

# Mississippi History

# MDAH

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# NEWSLETTER

## MDAH EVENTS

### Jackson

**William F. Winter Archives  
and History Building**  
200 North Street

**Mississippi's Greatest  
Treasure: The Old Capitol**,  
through October 20, Museum of  
Mississippi History.

**History Is Lunch Programs**  
Wednesdays, Noon–1 p.m.

**Information:** 601-576-6857

**August 1: Clay Williams**,  
exhibits curator, Museum of  
Mississippi History, will discuss  
the **restoration of the Old  
Capitol**.

**August 15: Mary Lohrenz**,  
MDAH curator of the Governor's  
Mansion, "**Pieced Together:  
Mississippi Quilts**," highlighting

some of the traditions and  
innovations of nineteenth- and  
twentieth-century Mississippi  
quilters.

**August 22: Mary Alice  
White**, Eudora Welty House  
director, will show Welty House  
**orientation film "Confluence  
of Memory"** and tell about  
important developments at the  
Eudora Welty House, Jackson.

### Greenville

**Winterville Mounds**  
2415 Highway 1 North  
662-334-4684

**Saturday, August 18**, 10 a.m.–  
4 p.m. **Bark in the Park** fund-  
raiser for the Greenville Humane  
Society. Admission fee to attend  
dog show. For information call  
662-334-4684.

## Mississippi's Greatest Treasure: The Old Capitol

For over 160 years, the Old  
Capitol has been a defining  
element in Mississippi's capital  
city. The building, which served  
as the state's capitol from 1839  
to 1903, witnessed the passage  
of important legislation, rousing  
speeches, and visits from  
influential statesmen.

The exhibit *Mississippi's  
Greatest Treasure*, showing  
in the Winter Building through  
October 20, documents the  
building's original construction,  
legislation and constitutions  
enacted there, notable visitors  
and other events, abandonment,  
and restoration. In the early 1900s

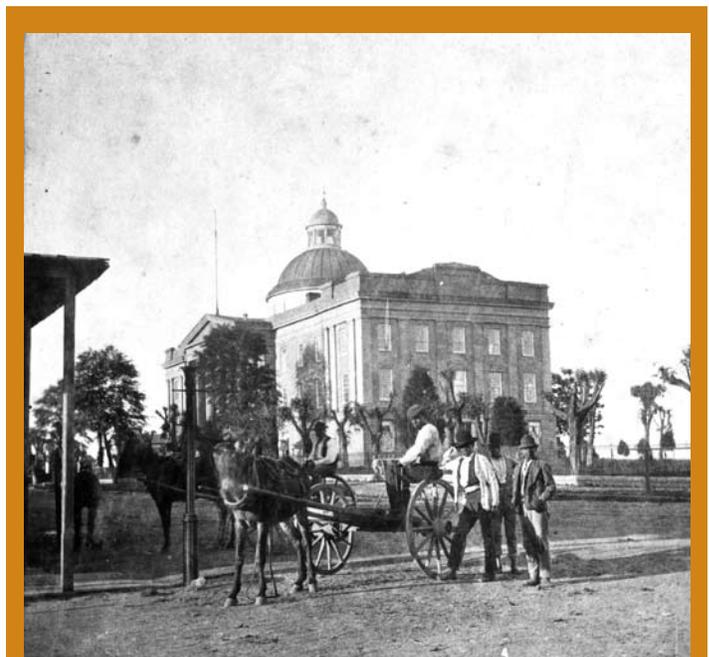
the Old Capitol was transformed  
into a state office building. After  
a 1961 restoration it became the  
official state history museum and  
earned a national reputation  
for groundbreaking and thought-  
provoking exhibits. Over the  
years the building has been  
restored and renovated several  
times. Hurricanes Katrina and  
Rita seriously damaged the  
deteriorating building that is now  
being completely restored.

After October 20, *Mississippi's  
Greatest Treasure* will travel the  
state as part of the Museum of  
Mississippi History's Traveling  
Exhibits program.



### Civil War Adventure Camp

At the July 11-13  
*Civil War Ad-  
venture Camp* at  
Historic Jefferson  
College, Wash-  
ington, chil-  
dren learned  
about march-  
ing in military  
formation,  
cavalry strate-  
gies, and much  
more. Below,  
Chuck May-  
field explains  
the fine points  
of the cavalry  
saddle.



*A photograph by Elisaeus von Seutter of the Old Cap-  
itol, circa 1869, from the MDAH collection, featured  
in Mississippi's Greatest Treasure exhibit through  
October 20.*

## Eudora Welty House Visitor Center, Grant Progress

MDAH has acquired the property at 1109 Pinehurst, adjacent to the Eudora Welty House, for use as its **Education and Visitors Center**. The Tudor-style house echoes the style of the Welty House and affords ideal access to visitors. A date for the opening of the visitors center has not been set, as the building will be modified to meet ADA (American Disabilities Act) requirements and will receive some refurbishing.

## Historians To Focus on War Aftermath

The **Society for Military History**, Region IV (south), presents "The End of the Beginning: The Termination and Aftermath of War in Military History" October 19-20, 2007, at Delta State University (DSU) in Cleveland. To commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marshall Plan, DSU and the Society for Military History will examine "what happens when peace returns and both victors and defeated alike grapple with the new world that war has wrought." For more information, visit [dsuhisot.org](http://dsuhisot.org) or call 662-846-4170.

The **Eudora Welty Foundation** has met its third match for the **National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant** to support programming at the Eudora Welty House. The Welty Foundation, working in concert with MDAH, has raised \$1,050,000 and has \$300,000 remaining to raise to complete the \$1,350,000 match in July 2008. For more information or to contribute, call 601-353-7762.

## Call for Papers

The Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, sponsored annually by the Gulf South Historical Association issues a call for papers for its October 11-13, 2007, event. Topics should explore the history and cultures of the Gulf South region and Caribbean Basin. For more information, contact Dr. Michael Thomason, [jawal@zebra.net](mailto:jawal@zebra.net).

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## 2007 Preserve America Grants

Mississippi has received Preserve America grants for two Civil War projects.

The **Corinth Civil War Preservation Project**—including sixteen sites associated with the Siege and Battle of Corinth and the Battle of Shiloh—has received \$60,000 to support the marketing of these sites to all regions of the country to help build Corinth's heritage tourism industry.

A Regional Tribute to the **150th Anniversary of the Vicksburg Campaign** has received \$100,000 for a project to develop and market educational material as well as provide cultural heritage training and education. Vicksburg will also implement activities to generate excitement and enthusiasm for the upcoming anniversary.

These federal matching grants, administered by the Department of the Interior, are designed to support a variety of activities related to heritage tourism and innovative approaches to the use of historic properties as educational and economic assets.

**For Mississippi Books and Crafts, visit the  
Old Capitol Shop  
Winter Building 601-576-6921**

## Charles Tisdale, 1927-2007

Charles Tisdale, an Alabama native who fought for civil rights as owner and publisher of Mississippi's oldest black-owned newspaper, died July 7 at eighty. Tisdale purchased the *Jackson Advocate* in 1978 from the newspaper's first owner, Percy Greene. Tisdale was an outspoken critic of elected officials, both black and white—in the newspaper and on a talk show on WMPR radio for twenty years. Tisdale often said he was the target of death threats. His newspaper office near downtown Jackson was firebombed at least twice. Despite sagging circulation, the newspaper recently received several honors, including the National Black Chamber of Commerce Newspaper of the Year and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Journalism Award. (Associated Press)

**Featured  
in the Summer issue,  
Journal of  
Mississippi History:**

**"Civil Rights Advocates in the Academy: White Pro-integrationist Faculty at Millsaps College,"  
by Maria R. Lowe and  
J. Clint Morris  
To subscribe: 601-576-6849.**