said.

Boggess said she has high hopes for the presentation. "I hope they consider it a complete immersion in 1797 Natchez.

For anyone wanting to learn more about the Spanish period in Natchez, today is the last chance to attend the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration's events.

Registration is from 8 a.m. to noon in the lobby of the Eola, and the day will include three special

events:

■ At 9 a.m., Michael V. Namorato, associate professor of history at the University of Mississippi, will speak on "Catholicism in Mississippi: An Enduring Legacy of Spanish Natchez";

■ At 10:30 a.m. William S. Coker, professor and chairman of the department of history at the University of West Florida, will speak on "Great Beginnings: Gayoso, Bruin, and Other Leaders of Natchez's Fledgling Planter Society";

■ And at 1 p.m., Besty McWilliams will offer a free storytelling presentation at the Armstrong Library entitled "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez."

Other activities throughout the day include tours of the Mansion Melrose (free and open to the public); tours of Tours of Hope Farm, former home of the Spanish governor Don Carlos de Grand Pre; and tours of House on Elliot Hill, with cocktails (\$5 ticket required)

A re-enactment of Spanish and other military regiments behind Melrose, which is free and open to the public, begins today.

Anyone wanting more information about tickets to the lectures or other events may come by the Eola hotel.

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The Natchez Democrat

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Lou

Natchez, Miss.

50 CENTS



The Natchez Democrat/Barbara Gerard Kaiser

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE: Natchez archaeologist Beth Boggess, a descendant of Stephen Minor, will present a living history program tonight as the finale of the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

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Melrose visitors travel back to time of Spanish

■ What the people say, 5A.
By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

The little boy clamped his hands over his ears as the Spanish militiaman prepared his musket.

"Fuego," yelled the lieutenant, and the muskets responded, spewing fire, smoke and a deafening roar.

Some 500 people watched the military demonstrations Saturday as the Natchez National Park went back in time this weekend. The militia drill is part of a weekend reencampment and living history program at the Melrose estate.

The event, offered in conjunction with the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, has drawn interest from throughout the area. "There's been a steady stream of visitors all day," said Stuart Johnson, park ranger.

The living history demonstration was put on by two groups in conjunction with

the third annual celebration, "Spain Comes to Natchez." The celebration ended its lecture series on Saturday, but the reencampment and military drills will continue today.

The reencampment is designed to give visitors of glimpse into the past. "There's only so much you can learn in history books; You have to watch it or do it yourself to understand," said Bruce Egili, the lieutenant.

Egili is part of a Pennsylvania group participating in the Melrose camp. The group usually participates in reencampments every other weekend in the summer. "We usually don't drive all the way to Mississippi though," he said.

The second group participating this weekend had a shorter drive since its members usually do reenactments at Jean Lafitte National Park, near New Orleans.

The New Orleans group usually per-
See MELROSE, Page 8A

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Melrose

Continued from Page 1A

forms at Jean Lafitte twice a month and also travels to Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, as well as other Louisiana towns, said Ron Merrill, who is in charge of the Louisiana group.

This reencampment was a particular challenge to the Louisiana group because all the drill commands were given in Spanish.

"We haven't done drills in Spanish," Merrill said.

But for the men putting on the reencampment, living history is a hobby. "Some people golf, we do this," Egili said.

The visitors also were treated to a glimpse of camp life from the men

and women who had set up a camp behind Melrose. In one area, two chickens suspended by a rope over a fire roasted while the men got ready for the next drill demonstration.

The re-actors will live in the camp just as the militia members did in the late 1700s when the Spaniards were in Natchez. The events continue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

There will be military drill demonstrations at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. today. Tours of Melrose will be free today, and the house will be from 1 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, June 7, 1992



The Natchez Democrat/Barbara Genard Kaiser

THE REAL THING: George Jones of New Orleans shows off his 'kinni kinnick,' the type of tobacco used by the Spanish for pipe smoking.

What the people say

"What brings you to Natchez and the Natchez Literary Celebration and what do you think of the celebration so far?"

Natchez Democrat reporter Michaela Gibson and photographer Barbara Gerard Kaiser talked to people at the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration this week.



"We're here because my husband is a presenter. We just wanted to see Natchez and go to the conference."

— Karen Namorato
Oxford



"We are with an Elderhostel. The first two days, we spent going around seeing Natchez and then we came to the literary celebration. I didn't know what to expect. I've really enjoyed the speakers, especially the humorous ones."

— Edna Teneboehn
St. Louis



"I find it very interesting. I've come every year. Also my mother lives here. It's very good. This provided a springboard for research on the Natchez area for people all around the country."

— Beverly B. Wiemer
Houston, Texas



"I was interested in the lectures on the slave era in Natchez and the talk by Mr. (Vern) Smith because he is a native Natchezian. It could be informative in helping people to understand each other in an historical context."

— Brenda Scott
Natchez



"I came to hear Dr. (G. Douglas) Inglis speak and to poke around Natchez to see if I can find any interesting railroad stuff."

— Philip Hoffman
Baton Rouge, La.

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The Natchez Democrat

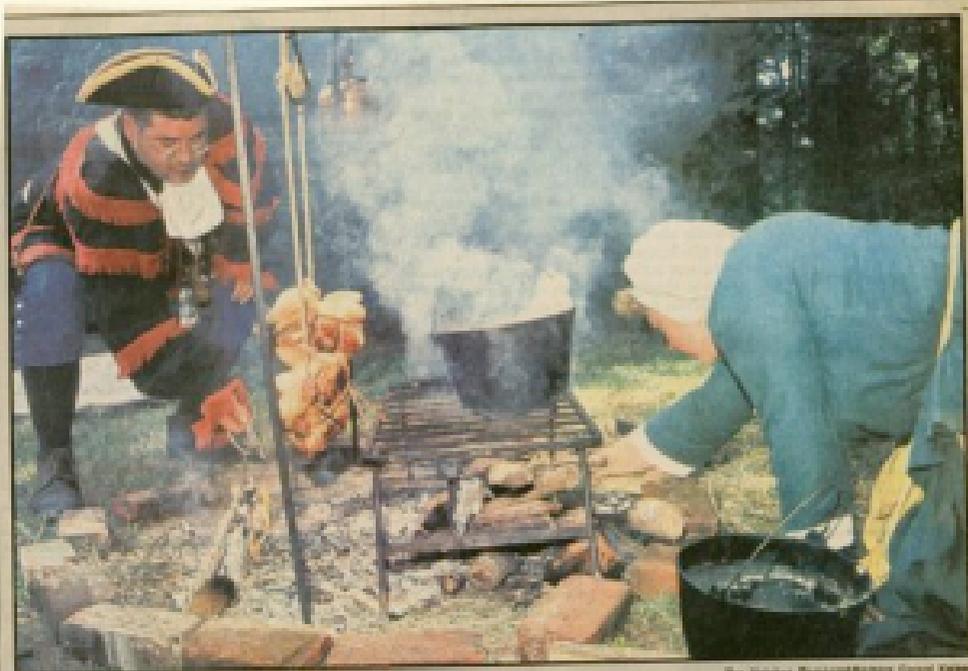
SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Low

Natchez, Miss.

\$1.25

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The Natchez Democrat/Editors: Carol Kaler

THE WAY IT WAS: David Smith of Chalmette, La., and Kris Egils of Salem, Ohio, prepare a meal the way the Spanish did nearly 200 years ago when they occupied Natchez. The two are taking part in re-encampment activities this weekend at the Malross estate as part of the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

The Natchez Democrat

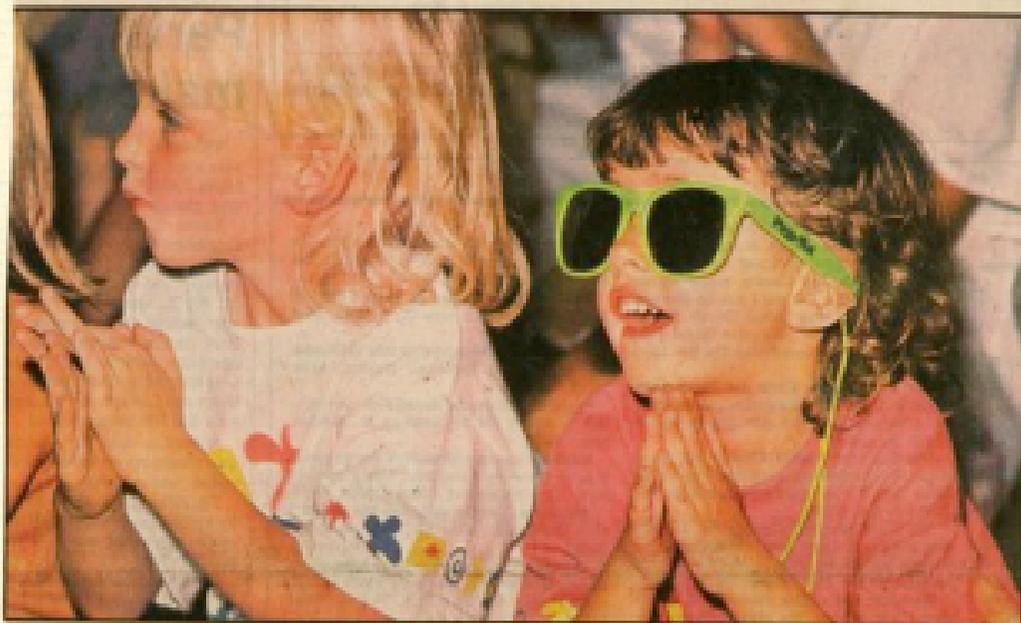
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1992

Serving Natchez, Vidalia and the Miss-Los

Natchez, Miss.

50 CENTS

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CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE: Kira Anderson, 8, and her sister, 4-year-old Krystle, are captivated by the tales of Spanish gold and "hoops" spun by storyteller Betty McWilliams on Saturday. The session was part of the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

The Natchez Democrat/Bureau News Photo

McWilliams spins captivating tales of Spanish gold, ghosts

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

Storyteller Betsy McWilliams captivated children of all ages Saturday afternoon at the Armstrong Library.

The session was part of the Natchez Literary Celebration, and for the afternoon McWilliams held the audience spellbound with stories of Columbus' first Christmas in the New World, De Soto's ghost, and even the story of a Natchez ghost.

McWilliams, who is from Cleveland, Ohio, made her stories come to life with expressive gestures and voices. "My words connect with the pictures in their heads and that's when the story happens," she said.

The audience was quite impressed. Kellen Jex, 9, said he liked how McWilliams told the stories. "It was great," he said.

The audience also was treated to a Thai story about a hunter who tries to kill a bird by cutting it into a hundred pieces and throwing it into the river. The pieces each become a bird.

At the end of the story the hunter realizes his folly. "I can't kill you because you're the freedom bird," he cries.

McWilliams said she usually ends with the freedom bird story. "It has an uplifting message, that's why I almost always end with it."

The freedom bird story was 10-year-old Kendall Johnson's favorite. "It was funny and interesting," she said.

Parents enjoyed the presentation as well. "It was really good and she kept the attention of the children the entire time," said Michele Anderson.

See TALES, Page 8A

Tales

Continued from Page 1A

Anderson said her daughter particularly enjoyed the stories. "She'll probably go home telling her grandmother these stories."

McWilliams said wants the children to tell the stories and find stories of their own. "A story lives when it is told," she said to them.

McWilliams said she loves storytelling. "There's nothing in the whole wide world that I would rather do."

McWilliams has recorded a tape

of Spanish-American stories called "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts," and she said researching stories for that tape opened her eyes to the rich Spanish legacy in the United States. "It opened a window on my own country for me."

The Armstrong Library will be opening the world for Natchez children this summer through their summer reading program, "Explore the World: Read."

Registration started Monday and the program and will continue for eight weeks, Janky said. The program is open to 3-year-olds through sixth-graders.

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The Natchez Democrat/Barbara Gerard Kaiser

SHARING HER ART: Storyteller Betsy McWilliams is at work sharing her stories.

Successful tradition continues

Organizers say third annual literary fest was the best yet

By MIKE HERNDON
The Natchez Democrat

A large crowd, top-notch lecturers and community involvement combined to make the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration a rousing success, organizers said.

"We had a much larger crowd than we anticipated," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez campus, co-chairperson of the event. Smith estimated approximately 800 people attended the lectures, house tours and storytelling sessions. The event was held Thursday through Saturday of last week.

Stuart Johnson, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park, estimated that 1,200 people visited the Melrose estate during the event and 600-700 were present at the military re-enactment, although he said many of the respective numbers could have been the same people visiting both sites.

Smith said the event was a success in every respect.

"It was absolutely splendid," she said. "The caliber of the lecturers and the material, the caliber of the tours, the music, the Spanish military re-enactment, the meals, the parties, the weather . . . everything cooperated to show off Natchez at its very best."

Johnson agreed and said he considered this year's celebration the best yet.

"I think the celebration as a whole was super," Johnson said. "I think this surpassed the previous two. The quality of the programs was excellent; there was a

See SUCCESS, Page 8A

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Tuesday, June 9, 1992

Success

Continued from Page 1A
larger amount of people . . . it all ran like clockwork. I couldn't be happier."

Smith said the purpose of the celebration was informative.

"What we were trying to do was teach people in many, many ways about their Spanish heritage in this town," she said.

Smith added that response from people who attended the celebration has been "in teacher's terms . . . an A+."

Smith said plans are already under way for next year's celebration, which she said will be profile "the three R's: readin', 'ritin' and the river."

Smith said next year's celebration will be held June 3-5 and will include lectures on fiction, poetry, history, biography and other forms of literature with a focus on the lower Mississippi River valley.

Smith said the event will again be co-sponsored by Co-Lin and the Natchez National Historical Park and she will again serve as co-chairperson with Johnson and

Becky Junkin Nevill of Co-Lin.

Smith said the community involvement was a key in making this year's celebration a success.

"I would like to compliment our town for so many people to be so giving with their money and gifts to help us put this celebration together," she said. "It says something about this community."

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O The Natchez Democrat PINION

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PAGE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1992

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Editorials

Tradition of success continues for festival

The Natchez Literary Celebration has earned another feather in its cap, completing a third successful year of bringing literary and historical speakers to this Mississippi River town.

Organizers estimate approximately 800 people participated in three days of lectures, house tours and other sessions this year. Moreover, nearly 1,200 people visited the Melrose estate, the cornerstone of the Natchez National Historical Park, during a weekend-long reenactment of the Spanish settlement once in Natchez.

The exposure can only benefit Natchez's growing tourism trade, proving once again that word of mouth is a surefire selling tool for this city.

During its first three years, the festival has consistently highlighted Natchez history with fascinating lectures on a wide variety of topics and dozens of other events — from house tours to living history demonstrations.

And it has been successful in exposing hundreds of people to Natchez and its history, bringing together a unique group of scholars, historians and just plain folks who live in the area and want to know more about history.

Through the generosity of local sponsors and through grants from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the organizers have managed to open the sessions to the public for a minimal charge. That, too, has helped the festival grow.

The addition of new events, such as this year's storytelling session at the Armstrong Library, have expanded the festival's reach, touching the lives of dozens of people who might not come to a history lecture. It is through these types of events a community is reached, and this is where the festivals success hopefully will continue to grow.

Let's hope that the co-sponsors — Copiah Lincoln Community College, Natchez campus; the Natchez National Historical Park; and the Natchez Trace Parkway — will continue to work their magic here in Natchez.

If past history serves as an example, we have much to look forward to in the upcoming festivals.

Hail to the life of a Spanish governor

It was nice of Carolyn Vance Smith and the Natchez Literary Celebration to give recognition to "cousin" Stephen Minor, the last governor of the Natchez district when it was under the dominion of the Spanish at the end of the 18th Century.

I've never been able to establish any direct kin to Governor Stephen, known to his minions as Don Estaban, although in reality he was Spanish, having been born in Pennsylvania. But as a lady in Natchez who is a Stephen Minor descendant, put it: "All the Minors are related."

Stephen Minor's role in the history of Natchez came into focus last week during the 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration which observed "Spain Comes to Natchez," the period of Spanish rule which had transformed the town into a major commercial and political center.

For the third year, this literary celebration, with a lineup of nationally recognized speakers, has become a cultural jewel for the state, attracting visitors from throughout the country to this storied river city.

It was the creation of Carolyn Vance Smith, coordinator of the English department at the Natchez branch of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, and the National Park Service's Natchez National Historical Park and the



Bill Minor

Spanish Governor

Natchez Trace Parkway, along with financial help from the Mississippi Humanities Council and lots of local citizens.

But back to Don Estaban, the Minor, the displaced Pennsylvanian who was governor of the Natchez district in 1797-1798, the last years of Spanish rule before this area became part of the Mississippi Territory.

From what historian Jack D.L. Holmes, emeritus professor of history at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and later director of Louisiana's collection of colonial documents, has written, Minor was an outstanding pioneer along the Spanish-American frontier in the lower Mississippi Valley.

Minor had found his way from his native state down to New Orleans around 1779 and was one of the United States volunteers to join the Spanish in the capture of Baton Rouge, Mobile and then later Pensacola, the last British stronghold in West Florida.

He was appointed by Spanish

Governor Bernardo Galvez in 1781 as adjutant of the recently captured post of Natchez and became for the next 16 years a multi-purpose figure as interpreter, defense attorney and official witness over property transfers and testaments.

When General Manuel Gayoso de Lemos arrived to take command of the Natchez district in 1789, Minor became Gayoso's right hand man in keeping pace with neighboring Indians. Historian Holmes says that Minor was the chief negotiator of the Natchez Treaty of May 1792 in which the Choctaws and Chickasaws peacefully surrendered their claims to Walnut Hills, near what is now Vicksburg.

Minor was picked by Gayoso to succeed him as governor when Gayoso departed to assume command of the Louisiana and West Florida provinces in July 1797. The choice of Minor rather than Carlos de Grand Pre, Holmes says, was because the populace despised Grand Pre and accepted Minor.

His skill in steering a neutral course between the factions in early territorial Mississippi marked Minor's short term as governor, and after the Spanish forces left Natchez in 1798, he became a key figure in drawing the 31st parallel separating Spanish Florida from the United States.

Apparently Minor also was very good at making money from his innovative cotton, cattle and tobacco farming operation, and acquiring land. According to Holmes, Minor owned large quantities of valuable Mississippi and Louisiana bottom lands, and at one time owned Deer Island and Ship Island off the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Although a slave owner, Minor never permitted mistreatment of blacks, according to Holmes. On one occasion, he blocked emigration to Spanish territory of a local planter who physically abused a runaway slave.

He was a founder and president of the Bank of Mississippi from 1812 to 1815, when he died at age 55.

His surname home, "The Gardens," which Minor built in 1794, is still standing in Natchez and occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Fred Gilben Elmick, who graciously opened it for a luncheon during the literary celebration.

At a seated dinner at the symphonic auditorium, in a facsimile garden of the mansion Concord, the home of Stephen Minor, local historian Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess with a group of actors presented "An Evening with Don Estaban," based on the lives of Stephen and Catherine Minor.

Concord is long gone, but evidently Stephen Minor lives on.

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Spain Comes to Natchez for Columbus Quincentennial

Though little is known about the two decades when Spain ruled Natchez in the late 1700s, the Spanish impact was tremendously important, according to leading historians.

"The Spanish transformed the frontier area from military rule to civil rule and developed the town of Natchez," says Jack D. Elliott Jr. of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, an expert on late 18th-century Mississippi.

The two decades Spain was in control, 1779-1798, will be explored June 4-6 at the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, with the theme "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992."

The conference features a dozen lectures on Spanish Natchez by internationally known scholars and

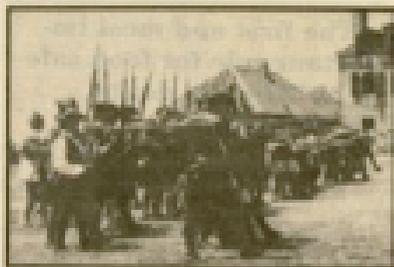
writers. They will focus on such figures as DeSoto, Gayoso, Andrew Jackson, African-Americans and early planters who enabled Natchez to become one of the wealthiest cities in America.

The June conference also will feature a tour of four homes in Natchez's Spanish Quarter which are rarely opened to the public. They are Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McComas House, Helly Hodges and Texada, all built in the late 1700s.

"The Literary Celebration is a model of bringing scholars and community people together," says Dr. Cora Norman, executive director of the Mississippi Humanities Council. The council again this year is financially assisting the event.

"The Natchez conference on Spain is one of the most prominent programs in the country to mark the Columbus Quincentennial," she said.

Agreeing with Norman is William F. Winter, former governor of Mississippi and president of the board of trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Winter will serve the conference as



A Spanish-Louisiana military regiment will re-enact maneuvers like those performed in Natchez from 1779 to 1798.

master of ceremonies.

"The Literary Celebration will be a highlight experience for me," Winter said. "What an exciting program! I look forward to participating fully in all of the activities."

The story of the Spanish in American history and particularly appropriate as America this year marks the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the New World, says Stuart Johnson, superintendent of the Natchez National Historical Park.

The National Park and Copiah-Lincoln Community College are co-sponsors of the award-winning Literary Celebration.

"This year's conference has speakers from Europe and all across America," Johnson said. "And in between lectures, we have special meals, entertainments and educational activities, all on the Spanish theme."

"We're trying to wake people up to the richness of Southwest Mississippi's history," says conference co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln.

"This history is much deeper than what Natchez is widely known for: the fabulous Cotton Kingdom era. We're happy that we can offer all conference activities either free or at very low cost."

The re-enactment and storytelling sessions are free. Tickets for lectures are \$5 per day or \$15 for three days, with a complete package of 12 lectures, three meals, tours and entertainments costing \$50. Information is available by calling 1-800-647-6724, (601)442-7341 or (601)442-9111.

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BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER: The Natchez Literary Celebration is known for bringing people together, and here former Gov. William Winter meets Dinah Lord, the 10-year-old daughter of speaker Lewis Lord. With them are, at left, Dinah's grandfather Earl Lord and her brother, Charlie Lord, 12.

The Natchez Democrat/Barbers Gerard Kaiser

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People

ETV program to feature literary fest

Excerpts from the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, held June 4-6, will appear on a weekly Mississippi Educational Television program called "Artifacts" at 7:30 p.m. today.

The conference was entitled "Spain Comes to Natchez: Commemorating the Columbus Quincennial, 1492-1992." Lectures and other events were based on the period during which Spain ruled over Natchez, 1779-1798.

"Ron Rodenmeyer and his crew from ETV were in Natchez for most of the Literary Celebration," said Becky Junkin Nevill of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, co-chairman of the conference.

Copiah-Lincoln and the National Park Service co-sponsored the international event.

"ETV filmed some of the lectures as well as the re-enactment of a Spanish military regiment at Melrose and the grand finale at the city auditorium, which was based on the lives of Spanish Gov. Stephen Minor and his wife," Nevill said.

Also representing ETV at the conference was Dr. Olon Ray of Jackson, president of the Mississippi ETV board.

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The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
and
The National Park Service
•Natchez Trace Parkway
•Natchez National Historical Park

Post Office Box 894
Natchez, MS 39121-0894
(601) 442-9111
(601) 442-7047
FAX (601) 446-9967

PRESS CONFERENCE

Wednesday, January 29, 1992
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
Vo-Tech Auditorium, Beltline Site, Beltline Road, Natchez
2:30 p.m.

Announcement of theme, final plans and Mississippi Humanities Council
grant award for the third annual Natchez Literary Celebration

Spain Comes to Natchez
Commemorating the Columbus Quincentennial, 1492-1992
The 1992 Natchez Literary Celebration
June 4-6, 1992

Co-sponsored by: Copiah-Lincoln Community College and
The National Park Service

Specific information available, including:

- *speakers and lecture topics
- *tours and special events
- *exhibits and entertainment
- *handouts and press release

For more information, contact: Carolyn Vance Smith
Literary Celebration Co-Chairman
(601) 442-9111

or

Beckie M. Johnson
Media Contact
(601) 445-9803

Baton Rouge Morning Advocate
Tuesday, July 13, 1992

NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

Natchez had small role in Revolution

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Ronald Miller

said Ronald W. Miller, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation.

"Robert Smith, a free black who ran a bank business, had a home with arches and a hewn slope roof" — a roofline that is not straight but is jagged slightly in a different angle. Houses were very large, surrounded by large verandas. They had balconies and piazzas. They tended to be built of wood in the Natchez area, and the early houses were one-story, with raised porches. "Prefabricated houses were common," long before Jim Walter got into the business. They were pre-cut, shipped by river and assembled.

Spanish-style houses in Natchez include The House on Elliott Hill, Saxeaux and Portans, Miller said. "Mount Laurel was built before Spanish occupation and expanded later. It is a textbook example of an early planter's cottage — wide, with beaded siding."

He cited other buildings and houses still standing in Natchez, like King's Tavern, Griffith-McComas House, Governor Holmes House (which was jacked up and a new first floor added), Holly Hedges, Maple Farm (former home of Spanish slave, Don Carlos de Grand Pre) and Taxada (the only house built by a Spaniard).

Low-pitched roofs and asymmetrical doors and windows characterized many of the houses of the Spanish period. "Porches were not in the original design," Miller said. "They were added later in most cases. Mud and stone insulation was used, but no examples of this remain."

The Natchez Literary Celebration attracted some 800 visitors this year, many of whom said they were retired teachers, current high school or college teachers and local residents who said they support every event held in Natchez.

Among guests at the three-day conference, which focused on the Spanish in Natchez, 1779-1780, were the colonial general of Spain, former Gov. William Weather, who was master of ceremonies, and speakers from all over the United States. ■

(LEFT PAGE) Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez

By SARAH SUE GOLDSMITH
Associate editor

While studying the American Revolution, it's easy to focus on the events at the heart of the action, the eastern seaboard, 1775, while those battles were being fought and men like George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were becoming famous, there were little-known tails and battles related to the war so far away as Natchez.

"In 1778, Natchez was a remote settlement of no particular interest to anyone except the residents along the banks of the Mississippi," said Robert Haynes, vice president for academic affairs, Western Kentucky University, in a group attending the Natchez Literary Celebration.

The Natchez residents had "no allegiance to either side of the American Revolution. Natchez was part of British West Florida, known as the Northern District."

However, American leaders were interested in Natchez for two reasons: (1) its position on the Mississippi River and (2) the presence of Spain in the lower Mississippi Valley. The Americans wanted Spain to enter the war on the side of the patriots, Haynes explained.

In 1778, an expedition of Americans led by James O'Neal moved into Natchez, captured ten planters who sympathized with the British cause (O'Neal plundered their plantations and took their slaves, Haynes said.)

"They pillaged communities south of Natchez, including Baton Rouge," William Dunbar's journal describes the events. The Spanish governor Galvez, in New Orleans, welcomed O'Neal with open arms. He was allowed to purchase supplies and pilage British soldiers in Spanish territory. The pillaging did not garner support for the American cause. In fact, it turned the soldiers against the American cause."

Baton Rouge at that time was held by the British. "Gen. Galvez staged a frontal assault and slipped deep gashes into the British entrenchments" at Baton Rouge and seized the



Robert Haynes

city from the British. By October 1779, Natchez was turned over to the Spanish. "Galvez was a very compassionate, intelligent person who recognized that the key to success was to bring peace and prosperity to the settlers."

Much of the knowledge of everyday life during Spanish occupation comes not only from the extensive records in the Spanish archives but also through archaeological excavations. Jack Kiser, an historical archaeologist who has excavated in Laurel and Jackson and who is with the Mississippi Department of Archives at Mississippi State University, made a survey of the colonial origins of Mississippi. He spoke on the Spanish origins of Natchez.

"One site stood out in Natchez: Fort Housley," which stood on the bluff overlooking the

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM CAROLYN YANCE SMITH, COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
MATCHES, MO 39120; (501)-442-2111

Though little is known about the two decades when Spain ruled
Matches in the late 1700s, the Spanish impact was tremendously
important, according to leading historians.

"The Spanish transformed the frontier area from military rule
to civil rule and developed the town of Matches," says Jack D.
Elliott Jr. of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History,
an expert on late 18th-century Mississippi.

The two decades Spain was in control, 1779-1798, will be
explored June 4-6 at the third annual Matches Literary Celebration,
with the theme "Spain Comes to Matches: Commemorating the Columbus
Quincentennial, 1492-1992."

The conference features a dozen lectures on Spanish Matches
by internationally known scholars and writers. They will focus on
such figures as DeSoto, Geyoso, Andrew Jackson, African-Americans
and early planters who enabled Matches to become one of the
wealthiest cities in America.

The June conference also will feature a tour of four homes in
Matches's Spanish Quarter which are rarely opened to the public.
They are Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McCowan House, Holly Hedges
and Texasda, all built in the late 1700s.

"The Literary Celebration is a model of bringing scholars and
community people together," says Dr. Core Norman, executive
director of the Mississippi Humanities Council. The council again

CONTACTS

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(Handwritten mark)

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1.21.92
Beckie J.

1. Assoc. Nelson - NCC - list of labels -
later check POC labels here

2. Brad - will print media list - ^{will mail} general news release -
will provide money power & postage - ^{contact travel writers}
w/ comp. food - newsletter info to him or labels/
will
3. Jo R. can't help this yr - but others in fee booth can help -
postage money
4. Gov. Pty. office - could get GPO to print - Ash Stuart.
5. B. here 9. Wed. -

move to grass roots growing
not use. to cities
rural Amer. pick cotton etc
good for min.
cultural festivals popular.

catfish fest Albany
delta
seafood coast
etc
arts & crafts - indigenous - want to buy
quality
African American heritage popular
" conf. Sept. 26-27 Natchez
all invited
Native Amer. her. popular
cuisine
music - Blues hot right now -

group travel big! new. in. it. disposable income

one of group - spend night : \$3,000 per bus
for every 3 new tour buses: 1 new jet

Individual travelers (consumers) - aging baby boomers
want overnight, meals, tickets - packages from travel agent
(agent gets 10%)

150,000+ travel counselors in US can be our agents.
Baby b. want something unique w/ quality.

Internat. tourists - imp. - civil war, shopping, golf, hunting,
jobs

new movement - ecotourism - remote wilderness areas
people want trained guides - want to contribute to saving &
don't expect amenities - conservation -

Basic spec. by tourists

1. Good food - know where it is
2. Unique & satisfying exp.
3. Quality mementos - fine art
crafts
different

4. rest & relaxation
5. educa. for children - travel w/ kids
6. want to feel part of comm.
7. beauty & qual
8. service
9. value for price

Min. strengths

civil war hist
outdoor attrac
scenic beauty
culture
Miss. arts - finest product

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The Natchez Democrat/Barbara Gerard Kaiser

THE FINISHING TOUCH: Shirley Petkovsek, owner of the Griffith-McComas House, adds decorations of fresh roses to her house in anticipation of today's tour by literary celebration participants. Petkovsek's house is one of four in the Old Spanish Quarter which will open to the festival participants tonight.

Literary celebration opens today

By MICHAELA GIBSON
The Natchez Democrat

The third annual Natchez Literary Celebration, "Spain Comes to Natchez," starts today at The Natchez Eola Hotel.

This year's theme was inspired by the 500th anniversary of Columbus' arrival in the New World and Natchez's own Spanish heritage, said Carolyn Vance Smith, co-chairman of the celebration which is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez National Historical Park.

"There aren't many places in the central United States that can claim Spanish Heritage," Smith said, adding that the Spanish heritage in Natchez has remained somewhat unexplored. "It hasn't been deeply researched in our area."

The literary celebration gives people a chance to find out more about Spanish Natchez,

including what Smith described as a "stellar group" of lecturers and activities.

Every activity should be a highlight, she said. "It's hard to choose (highlights); everything is exceptional."

A few of the celebration's activities will be open to the public free of charge, including a Spanish military re-enactment to be held at Melrose Saturday and Sunday. "It's unique; there's never been a Spanish military re-enactment in Natchez," Smith said.

Children of all ages should enjoy a free storytelling presentation at the Armstrong Library Saturday at 1 p.m. Besty McWilliams, a storyteller and Hispanic folklorist, will weave tales of "Spanish Gold, Spanish Ghosts: Tales of Natchez."

People who register for the conference will be treated to a wide variety of lectures, presen-

tations, and tours, Smith said. Today, the day's activities end with a tour of four houses in Natchez's Old Spanish Quarter. "The house tours are very special," Smith said. "Some of these homes are rarely open to the public."

Many of the lecturers are internationally-known and have received some of the top honors in their respective fields, Smith said. "All of them are world-class, and that's not slang; it's the truth."

Of the many wonderful speakers, Robert Reznicek, professor of history and research professor of humanities from the University of Illinois-Chicago, has quite a Natchez following, Smith said.

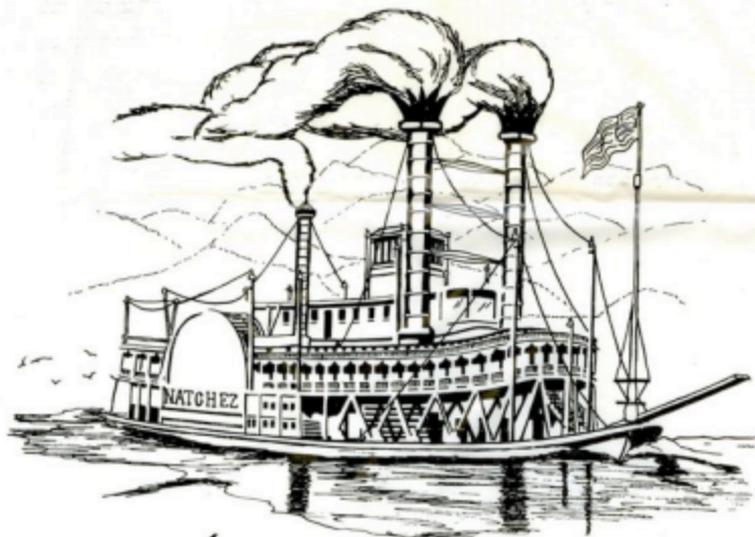
Remini will talk Thursday at 5 p.m. at the Eola about "Andrew Jackson in Spanish Natchez."

See LITERARY, Page 8A

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Natchez

A place to remember...forever.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 663

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE TO THE CITY OF NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 275TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

WHEREAS, Natchez is celebrating the 275th anniversary of its founding in 1716, making it the oldest settlement on the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, following its founding by the French and their occupation until 1763, it was subsequently officially occupied by the British from 1763 until 1779, and by the Spanish from 1779 until 1798; and

WHEREAS, Natchez was the first capital of the Mississippi Territory; and

WHEREAS, in the first Constitution of the State of Mississippi adopted in 1817, Natchez was designated the first capital of the state; and

WHEREAS, in the early days of statehood, Natchez was the cultural and financial center of the Old Southwest, making major contributions to the development of the area and the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Natchez continues to be a renowned cultural center of international acclaim contributing in numerous ways to the continued growth and prosperity of the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That the many contributions of the City of Natchez, Mississippi, to this state made during the preceding 275 years be acknowledged, and the State of Mississippi through this resolution extends its congratulations and best wishes to Natchez on the occasion of its birthday celebrated through the 2nd Annual Natchez Literary Celebration sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the National Park Services-Natchez National Historical Park and the Main Street Natchez Partnership festivities to be held May 29-June 1, 1991.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Natchez and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
April 26, 1991

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 28, 1991

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



State of Mississippi
Department of Archives and History

This is to certify that

THE GARDENS

has been entered on

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

by the

United States Department of the Interior
upon nomination by the State Historic Preservation Officer under provisions of
the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-665).

The National Register is a list of properties "significant in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture — a comprehensive index of the significant physical evidences of our national patrimony." Properties listed thereon deserve to be preserved by their owners as a part of the cultural heritage of our nation.

Elbert R. Hilliard

Director, State Department of Archives and History
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

October 24, 1980

Date