OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM

EDUCATOR FIELD TRIP GUIDE

Welcome to the Old Capitol Museum

Dear Educator,

We appreciate your interest in visiting the Old Capitol Museum with your class. This field trip guide includes information about what you will see on your visit and a list of competencies from the Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards that will be covered in your museum visit. Included are several activities that will help you prepare your students for their visit and reinforce what they learn after the visit. Answers to the activities are found at the end of the guide.

At the Old Capitol Museum our vision is to encourage civic engagement by revealing the Old Capitol's role in Mississippi's history.

Our mission is to preserve, interpret, and share Mississippi's most historic building.

We look forward to your visit.

- Old Capitol Museum Staff

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Planning Your Trip

Hours:
Tuesday—Saturday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday: 1–5 p.m.
Closed Mondays
Phone: 601-576-6920
Web: www.oldcapitolmuseum.com
Email: info@oldcapitolmuseum.com

Admission
FREE

Special Programs: Reservations are required.
The Old Capitol Museum has created special programming that is available by request Tuesday–Friday year-round. Call 601-576-6920 to reserve one of our special programs. For details about each of our special programs, please see page 4.

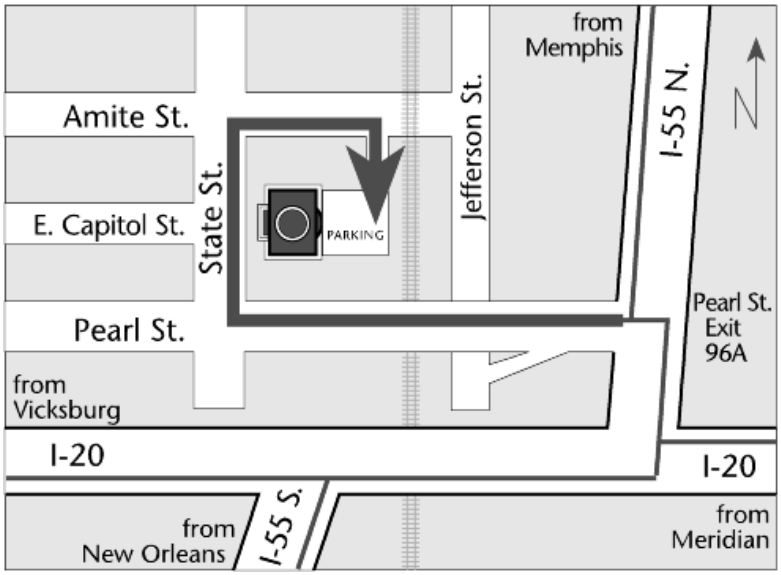
Tours:
The museum is self-guided for groups of fewer than ten, and no scheduled time is necessary.

*For groups of ten or more, call the museum as early as possible to schedule your visit. Our museum coordinator will book your tour and send confirmation of your scheduled time.

Tours are designed for grades Pre-K–12, and the exhibits feature topics on Mississippi history, civics, and historic preservation.

Old Capitol Museum DIRECTIONS

100 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201



Cars
•Take the Pearl St. exit (96A) off I-55.
•Turn right onto State St.
•Turn right onto Amite St.
•Turn right into parking lot behind Old Capitol
•Walk around south side of building to enter through the front

Buses
•Park along Amite Street, next to War Memorial Building
•Visitors walk along sidewalk to the front of the building

Tour Checklist

Share these with your class and chaperones:
* Bring confirmation form when arriving for your tour.
* Leave backpacks, large totes, and food in vehicle.
* Sign in at the front desk before the group enters the museum.
* A docent will greet the group at the front desk.
* Restrooms are located on the second floor. Please arrive with your group 15–20 minutes early to allow time for restroom and water breaks before your scheduled appointment.
* Please provide one teacher or chaperone for every ten students, and remain with the students for the duration of the tour.
* We ask that students respect the Old Capitol and use their inside voices.
* If you will be late or need to reschedule your tour, please contact the museum as soon as possible.

Parking
Free parking is behind the Old Capitol Museum.

Bus parking is available on Amite Street beside the War Memorial Building.

Special Programs

Special programming is available by request Tuesday–Friday year-round. Call 601-576-6920 to reserve one of our special programs. **Reservations are required.**

Black Mississippians: Road to the Vote

Grades 4–12

Students will learn the nineteenth-century political history of black Mississippians, which set the stage for the modern Civil Rights Movement. An overview will cover topics such as slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the 1868 and 1890 Mississippi constitutions.

"Thorns and Troubles Innumerable": The Civil War in Mississippi

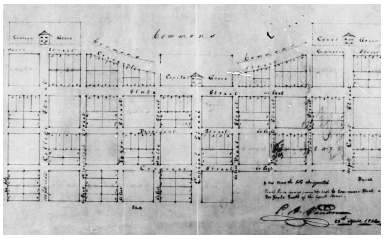
Grades 4–12

Students will learn about Mississippi's role in the Civil War. Topics include slavery, secession, military actions, and the consequences of rebellion.

Directing Democracy: Mississippi's Elected Officials

Grades 4–12

Directing Democracy is built on the idea that the best way to learn civics is to take part in a model of the process. Students will have the opportunity to create statewide legislation and debate with their peers to learn how our state government works. The program concludes in the historic House of Representatives in the Old Capitol—the site where legislators of the past debated and created laws. Directing Democracy is an opportunity for students to experience firsthand the legislative process that affects their daily lives.



Metropolis Makers

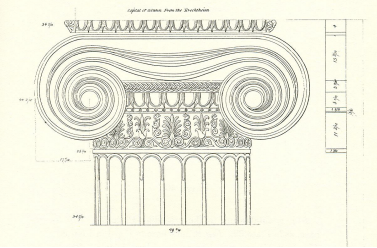
Grades 4–12

This program focuses on town planning. Students will work together to plan and create a town using geography, history, and their own creativity.

A Landmark for Little Learners

Grades Pre-K–3

This program allows students to experience the grandeur and awe of the Old Capitol Museum.



It's All Greek (Revival) to Me!

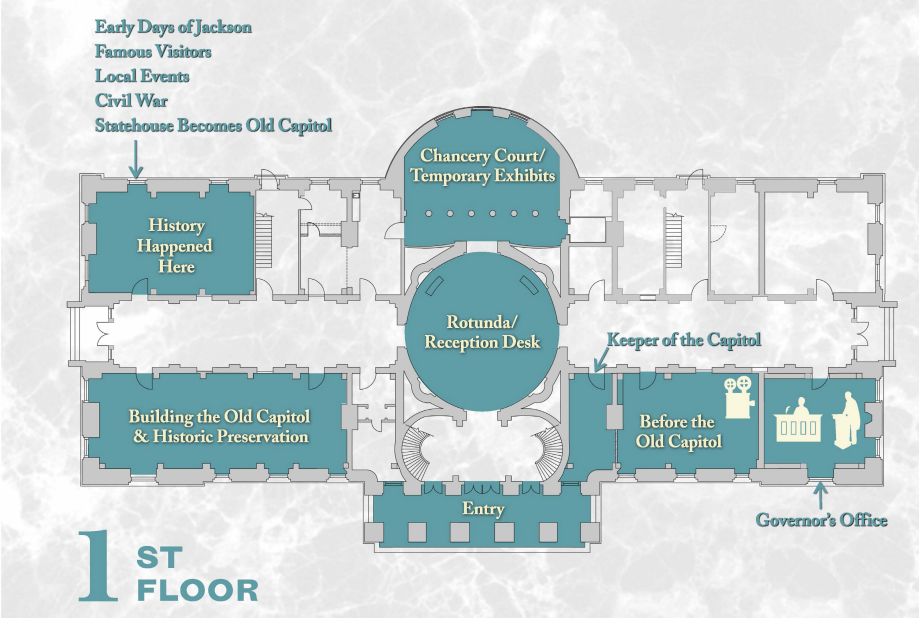
Grades 4–12

This program provides an in-depth view of the rich and fascinating architecture of the Old Capitol Museum. When completed, students will better understand Greek Revival architecture and be able to identify various elements.

What You Will See

Having undergone a three-year restoration following damage suffered from Hurricane Katrina, the Old Capitol Museum re-opened to the public in 2009. The museum features exhibits interpreting the distinguished history of the building that served as Mississippi's statehouse from 1839 to 1903. The exhibits focus on three main themes: the history of the building and the important events that took place in it, government and civics, and historic preservation. Many of these exhibits relate directly to the Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards making the Old Capitol Museum a must-see for Mississippi students. School groups will be given a brief orientation followed by a ten-minute introductory movie on the history of the building. The class will then be divided into smaller groups in order to more easily tour the building.

1st floor—This floor contains many of the museum's traditional exhibit galleries.



- History Happened Here: Interactive exhibits trace the early history of Jackson, famous visitors to the Old Capitol, the tumultuous Civil War, the building as the social center of the town and state, and the building's history after the state legislature moved to the current state capitol.

- Chancery Court: This former courtroom serves as a temporary exhibit gallery.

- Keeper of the Capitol: This exhibit introduces the building's caretaker, who acts as an occasional tour guide and provides interesting facts as visitors tour the building.

Before the Old Capitol

Governor's Office

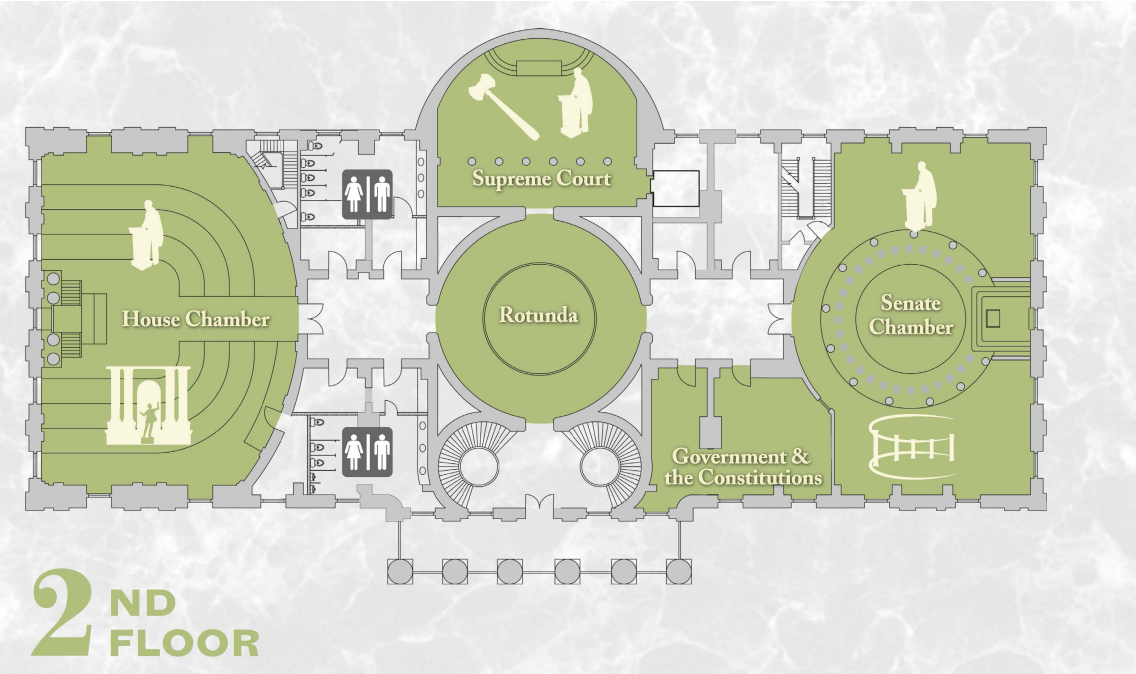
- Before the Old Capitol: Interactive exhibits explore Mississippi's beginnings from territory to early statehood. Students can explore Mississippi's first constitutions (1817 and 1832), learn about their differences, learn why Jackson was chosen as the state capital and the differences between "capitol" and "capital," and view the introductory movie in this room.

- Governor's Office: The fully restored Governor's Office is located at the building's south end and illustrates the role of the governor in the nineteenth century and today. A video presentation shows three unique stories of past governors. Visitors can see artifacts used by governors who worked in this room.

- Building the Old Capitol: This exhibit gallery provides details on Greek Revival architecture, architect William Nichols, and the construction of the Old Capitol in the late 1830s. A unique rubble structure shows evidence of the building's eras of decay and repair. Finally, students learn about the importance of historic preservation not only of the Old Capitol, but of other important structures.

What You Will See

2nd floor–This floor was home to the legislative and judicial branches.



- Supreme Court: Students can read and learn about court cases that impacted Mississippi history.
- House Chamber: Videos highlight two important events from the building's past—the 1861 Secession Convention and the 1890 Constitutional Convention.
- Senate Chamber: Students witness legislative history as they hear about three important events from the building's past. Other interactive exhibits explain how a bill becomes a law and the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Senate Chamber

- Government and Constitutions: This exhibit gallery focuses on Mississippi's history from the end of the Civil War through Reconstruction and the passage of the 1868 and 1890 constitutions. Students can interact with the exhibit, discover who was eligible to vote, and learn the differences between the two constitutions, which were adopted in the building. The Old Capitol Museum was designated a National Historic Landmark largely because of events that happened here, including the passage of these constitutions. Students also get a chance to suggest changes to the current constitution.

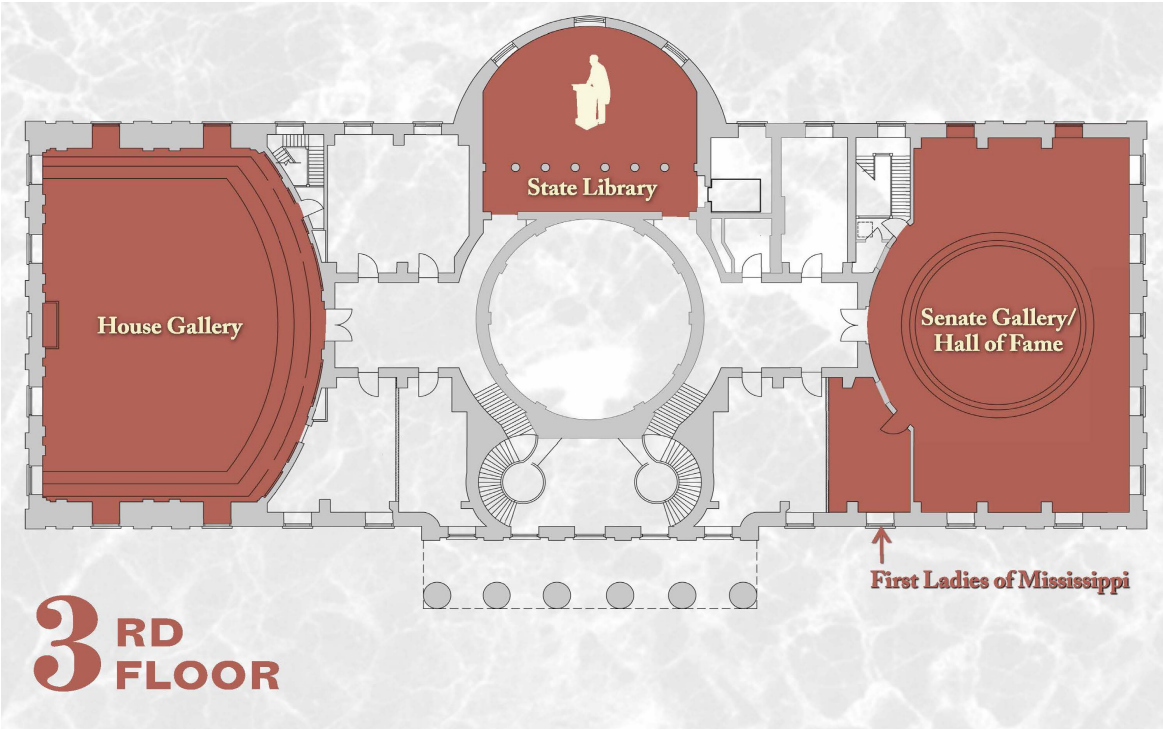
What You Will See

3rd floor–This floor contains the legislative galleries where the public watched government in action.

State Library

Senate Gallery

- State Library: This fully restored library contains a short audio program that explains how the three branches of government interact and how decisions made in the Old Capitol still affect us today.
- House Gallery: Visitors get a great view of the House Chamber and learn how the room has changed over time.
- Senate Gallery: This room contains the Mississippi Hall of Fame—a collection of portraits of distinguished Mississippians.
- First Ladies Gallery: This gallery contains portraits of some of the state's first ladies and explores the role the governor's spouse plays today.



Curricular Connections

Below are key standards featured in the Old Capitol Museum. While these are a few highlighted standards, the content seen in the museum can fit any class in the social studies curriculum and beyond. Contact Old Capitol Museum staff to see how the standards can apply to your classroom.

Kindergarten

- H.K.1 Recognize symbols, customs, and celebrations representative of our community, Mississippi, and the United States.

First Grade

- CI.1.1 Examine how individuals play different roles and exercise good citizenship.

Second Grade

- CI.2.2 Demonstrate knowledge of how to be a good citizen in the local community.

Third Grade

- CI.3.2 Demonstrate knowledge of community and local government.

Fourth Grade

- CI.4.2 Identify people in positions of power and how they can influence people's rights and freedom.
- H.4.2 Recognize symbols, customs, and celebrations representative of our community, Mississippi, and the United States.

Seventh Grade

- 7C.1 Understand the various roles and expectations of citizens throughout the world and apply that understanding to their role as a citizen of their community, state, and nation.

Mississippi Studies

- MS.10 Analyze the structure and function of local and state government in Mississippi.

US History: 1877 to Present

- US.1 Trace how economic developments and the westward movement impacted regional differences and democracy in the post Reconstruction era.

US Government

- USG.7 Describe and evaluate the role, rights, and responsibility of a citizen in the American democracy.

Mathematics

- G-C.5 Find arc lengths and areas of sectors of circles.

Visual Arts

- VA: Cn11.1.5: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.

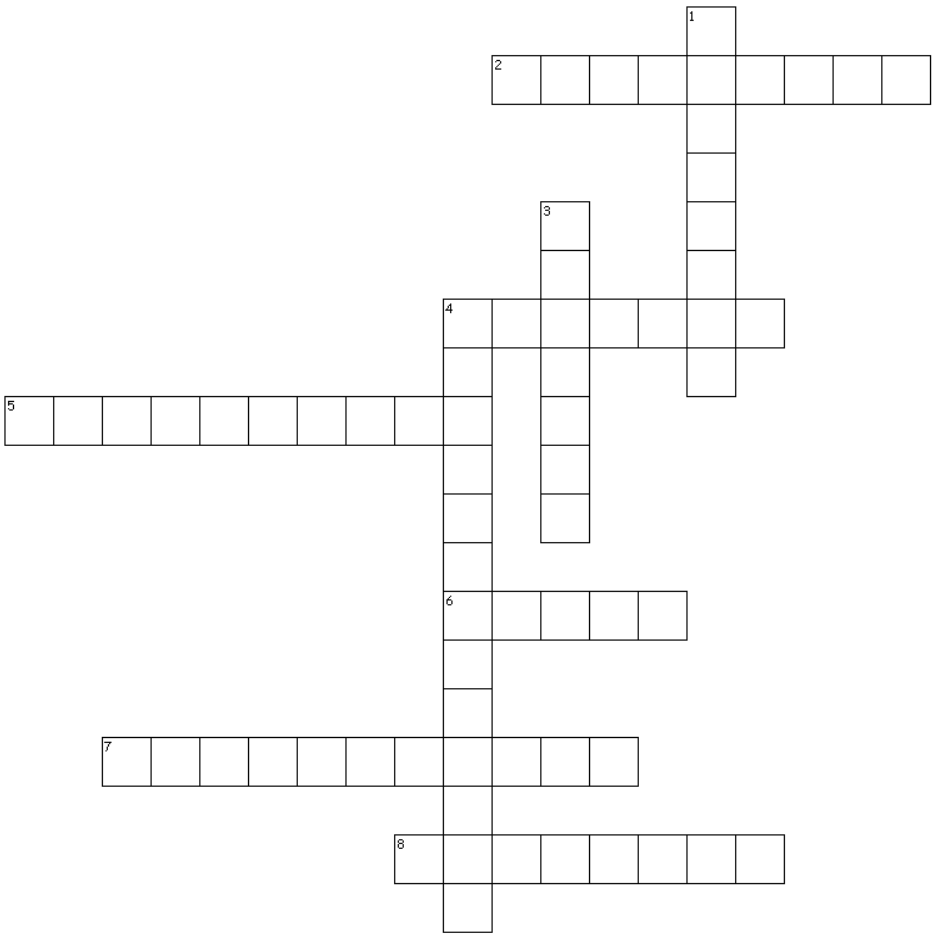
Before the Field Trip: Terms to Know

1. Appellee—one who argues to uphold the lower court's decision
2. Appellant—one who argues to overturn the decision of the lower court
3. Capital—a city serving as a seat of government
4. Capitol—a building in which a state legislative body meets
5. Constitution—a written document that defines basic political principles and establishes the structure, procedures, powers, and duties of the government
6. Convention—an assembly of people who meet for a common purpose—for example, to write a constitution
7. Dome—a large hemispherical roof or ceiling
8. Franchise—the right to vote
9. Freedmen—term given to formerly enslaved persons who became free during or after the Civil War
10. Greek Revival—a style of architecture marked by the use or imitation of Greek order. The Old Capitol is an example of Greek Revival architecture.
11. Legislature—an organized body having the authority to make laws
12. Executive branch—the branch of government that carries out the law
13. Judicial branch—the branch of government that interprets the law
14. Legislative branch—the branch of government that makes the law
15. Governor—the elected executive head of a state of the United States
16. Preservation—the act of keeping a building, document, or artifact intact and free from harm or decay
17. Reconstruction Era—the period following the Civil War when attempts were made to redress the inequities of slavery and to solve the problems arising from readmitting the eleven states that had seceded from the Union
18. Restoration—the process of returning a building, document, or artifact to a former condition
19. Rotunda—a large round room
20. Secession—formal withdrawal—the withdrawal of eleven southern states from the Union in 1860 and 1861 led to the Civil War

Before the Field Trip: State Government Puzzle

Grades 3–5

Directions: Use the clues to answer the corresponding blanks in the puzzle.



Across
2. The branch of government that carries out the law
4. A city serving as a seat of government
5. An assembly of people who meets for a common purpose
6. The state government consists of _____ branches
7. The branch of government that makes the laws
8. The highest elected executive office in the state

Down
1. The branch of government that interprets the law
3. A building in which a state legislative body meets
4. A written document that defines basic political principles and establishes the structure, procedures, powers, and duties of the government

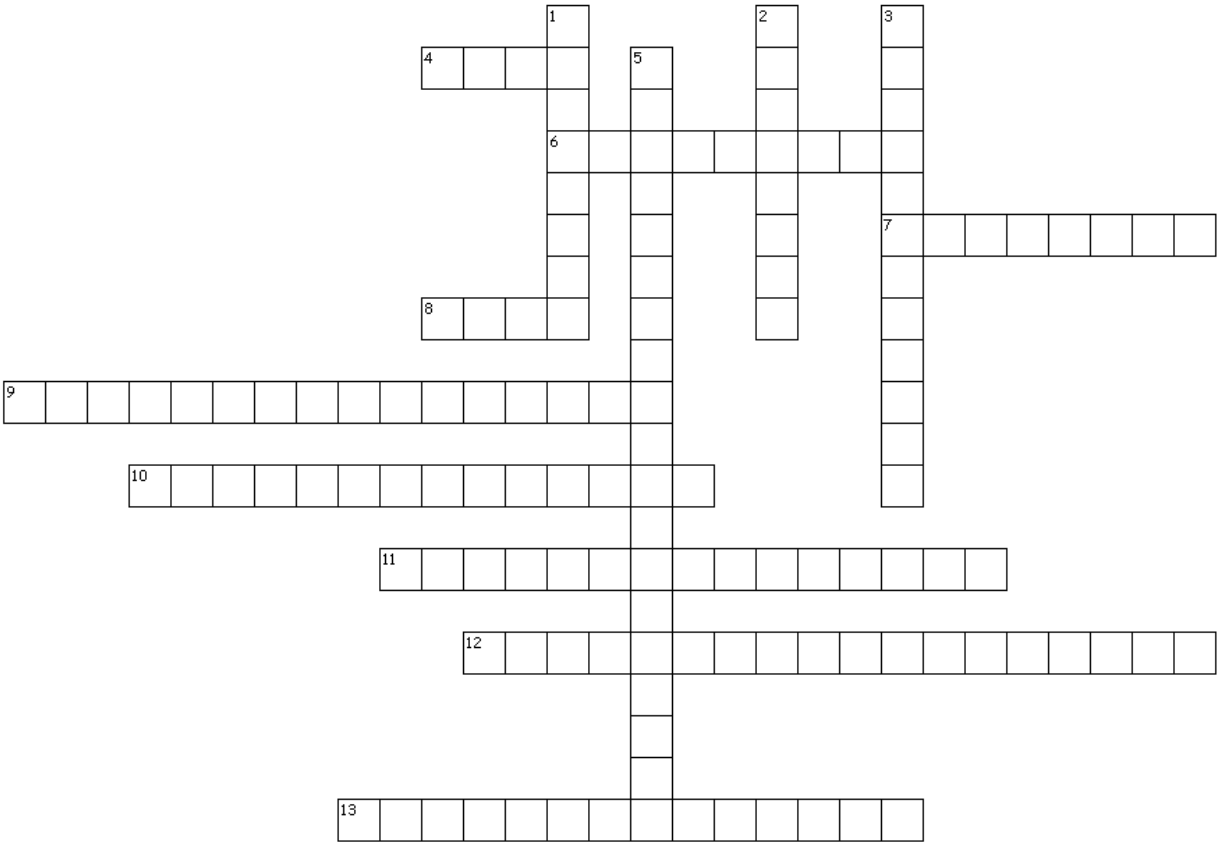
Word Bank

Constitution	Capital	Governor
Capitol	Legislative	Executive
Three	Convention	Judicial

Before the Field Trip: State Government Puzzle

Grades 6–12

Directions: Use the clues to answer the corresponding blanks in the puzzle.



Across

4. The governor may either sign or _____ a bill.
6. The _____ branch carries out and enforces governmental programs and policies.
7. The Mississippi Supreme Court is part of the _____ branch.
8. State senators and representatives serve _____ years in a term.
9. Keeper of the Capitol under 1890 Constitution and a member of the executive branch
10. Mississippi is governed by the _____ Constitution.
11. The _____ is the chief legal official for Mississippi.
12. The _____ is the presiding officer of the Senate.
13. The _____ presides over the House of Representatives.

Down

1. The _____ enforces state laws.
2. _____ members serve in the Senate.
3. The _____ presides over the Mississippi Supreme Court.
5. The House of Representatives contains _____ members.

Before the Field Trip: How much do you know?

Grades 4–12

Directions: Use the word bank below to complete the sentences.

1. Before Jackson was finally chosen as Mississippi's capital city, Washington,_____, and Columbia all served as the state capital.

2. Including the current document, Mississippi has had _____constitutions, two of which were written in the Old Capitol.

3. Jackson, Mississippi, was named for Andrew Jackson, decorated U.S. general. He was elected the _____president in 1828.

4. _____was the last governor to serve in the Old Capitol and the first to serve in the current capitol. He signed the bills authorizing the construction of the new Mississippi State Capitol.

5. _____refers to the time after the Civil War during which the former Confederate states were reorganized and rebuilt.

6. During the Civil War, Enterprise, Meridian, Macon, and _____ served as temporary capitals.

7. _____ of Mississippi was the first African American to serve in the United States Senate.

8. In 1861, Mississippi became the _____ state to secede from the Union.

9. The 1868 Constitution gave African American men the right to _____.

10. The _____ Constitution established procedures that prevented most African Americans and many poor whites from voting.

11. In _____Mississippi became the twentieth state to join the Union.

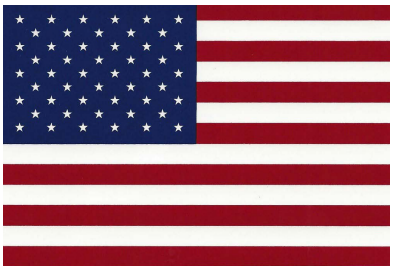
Word Bank

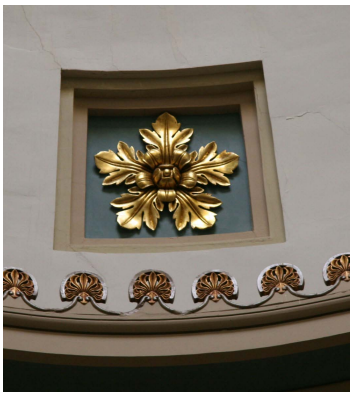
Reconstruction	Vote	Second
Seventh	Andrew Longino	Hiram Revels
1890	Natchez	1817
Four	Columbus	

During the Field Trip: Early Elementary Scavenger Hunt

Grades Pre-K–3

Directions: Find the following symbols in the Old Capitol Museum.





During the Field Trip: Questionnaire

Grades 4–12

Directions: Study the basic elements of architecture in the Building the Old Capitol room on the first floor. Then explore the Old Capitol Museum to find the answers.

1. What is the name of the architectural style of the Old Capitol? _____
2. What is the name of the circular room in the center of the building?_____
3. What is the name of the top of the dome?_____
4. What types of columns are in the Senate Chamber?_____
5. In what room on the 2nd floor can you find Ionic columns?_____
6. What is the correct term for the "front porch" of the Old Capitol Museum? _____
7. Which doorway on the 1st floor is more decorated than the others? _____
8. What is the name of the feature on the tops of all the doorways in the museum?_____
9. How tall is the Rotunda from the floor to the top of the dome?_____
10. What is the letter on the doorknob of each of the doors of the Old Capitol, and what does it stand for?

_____

_____

_____

During the Field Trip: Architectural Identification

Grades 4–12

Directions: Using the word bank, identify the following Greek Revival architectural elements that can be found at the Old Capitol Museum.

1.

_____

2.

_____

3.

_____

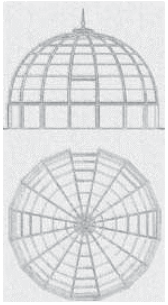
4.

_____

5.

_____

6.

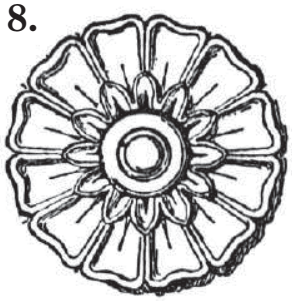


_____

7.

_____

8.



_____

Word Bank

Rosette	Ionic Column	Corinthian Column	Acanthus Leaf
Dome	Doric Column	Palmette	Anthemion

After the Field Trip: What do you think?

Grades 4–12

Directions: Think about your experience at the Old Capitol Museum, and share your opinions below.

1. Do you think Jackson was a good choice for Mississippi's capital city, or should the capital have remained at one of the other towns? Explain your answer.

2. Do you think we need to write a new Mississippi constitution? Why?

3. If you were a member of the Mississippi legislature, what bill would you introduce? How would it help the citizens of Mississippi?

After the Field Trip: Mississippi's Constitutions

Grades 4–8

Directions: After studying the information presented in the Before the Old Capitol room and the Government and Constitutions room, test your knowledge of Mississippi's four constitutions in the activity that follows.

Mississippi's Constitutions
In its more than 200-year history, Mississippi has had four constitutions. They were written in 1817, 1832, 1868, and 1890. A constitution is a set of rules that guides how a country, state, or other political organization works. Two of the constitutions were written before the Old Capitol was built, and the last two were actually written in the building.

In these two exercises we compare the two sets of constitutions.

Exercise One: Write the date of the constitution—1817 or 1832—next to its appropriate description.

1. Voting was open to all free white men _____
2. Judges were appointed _____
3. Written when Mississippi first became a state _____
4. Written during nationwide push for more representative government_____
5. Voting limited to those who had property (paid taxes) or served in the militia_____
6. Judges and other state officials were elected _____
7. Concentrated power with the wealthy elite _____

Exercise Two: Write the date of the constitution—1868, 1890, or neither—next to its appropriate description.

1. Required a poll tax to vote _____
2. Written in the aftermath of Civil War _____
3. Current constitution that has been amended more than 100 times _____
4. First constitution that gave black men the right to vote _____
5. Established public school system _____
6. Prevented thousands of blacks as well as many poor whites from voting_____
7. Gave women the right to vote _____

All four constitutions can be read at Mississippi History Now, the online publication of the Mississippi Historical Society. For a quick synopsis of those documents and additional links to the constitutions themselves, go to **http://www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/articles/98/constitutions-of-mississippi.**

After the Field Trip: Preserving Our Historic Buildings

Grades 4–12

The Old Capitol Museum was named a Mississippi Landmark in 1986 and a National Historic Landmark in 1990. The Mississippi Landmark designation is the highest form of recognition Mississippi can give to properties. The designation makes sure properties have the fullest protection against changes that might alter their history.

National Historic Landmarks are significant not only locally, but to the entire country. Through its history, the Old Capitol has suffered at times from neglect. This National Historic Landmark designation helps protect the building so it will be preserved (saved) for future generations to learn about Mississippi's past.

Directions: After learning about the efforts made to preserve the Old Capitol, think about buildings in your community. What building would you nominate as a Mississippi Landmark? Why?

After the Field Trip: Mississippi Hall of Fame

Grades 4–12

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) was created in 1902, making it the second oldest Department of Archives and History in the nation. Dunbar Rowland was chosen as the first director of MDAH and immediately began working to build a Hall of Fame for the state.

The nomination process for the Hall of Fame was not standardized until 1958. Nominations are accepted from the public every five years. Any Mississippian, native or adopted, deceased at least five years may be nominated. The Board of Trustees for MDAH elects new members from the nominations. There are currently 136 members of the Hall of Fame.

Directions: Research a Mississippian who would qualify to be a member of the Hall of Fame. Use the attached form to write a nomination for the Mississippian you have chosen.

After the Field Trip: Mississippi Hall of Fame

Name_____Date _____

1. Nominee Name:_____
2. Birth Date: _____
3. Birth City/State: _____
4. Death Date: _____
5. Age at Death: _____
6. What years was the nominee in Mississippi? _____
7. How many years was the nominee in Mississippi? _____
8. What were the nominee's accomplishments?

9. What are the major contributions and/or accomplishments that qualify your nominee for admission and make them a leader in their field(s)?

Answer Key

BEFORE THE FIELD TRIP: STATE GOVERNMENT PUZZLE GRADES 3-5

Across
2. Executive
4. Capital
5. Convention
6. Three
7. Legislative
8. Governor

Down
1. Judicial
3. Capitol
4. Constitution

BEFORE THE FIELD TRIP: STATE GOVERNMENT PUZZLE GRADES 6-12

Across
4. Veto
6. Executive
7. Judicial
8. Four
9. Secretary of State
10. Eighteen ninety
11. Attorney General
12. Lieutenant Governor
13. Speaker of House

Down
1. Governor
2. Fifty two
3. Chief Justice
5. One hundred twenty-two

BEFORE THE FIELD TRIP: HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

1. Natchez
2. Four
3. Seventh
4. Andrew Longino
5. Reconstruction
6. Columbus
7. Hiram Revels
8. Second
9. Vote
10. 1890
11. 1817

DURING THE FIELD TRIP: QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Greek Revival
2. Rotunda
3. Cupula
4. Corinthian
5. House Chamber
6. Portico
7. Governor's Office
8. Palmette
9. 94 feet
10. The letter "M" and Mississippi

DURING THE FIELD TRIP: ARCHITECTURAL IDENTIFICATION

1. Doric Column
2. Palmette
3. Anthemion
4. Ionic Column
5. Acanthus Leaf
6. Dome
7. Corinthian Column
8. Rosette

AFTER THE FIELD TRIP: MISSISSIPPI'S CONSTITUTIONS

EXERCISE ONE

1. 1832
2. 1817
3. 1817
4. 1832
5. 1817
6. 1832
7. 1817

EXERCISE TWO

1. 1890
2. 1868
3. 1890
4. 1868
5. 1868
6. 1890
7. Neither

Additional Resources

Capitals and Capitols: The Places and Spaces of Mississippi's Seat of Government http://www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/articles/76/capitals-and-capitols-the-places-and-spaces-of-mississippis-seat-of-government

The Architect: William Nichols http://www.mdah.ms.gov/oldcap/architect.php

Betsy Love and the Mississippi Married Women's Property Act of 1839 http://www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/articles/6/betsy-love-and-the-mississippi-married-womens-property-act-of-1839

Isaiah Thornton Montgomery https://mississippiencyclopedia.org/entries/isaiah-thornton-montgomery/

Jackson: The Capital City and the Civil War http://www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/articles/337/jackson-the-capital-city-and-the-civil-war

Reconstruction https://mississippiencyclopedia.org/entries/reconstruction/

The Mississippi Constitution of 1890 http://www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/articles/103/mississippi-constitution-of-1890

MISSISSIPPI Department of MDA&H ARCHIVES & HISTORY