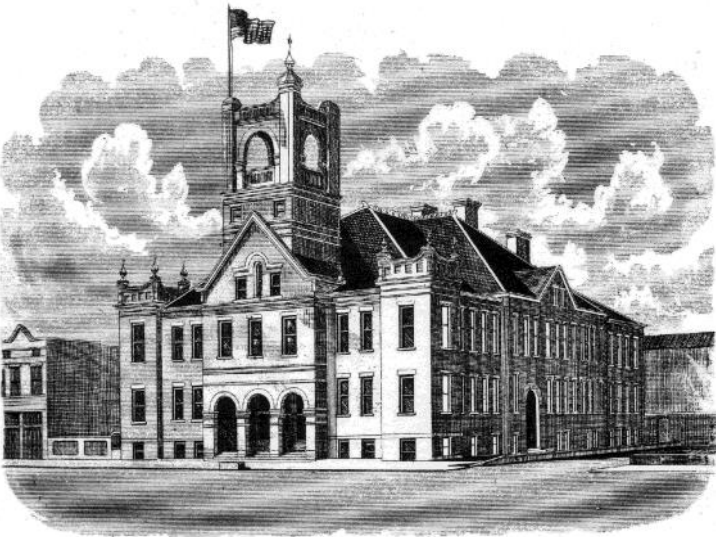


The Natchez Institute

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.



Planning for the Future

The Historic Natchez Foundation looks forward to the rehabilitation and development of the Natchez Institute as a 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.

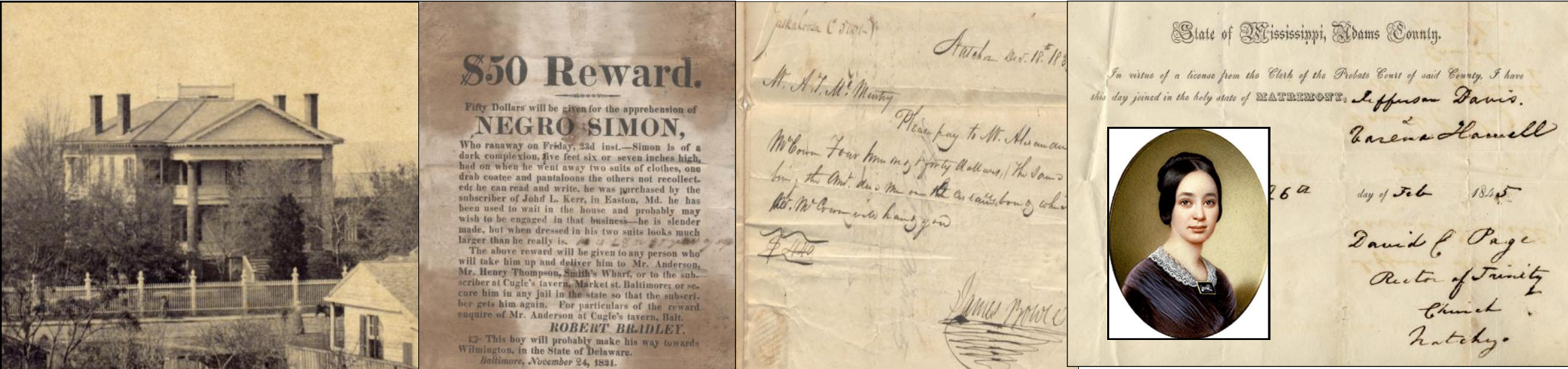
Smithsonian *Journey Stories* Exhibit

The Foundation co-sponsored the *Journeys Stories* exhibit with the Mississippi Humanities Council and the Institute for Southern Jewish Life. Several hundred school students visited the exhibit and enjoyed special programming.



MUSEUM AND ARCHIVAL CENTER

The Historic Natchez Foundation’s archival collections focus on the history, architecture, and decorative arts of Natchez. The Foundation holds and manages the historic Adams County Courthouse records, which include the 1845 marriage certificate of Varina Howell and Jefferson Davis; an 1833 note bearing the signature of Jim Bowie of Alamo fame; and an 1821 handbill advertising a reward for a runaway Natchez slave. Other collections include historic photographs, like the Harper House (below), demolished ca. 1900; the 20th-century collection of Natchez photographer Mabel Lane; research files on Natchez history; site files on buildings; and a small research library. The Foundation needs financial support to assist the hundreds of researchers who contact and visit the office each year and to install climate control and fire suppression systems for long-term preservation of the collections.



ARCHIVES AND COURTHOUSE RECORDS



Historic Natchez Foundation
A Special Organization for a Special Place

Join the Historic Natchez Foundation to:

- Preserve the rich architectural heritage of one of America’s most significant historic regions
- Interpret the diverse history of the many peoples who created the character of the Natchez region
- Increase the city and county property tax base through rehabilitation of historic properties
- Increase the tourism economy of the region by making Natchez a magnet for heritage tourism
- Increase retail and sales tax revenues by expanding tourism and revitalizing downtown

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

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

Membership is open to all who seek to preserve the best of the past to create a brighter future by preserving and promoting the special character of the Natchez region.

Membership Level		Pillars of Support	
Student	\$ 20	Tuscan Order	\$ 500
Senior Citizen	\$ 35	Doric Order	\$ 1,000
Individual	\$ 50	Ionic Order	\$ 2,500
Family	\$100	Corinthian Order	\$ 5,000
		Portico.	\$10,000

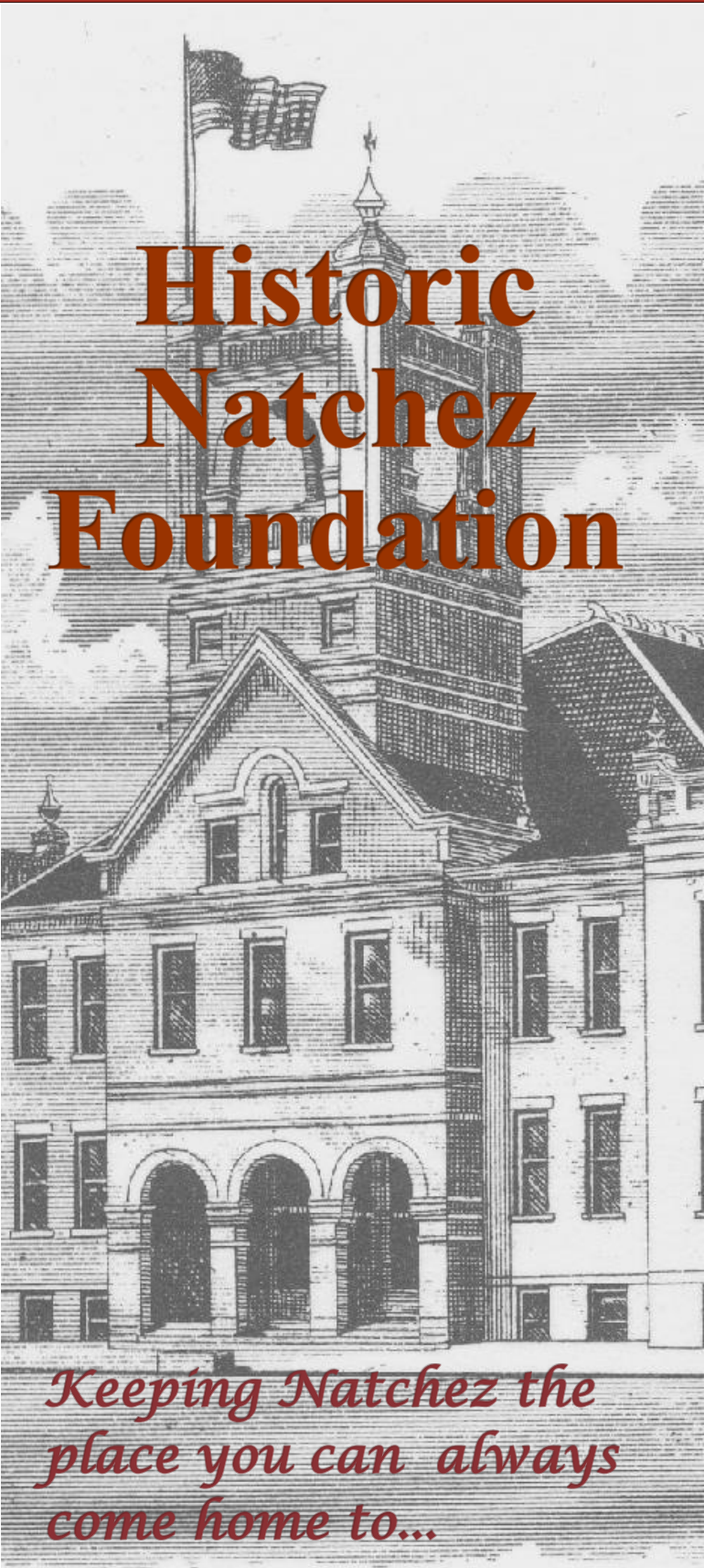
Name _____

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: hnf@natchez.org
Website: natchez.org



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.

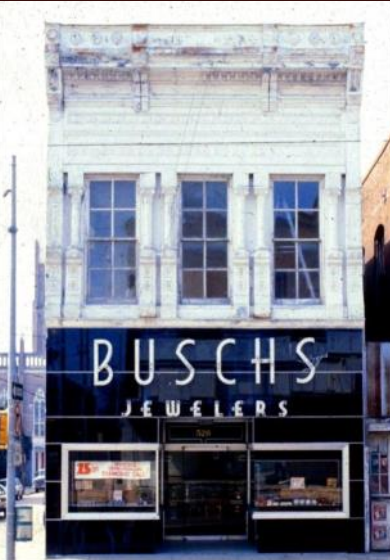


Senator Hiram R. Revels left the pulpit of Zion Chapel A.M.E. Church in Natchez to become the first African American to sit in either house of the U. S. Congress. He afterwards became the first president of Alcorn State University.

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.

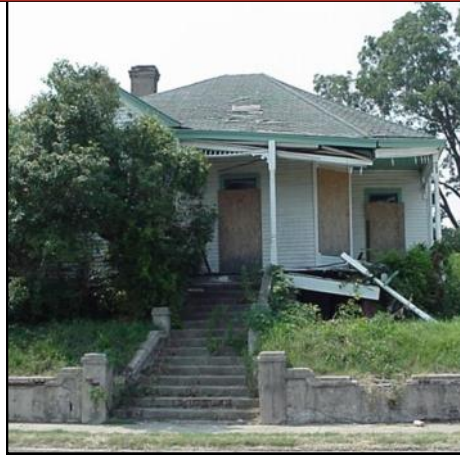
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE



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.

