



Museum of Mississippi History & Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

FACT SHEET

CONSTRUCTION

Constructed side-by-side on North Street in downtown Jackson, the two museums will share space including a lobby, auditorium, store, and classrooms. The complex is being designed by ECD—an architectural consortium composed of Eley Guild Hardy; Cooke Douglass Farr Lemons, Ltd.; and Dale Partners—in consultation with the Freelon Group.

Work on the shell of the building began in December 2013 and is expected to be completed in summer 2015. Phase two, including interior construction, will last sixteen months.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Mississippi Development Authority's Tourism Division estimates the two new museums will welcome approximately 180,000 visitors each year. These visitors will create a projected annual tourism impact of \$17.1 million in tourism expenditures, 231 direct tourism jobs in the three-county region with an estimated \$6.3 million payroll, and 92 indirect jobs with a \$3.3 million payroll, contributing \$1.2 million to the State General Fund. Even before the museums open, the Mississippi Development Authority estimates the employment and economic impact of construction to be approximately \$50 million in total brick and mortar with 500 direct and 275 indirect jobs. Construction is projected to create \$24 million direct and \$13.2 million indirect wages and contribute \$2.4 million to the State General Fund.

FUNDING

The Mississippi Legislature has committed \$74 million in bond funds for construction and exhibits for the 2 Mississippi Museums. The Legislature required a dollar-for-dollar match for the exhibits. The Foundation for Mississippi History and the Foundation for the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum committed to raising \$16 million—\$12 million for exhibits and \$4 million for endowments for the museums. The Foundations are on track to meet that goal. MDAH will seek additional public funds in 2016 to complete the exhibits and furnish the building.

EXHIBITS

Exhibits for the Museum of Mississippi History are being designed by the Design Minds, Inc., of Fairfax, Virginia. Hilferty & Associates of Athens, Ohio, is designing the exhibits for the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. Both exhibit teams are working closely with project architects, MDAH staff, community advisors, and scholars to develop storylines for the exhibits.

COLLECTION

The two museums will feature artifacts and documents from the collection of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, which was founded in 1902. MDAH has the finest collection of Mississippi artifacts in the world, including a rare 1818 twenty-star U.S. Flag, an original Bowie knife, slave-made quilts, and prehistoric Native American artifacts. Exhibits will also draw on the department's extensive collection of photographs, newsfilm footage, maps, diaries, and manuscripts. MDAH staff is looking for items to add depth to the stories told in the two museums.

IMAGE USE FOR MEDIA

For high-resolution images of the 2 Mississippi Museums project, email info@mdah.state.ms.us or call 601-576-6998. For more information go to 2mississippimuseums.com. or call Stephenie Morrisey at 601-576-6545.

