

Mississippi History

MDAH

NEWSLETTER

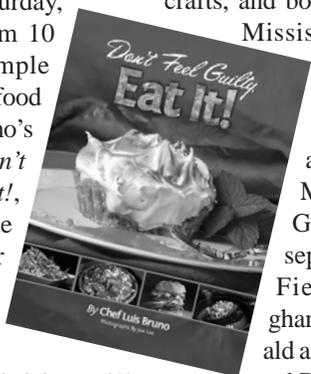
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Holiday Open House at Mississippi History Store

Begin your holiday season with a visit to the Mississippi History Store's annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, November 15, from 10 a.m. to noon. Sample deliciously healthy food from Chef Luis Bruno's new cookbook, *Don't Feel Guilty, Eat It!*, and have Bruno, the executive chef for Governor Haley Barbour, sign your copy.



The Mississippi History Store offers one of the state's finest collections of folk art, local crafts, and books by and about Mississippians. It features prints by Walter Anderson, Wolfe birds, and the work of Mississippi artists George Berry, Joseph Eckles, Helene Fielder, Fritz Fulgham, Jana John, Donald and Peggy Pimpler, and Dale Simmons.

Children's activities will include a creation station and live readings of *A Special Visitor Comes to Possum Ridge* by Lucky Osborne, the longtime MDAH volunteer who inspired the story. The event will also feature live holiday music.

The store is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the William F. Winter Archives and History Building, 200 North Street. Call 601-576-6921 for more information.

Veterans Day Program Nov. 14 at Winter Bldg

Join the Department of Archives and History on Friday, November 14, for "Honor and Service: A Veterans Day Remembrance." Speakers will include Charles M. Fitts, Jr., who served in the army during World War II, Clarence Hunter, who served in the army in Korea, and John Thomas, who served as a marine in Viet Nam.

"This will be a wonderful program and a chance to let the public know of the department's collection of military records," said Julia Marks Young, direc-

tor of the Archives and Records Services Division. "We collect and preserve the letters, films, photographs, and memorabilia of both servicemen and those who were on the homefront."

Following talks from the veterans there will be a tour of the new voting museum at the War Memorial Building.

"Honor and Service" will be held at 10 a.m. in the William F. Winter Archives and History Building, 200 North Street. There is no charge. For more information call 601-576-6850.

Gaslight Reflector Reinstalled in Old Capitol Senate Chamber



One of the most visible changes at the Old Capitol is the reinstallation of a gaslight reflector in the dome of the Senate Chamber. The original reflector—the purpose of which was to increase the amount of usable light from gas-burning jets in a ceiling fixture—was installed in 1870-71 and removed in the 1916-17 renovation of the building that saw the space electrified and converted to offices for state employees.

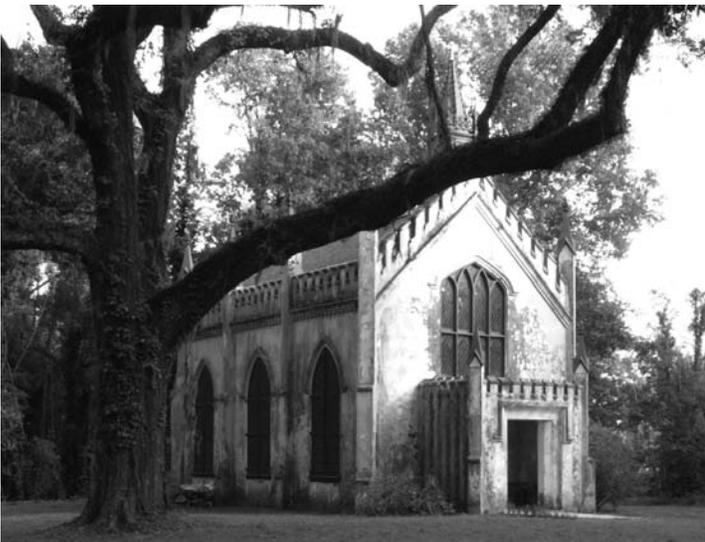
The Old Capitol will hold its public grand opening on Saturday, January 10, 2009. Though the focus of the museum will shift from the state's history to the history of the building and government in action, it will remain free of charge for the public. For more information see oldcapitolmuseum.com or call 601-576-6920.

MDAH Trustees Tour Natchez Area During Meeting



The board of trustees met October 17 in Natchez. At a public reception at Elms Court, resolutions of commendation were presented to preservationist Anne MacNeil (pictured at left with MDAH director H.T. Holmes and board president Kane Ditto), historian Ser Seshs Ab Heter-C.M. Boxley (pictured below left), and (not pictured) Natchez Powwow sponsor Chuck Borum and longtime Natchez preservationists Ron and Mimi Miller.

PICTURES, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: MDAH board members at Windsor; Historic Properties Division director Jim Barnett served as tour guide for the day; board members view exhibits at the Forks of the Road site; touring the interior of the circa 1839 St. Mary's Episcopal Chapel at Laurel Hill Plantation; exterior of St. Mary's; presentation by Jane Spencer Ellis of elevations, floor plans, and details of "Hollywood," a circa 1836 Port Gibson house that burned in the 1980s. Pictured holding the drawings are Historic Preservation Division director Ken P'Pool and Kane Ditto.



Preservation Division Asks Public Input

The MDAH Historic Preservation Division is developing Fiscal Year 2009 priorities and objectives for Historic Preservation Fund–assisted programs. Suggestions and comments from the public regarding proposed priorities, objectives, and projects are invited.

Annual grants-in-aid are made available through a competitive application process to Certified Local Governments—communities that have established preservation commissions in accordance with federal and state guidelines and been certified by the National Park Service. Historic preservation projects benefiting minorities and the disabled are encouraged.

Address comments or questions to Jim Woodrick, Acting Director, Historic Preservation Division, MDAH, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

National Library Group Visits State Archives



Last month the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies held their national meeting in Jackson. Pictured above is MDAH director H.T. Holmes welcoming the group to a tour of the Winter Building on October 7.

Participation at Archaeology Expo Tops 1,000



The inaugural Mississippi Archaeology Expo, held Saturday, October 18, on the Millsaps College campus in Jackson, drew more than 1,000 visitors. “The expo provided valuable information to our community about Mississippi’s rich cultural resources,” said Cliff Jenkins, event chair. “We hope to see even more people next year.” Sponsors included MDAH, the Bureau of Land Management; Coastal Environments, Inc.; Coca-Cola Bottling Company; the Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University; Earth Search, Inc.; Forestry Suppliers; Jackson, Scott, and Associates; Mississippi Archaeological Association; Mississippi Arts Commission; Mississippi Association of Professional Archaeologists; Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mississippi Humanities Council; and Payne’s Custom Jewelry.



November MDAH Events

GULF COAST

November 20. *Basic Archives Workshop.* For small repositories with historical materials, this workshop will provide essential information about collection acquisition, evaluation, processing, access, and preservation. Space is limited. Venue TBD. For more information call Forrest Galey at 601-576-6872. *Sponsored by the Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board.*

GREENVILLE

Winterville Mounds
Highway 1 North
662-334-4684

November 5–8. *Native American Days.* Experience traditional Native American cooking, weaving, dancing, storytelling, flintknapping, and more.

JACKSON

History is Lunch Series
Noon–1 p.m.
William F. Winter Archives
and History Building
200 North Street
601-576-6998

Wednesday, November 5— Constance Slaughter Harvey, John Maxwell, Sid Salter, and William F. Winter will read

excerpts from their essays in the new book *Growing Up in Mississippi.*

Wednesday, November 19— Clinton artist Wyatt Waters will talk about his life as a watercolorist and introduce a new calendar featuring his work.

WASHINGTON

Historic Jefferson College
Highway 61 North
601-442-2901

November 7–9. *Civil War Reenactment.* Union and Confederate reenactors encamp on the grounds. Battle reenactments at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Thursday, November 13, noon. Historian Clark Burkett will present a brown bag program, “Aaron Burr and the Aaron Burr Oaks at Jefferson College.”

Tuesday, November 18, noon. Mississippi Museum of Natural Science biologist Bryan Fedrick will present a brown bag program on the state’s native reptiles—with live specimens.

Saturday, November 22. *EXPLORE! Native American Crafts.* For kids ages 6–8 (10–11:30 a.m.) and 9–12 (2–3:30 p.m.). \$10 fee; pre-payment required.

Volunteers Needed for Old Capitol

When the Old Capitol reopens in January 2009, volunteers will be instrumental in its operations. Positions available include museum guides, hosts and hostesses, special events volunteers, first-person interpreters (reenactors), foreign language interpreters, and many more.

There are three orientation and training sessions scheduled: Saturday, Dec. 6, and Tuesday, Dec. 9, from 9:30 to noon, and Friday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering at the Old Capitol, contact Elizabeth Coleman at 601-576-6985 or by email at ecoleman@mdah.state.ms.us.

Windows Workshop Nov. 6

A workshop on historic windows will be held Thursday, November 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center of Arts and Education in Ocean Springs.

Presentations include a demonstration of window restoration, “How Windows Define Buildings,” “What Replacement Windows Can’t Replace,” “It Really Isn’t About the Windows,

Records Advisory Board Offers New Awards Program

The Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board is initiating an awards program to honor efforts to identify, preserve, and provide access to Mississippi’s historical records.

Awards will be given for Archival Program Development, Documenting Mississippi’s History, Using Historical Records in Grades K-12, and Using Historical Records in Higher Education. The first awards will be presented at the spring 2009 meeting of the Society of Mississippi Archivists. For more information contact Forrest Galey at 601-576-6872 or by email at fgaley@mdah.state.ms.us.

Stupid: Improving Thermal Systems in Historic Buildings,” “Preserving Old Wood/Selecting New Wood,” “Restoration of Metal Windows,” and a discussion of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards regarding windows.

Continuing Education Units are available. To register, call Michelle Weaver Jones at 662-325-2520.