The Historic Natchez Foundation has:

- Prepared National Register nominations for seven historic districts throughout the city
- Provided tax incentives and grant eligibility for rehabilitation of hundreds of historic properties
- Stimulated development in downtown by preparing paperwork for federal tax incentives
- Preserved endangered historic properties by acquisition, preservation, restoration, and resale
- Preserved and catalogued historic records through the Courthouse Records Project
- Provided preservation and restoration assistance to hundreds of people in the Natchez region
- Catalogued decorative arts and promoted Natchez by the Historic Natchez Collection of reproductions

Preserved endangered historic properties:
- The 1901 Natchez Institute is the oldest surviving public school building in Natchez. The Foundation acquired the downtown building as its headquarters in 1992 and has substantially invested in its preservation and rehabilitation.
- The Foundation acquired the 1901 Natchez Institute as museum exhibit space with each classroom dedicated to interpreting themes of Natchez history. The large, central hallway will feature rotating exhibits. The second story will house offices, meeting rooms, and research facilities. Elevator access has already been installed.
- The Historic Institute is the oldest surviving public school building in Natchez and the museum and archival center that interprets and preserves the history of Natchez.
- Architectural plans designate the entire first story of the building as museum exhibit space with each classroom dedicated to interpreting themes of Natchez history. The large, central hallway will feature rotating exhibits. The second story will house offices, meeting rooms, and research facilities. Elevator access has already been installed.
- The Foundation enjoys a strong working partnership with the Natchez National Historical Park and the two entities are exploring shared archival and museum storage facilities in the basement of the Natchez Institute, which has been partially developed for this purpose.
- Help us make this museum and archival center a reality and contribute to our heritage tourism economy and the cultural enrichment of the Natchez community.

**Membership**

The Historic Natchez Foundation receives no public support for operating expenses and appreciates each and every membership donation.

Donors may wish to consider becoming “Pillars of Support,” higher levels of giving that include special member benefits. Contact the Foundation to learn how you personally or your business might benefit from joining at one of the higher levels.

*Portico,* the highest level of membership, includes automatic sponsorship of the Great Mississippi River Balloon Race with two hotel rooms for two nights; free use of a Natchez mansion for a special event; free use of the Natchez Institute for a special event; exclusive 3-hour tours with lunch conducted by the executive director or director emeritus; and other special benefits enjoyed by some or all levels of the Pillars of Support.

**Membership Dues and Form**

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<tr>
<th>Membership Level</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student $20</td>
<td>Tuscan Order $500</td>
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<td>Family $100</td>
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<td>Portico $10,000</td>
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Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

Phone ____________________________

E-Mail ____________________________

**Historic Natchez Foundation**

108 South Commerce Street, 39120 or Box 1761, 39121

Natchez, Mississippi

(601) 442-2500 Fax (601) 442-2525

E-mail: info@natchez.org
Website: natchez.org

Keeping Natchez the place you can always come home to...
SPECIAL EVENTS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Great Mississippi River Balloon Race**
The Great Mississippi River Balloon Race is the largest weekend event in Southwest Mississippi. Initiated by the Foundation in 1986, the festival provides a fun-filled weekend of balloons and music and an economic boost to the community. The festival site on the grounds of the mansion Rosalie overlooks the Mississippi River.

**Historic Natchez Conference**
The biennial Historic Natchez Conference fosters the study, preservation, and appreciation of the Natchez region by providing a forum for established scholars, graduate students, representatives from major archival collections, and the general public to share research, resources, and ideas. All lectures are free to the public.

**Illustrated Lectures**
The Foundation produces illustrated lectures on Natchez history, architecture, decorative arts, historic preservation, gardens, landscapes, site interpretation, and historic records. The Foundation also provides copies of lectures on CD's to educators and others interested in learning more about historic Natchez.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE

Since 1979, the Historic Natchez Foundation has listed over 1,000 historic buildings in the National Register of Historic Places. National Register listing is a prerequisite for federal and state grant funding and tax credits for rehabilitating historic buildings. The Foundation has provided technical assistance to several hundred property owners and filed successful applications for grant and/or tax credit funding for almost two hundred projects, four of which are pictured above and below. Increased financial support will allow the Foundation to hire added professional staff to increase the number of buildings eligible for incentives and to provide the technical assistance necessary for historic property owners to receive the maximum financial benefit.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACQUISITION

The Historic Natchez Foundation has optioned or acquired more than fifty historic properties that would otherwise have been demolished. The Foundation only acquires properties unlikely to be preserved by private enterprise, like the two houses pictured above, before and after. The Foundation owned Memorial Hall (below left) for 17 years before it found new life as a federal courthouse. The Ritz Theatre (below right) is the city's most significant Art Deco building and needs substantial investment to insure its preservation. With increased funding for preservation, the Foundation could buy, rehabilitate, and finance the sales of numerous deteriorated and endangered buildings throughout the city.

Senator Hiram R. Revels left the pulpit of Zion Chapel A.M.E. Church in Natchez to become the first African American to sit in either house of the U. S. Congress. He afterwards became the first president of Alcorn State University.