

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY ------

# STATE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

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# MISSISSIPPI STATE CAPITOL 400 High Street, Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 359-3114

Mississippi's current State Capitol Building, located between Mississippi and High streets in downtown Jackson, is the third capitol building built in the capital city of Jackson. The first building was completed in 1822, the second building in 1833 and the current capitol building was completed in 1903. The building was erected on the site of the old state penitentiary and was designed by Theodore Link, an architect from St. Louis, Missouri. The building cost \$1,095,681, which was financed by the Illinois Central Railroad's payment of back taxes they owed the state.

From 1979 to 1983, the capitol building underwent a complete restoration, which cost \$19 million. The renovation remained true to the original building and strived to maintain the original design when at all possible.

The Beaux Arts style building was designed to house all branches of the Mississippi State government. Currently, only the Legislature and the executive branches are contained in the Capitol. The judicial branch is housed in the Gartin Justice Building across High Street.

The Capitol is 402 feet long and 180 feet to the top of the dome. The dome interior contains 750 lights which illuminate the blind-folded lady representing "Blind Justice" and four scenes: two Indians, a Spanish explorer and a Confederate general. The eagle, which sits atop the dome, is made of solid copper gilded with gold leaf. The eagle is 8 feet high and 15 feet wide.

On the first floor, the Hall of Governors features portraits of Mississippi's governors since the creation of the Mississippi Territory in 1798. The State Library and the Supreme Court chambers, now both committee meeting rooms, are located on the second floor. Both houses of the Legislature are located on the third floor, along with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House's offices. The Secretary of State maintains an office on the first floor near the main, southern-facing entrance. Public viewing for both chambers is located on the fourth floor.

The walls of the rotunda are Italian white marble with a base of New York jet-black marble. Eight large columns are art marble known as scagliola. Balustrades are cast iron and original to the building.

The Senate Chamber has seats for the 52 Senators. The Chamber is art marble with the base of Belgium black marble. Its columns are Breccia violet with corinthian caps. Its dome is stained Bohemian glass with another dome on top for protection. In the center of the dome is a green circle of printing that reads, "The people's government made for the people by the people and answerable to the people." An image of Theresa Whitecloud, a full-blooded Choctaw Indian princess (died 1970), is on six wooden panels. The Chamber desks were replaced in the 1940s.

The House of Representatives Chamber has seats for the 122 Representatives, including the Speaker, the chamber's presiding officer. The Chamber dome is the original Bohemian stained glass with another dome on top for protection of the stained glass. Desks are the originals of 1903. The Mississippi Coat of Arms is at the top of each arch. The walls are art marble and their base is Belgian black marble.

One of the 53 replicas of the original Liberty Bell, as well as a statue erected in memory of the ladies, mothers, sisters, wives and daughters of the Confederate soldiers, is located on the capitol grounds. Among the trees on the grounds are the state tree, the magnolia tree, along with two Japanese magnolia trees. Also on the grounds is the figurehead from the second USS Mississippi battleship. The ship was sold to the government of Greece during 1914 but the figurehead was presented to Mississippi by the United States Navy in December 1909.



# GOVERNOR'S MANSION 300 East Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 359-3175

First occupied in 1842, the Mississippi Governor's Mansion is the second oldest continuously occupied governor's residence in the United States. In 1975, it was designated a National Historic Landmark, making it at that time one of only two state gubernatorial residences to receive this honor.

In January 1833, the Mississippi legislature appropriated funds to build a capitol building and "a suitable house for the Governor." Delayed by a serious Depression caused by the Panic of 1837, construction of the Governor's Mansion was not begun until 1839, the same year that the capitol building was completed. In January 1842, Governor Tilghman Tucker and his family moved into the Mansion, which had been constructed for a cost of approximately \$50,000.00. Both the capitol building (Old Capitol) and the Governor's Mansion were designed by architect William Nichols, a native of Bath, England. Nichols designed the Mansion in the period's most popular architectural style—Greek Revival. Architectural historians consider the Mississippi Governor's Mansion to be one of the finest surviving examples of the Greek Revival style in the United States.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, the Mansion fell into a state of disrepair, and by 1900 many people were calling for its demolition. In 1908, Governor Edmund Noel initially refused to move his family there and lived instead at the Edwards House, a hotel a few blocks away from the Mansion. Then-Governor Noel and family moved into the Mansion briefly, believing this would be the most effective way to bring attention to the condition of the property. The cause to save the Mansion was taken up by First Lady Alice Noel and by patriotic ladies' organizations, who persuaded the Legislature to allocate \$30,000 for a renovation, directed by local architect William S. Hull.

The 1908–1909 renovation included the construction of a two-story family annex, which was added to the rear of the Mansion. The three-part window on the rear façade was bricked in, and other windows in the original structure—nineteenth-century twelve-pane windows— were replaced with the more contemporary double-pane style. The original staircase was removed and replaced with a center staircase to give access to the family annex. New large entrances were constructed from the hall to the State Dining Room and from the hall to the Back Rose (Northwest) Parlor of the same size as the original entrances between the State Dining Room/Gold (East) Parlor and between the double Rose (West) Parlors. These 1909 entrances had architraves and sliding doors to match the 1841 entrances. The original front door was removed and replaced with a beveled glass door. Thin hardwood floors were placed over the original wide heart pine plank floors. A layer of yellow pressed brick was applied to the original Mansion exterior to match the yellow pressed brick of the two-story annex. The Mansion retained this yellow brick exterior until it was painted white during the 1940-1943 term of Governor Paul B. Johnson, Sr.

Despite occasional appropriations for repair and furnishings, the Mansion deteriorated structurally. In July 1971, a safety inspection of the Mansion indicated that the building was not safe for occupancy, and Governor John Bell Williams and his family subsequently vacated the Mansion. It was determined that only a major restoration could save the Governor's Mansion for future generations.

In December 1971 Governor-elect William Waller met with the State Building Commission, which adopted a resolution recommending to the Legislature that the Mansion be "completely restored, refurbished, and refurnished." The Commission called upon the Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History to be responsible for advising the project architect and named Charlotte Capers, director of the Department during the restoration of the Old Capitol, as principal executive for the project. Shortly after Governor Waller's January 1972 inauguration, funds were allocated by the Legislature for the 1972–1975 major restoration and renovation of the Mansion.

Charlotte Capers secured two distinguished consultants for the project: Charles E. Peterson, architectural historian and restorationist, best known for his work on the Independence Hall restoration; and Edward Vason Jones, architect and interior designer and consultant to the White House. The consultants worked closely with the project architects, Lewis-Eaton Partnership, Inc., on all matters related to the historic or original portion of the Mansion. The family annex, built in 1908 and condemned as unsafe in 1971, was demolished and reconstructed in a similar but larger version to provide family living quarters and office space.

On June 8, 1975, the \$2.7 million restoration and renovation of the Mansion was completed and a formal dedication ceremony held. In 1975, the Mississippi Governor's Mansion was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Department of Interior for its architectural and historical significance.



OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM 100 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 576-6920

The Old Capitol was the site of some of the state's most significant legislative actions, such as the passage of the 1839 Married Women's Property Act, Mississippi's secession from the Union in 1861, and the crafting of the 1868 and 1890 state constitutions.

Architect for the Capitol was William Nichols, born in 1780 in Bath, England. In 1800 he immigrated to the United States. Nichols worked in New Bern, North Carolina, as an architect and builder, and then in 1819 was appointed state architect of North Carolina. His Greek Revival renovation of their state house previewed his design for Mississippi's Old Capitol almost two decades later.

When Nichols came to Mississippi in the fall of 1835 as the new state architect, his first job was to tear down previous architect John Lawrence's false start on the building. Nichols overcame many obstacles in the construction of the Old Capitol; the shortage of skilled workers was so great that some owners hired out their skilled slaves. Nichols used local limestone, although it was of inferior quality. Blocks of stone were carried by wagon from the quarry to Jackson. Construction was repeatedly slowed by problems with the brick suppliers. Nevertheless, Nichols carried on.

Except for small interior details, work was finished by February 1840. A chandelier arrived in June 1840, and the final expenditure for building the state house was made October 13, 1840, for flagging the rotunda. The cost of building the Old Capitol was about \$400,000, a huge amount for that time.

While Nichols was working on the state house, he also designed two other major projects: the Mississippi Governor's Mansion, completed in 1842, and the state's first penitentiary. The latter building was a large, castle-like structure in Gothic Revival style at the site of the current state capitol.

The Old Capitol has been restored to its original grandeur and reopened by the State as a free museum focusing on the distinguished history of the building and the events that have

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taken place in it. Interactive multimedia exhibits explore the roles of the legislature, governor, and high court, as well as the importance of historic preservation to the state, the activities that took place in the building after the New Capitol was constructed in 1903, and much more.

The building is a National Historic Landmark, and one of the country's premier examples of Greek Revival public architecture. When it was built in 1839, the massive limestone exterior, copper dome, and grand interior spaces made the Old Capitol the most distinguished building in Mississippi.

The Old Capitol Museum completed its last major restoration in 2009. From 1961 until 2005, the Old Capitol was home to the state's history museum. Damage suffered from Hurricane Katrina forced the museum's closure and led to the 2006 Legislature providing the majority of funding for the total \$16 million project. Work on the site began in January 2007, and the museum re-opened in early 2009.

The 2009 restoration brought tremendous changes to Mississippi's most historic landmark and museum, including these new features:

- Faux-limestone facade. The Old Capitol originally had a stucco façade on its front and sides that was scored to look like limestone. The brick was left exposed on the rear of the building because it faced the Pearl River swamp. In 2008, the stucco was reapplied, returning the Old Capitol to its original mid-nineteenth-century appearance.
- Wrought iron fence. The original fence that defined the historic Capitol Green has been recreated. Landscaping will soon return the green to its nineteenth-century appearance, with no plantings next to the building.
- Historic Governor's Office. An earlier restoration erred in creating a large and lavish governor's office. This smaller governor's office is truer to the period. Notice the mantle and baseboards (called mop boards), which have been grained to imitate marble as in the original.
- State Library. The state library, located in the third floor apse area from 1839-1858, has been fully restored. New bookshelves will contain many of the library's original books. The columns in the room have also relocated closer to the bookshelves as they appear in a historic photograph.
- Senate. A gaslight reflector once again lights the Senate by directing gaslight downward. An ornate dome design with octagonal coffers and rosettes has been recreated with the help of period photographs. Mannequins of legislators surrounded by reproduction desks and chairs recreate actual debates from the past.
- Glass entrance doors to legislative chambers. Photographs show that the large entrance doors to both the House and Senate Chambers were originally part glass to allow legislators of one body to watch the actions of the other.
- New draperies, carpets, and colors. The Governor's office and the Senate and House Chambers feature new carpets and draperies based on research and historic fabrics in the museum's collection. Additional research and the study of historic photographs also led to many color changes in several areas in the Old Capitol.
- Interesting light fixtures in the Rotunda. The only known decorations to have filled the Rotunda niches are the early-1900s brass torchieres, which have been reproduced.
- New Staircase balusters. Photographic documentation showed that the previous (1959) balusters on the spiral staircases were inappropriate. They have been replaced with more accurate balusters.

Hours are Tuesday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sunday 1–5 p.m.; closed Mondays. Admission to the Old Capitol is free. Please call ahead to schedule tours for groups of 10 or more.

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E.T. WOOLFOLK STATE OFFICE BUILDING 501 North West Street, Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 576-2501

Immediately to the west of the New State Capitol Building stands the Woolfolk Office Building. Completed in 1949 at a cost of almost \$3.7 million, the 15-story Ellis Trigg Woolfolk Building is cemented in Mississippi history. The original 259,000 square feet, 15-story building formed an appropriate backdrop to the New State Capitol Building. Housing up to 28 state agencies at one point, this building was a major hub of state activity. The towering limestone structure was the largest building in the State at the time of construction.

In 1946, the Legislature authorized the building of a state facility to relieve the financial burdens of rents for state agencies. Architects E.L. Malvaney and Associates, Emmett J. Hull, Cary Jones, and Frank Gates were selected to design the building. The general contractor for the building was J.A. Jones Construction Company of Charlotte, N.C.

Governor Fielding L. Wright and other members of the Building Commission were responsible for the rapid progress in getting the building project underway and completed in a timely and cost effective manner.

The regal structure is quite impressive. One of the most striking features of this building is the magnolia that is etched into the limestone. The Woolfolk Building not only met the functional need for consolidating state agencies in one building, it was designed to reflect and even showcase Mississippi's rich culture and heritage. For this reason, a portion of the building was designated for attractive displays and exhibits showing Mississippi's industrial, recreational and agricultural advantages. The building was equipped with a large cafeteria and assembly hall.

It was named for Senatobia native Ellis Trigg Woolfolk (1877-1946), a state senator and representative who chaired the House Appropriations Committee. An annex to the state office building was added in 2001, bringing the current square footage to 446,616.

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CARROLL GARTIN JUSTICE BUILDING 450 High Street, Jackson, MS 39205 (601) 359-3697

The Gartin Justice Building is home to the Mississippi Supreme Court and the Mississippi Court of Appeals. Planning for a new justice building began in 1993. Construction began in 2001 and the courts began moving in 2008. The building is named for former Lt. Gov. Carroll Gartin, who was also a two-term mayor of Laurel. Gartin was completing his third term as lieutenant governor when he died in December 1966.

The neoclassical architecture of the remodeled appellate court building was designed to complement the state Capitol across the street. The four-story, 162,000-square-foot structure is topped with a copper roof. The building has limestone columns and an exterior of more than 10,000 pieces of gray Indiana limestone.

The state Supreme Court has been housed in various places since its inception in 1818. The court originally met in Natchez at the Adams County Courthouse. It briefly moved to Monticello from 1826 to 1828 and then back to Natchez. The court met inside the Old Capitol in Jackson from 1839 to 1903. In 1974, the court moved from the present Capitol to the original Gartin Justice Building.



HEBER LADNER BUILDING 401 Mississippi Street

Constructed in 1924, the building now housing the Secretary of State's offices was originally a library designed by architect N.W. Overstreet. The neoclassical Italian Renaissance-revival building was renovated in 1980. The two-story building contains 12,520 square feet of office and meeting space.



WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING 120 South State Street

Designed by E.L. Malvaney in the Art Deco style and built in 1940 as a tribute to Mississippi veterans, several veteran's associations and a military museum are located in the building. A replica of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is located in the courtyard.



WALTER SILLERS BUILDING 550 High Street

Currently, the Sillers Building houses the offices of Medicaid, the Attorney General and other state agencies.



WILLIAM F. WINTER ARCHIVES AND HISTORY BUILDING 200 North Street

The William F. Winter Archives and History Building, dedicated November 7, 2003, serves as the main administration building and home for the State of Mississippi archives collection. It is situated on and shares a bluff in downtown Jackson with three prominent historic structures—the War Memorial Building, the Capers Building and the State Old Capitol Building. The architecture of this new 140,575-square-foot facility blends with its historic neighbors and forms an appropriate backdrop for the Old Capitol. To ensure the correct scale, the building's visual mass was reduced by building the two floors of archival storage into the hillside and by recessing the fifth floor along the two facades facing the Old Capitol block. The facility's major programmatic divisions are public areas for the study of State archives, administrative office spaces, archivists work areas, and archival stack storage areas.



ROBERT E. LEE BUILDING 239 North Lamar Street

The Italian Renaissance-style building was built in 1930 as a luxury hotel designed by Jackson architect Claude H. Lindsley. In 1969, the 115,300-square-foot building was sold to the state and remodeled for government offices. It was again renovated in 1981 and 2011.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 359 North West Street

Parts of this building date as early as 1888-89. Its present Collegiate Gothic appearance is due to major remodeling in 1925. Currently, it houses offices for the Mississippi Department of Education.

## **BUREAU OF CAPITOL FACILITIES**

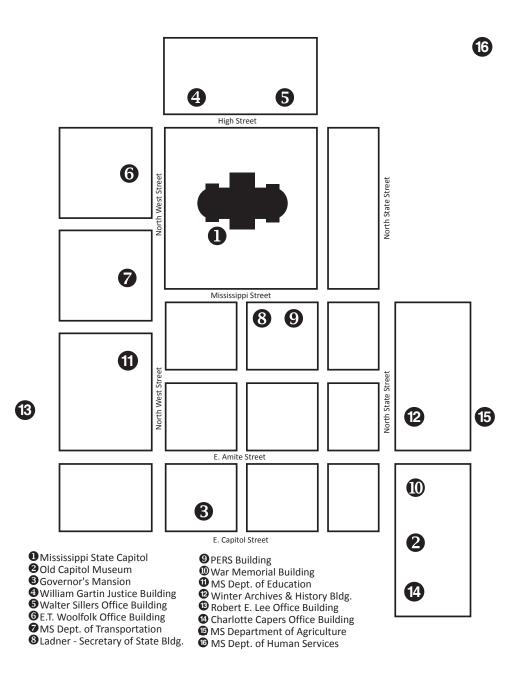
The Office of Capitol Facilities performs the duties required to assure that all buildings under this office's jurisdiction are maintained and kept operable in addition to maintaining grounds and performing custodial duties. Parking at state buildings in the Capitol Complex is also a responsibility of this office.

The Office of Capitol Facilities currently has 24 buildings under its jurisdiction: Central High Building, New Capitol Building, Burroughs Building, Carroll Gartin Building, Governor's Mansion, Heber Ladner Building, Robert E. Lee Building, 700 North State Street, Walter Sillers Building, Charlotte Capers Building, GM&O Depot Building, 515 Amite Street, Old Capitol Building, Manship House, Manship Visitor's Center, War Memorial Building, 301 Building, Carpenter Shop, State Records Center, E. T. Woolfolk Building, E. L. Bolton State Office Building (Biloxi), and State Service Buildings #1 and #2 (Hattiesburg). The 660 North Street and the 620 North Street Buildings are also under the jurisdiction of Capitol Facilities.

BUILDING NAME	USE	CONSTR./RENOVATED	GROSS SQ FT
NEW CAPITOL	LEGISLATURE	1903/1874	142,500
GOVERNOR'S MANSION	RESIDENCE/OFC	1842/1908/1972	22,800
HEBER LADNER	SEC OF STATE	1949/1980	12,520
GARTIN BUILDING	JUDICIAL	1974/2001	162,000
ROBERT E. LEE	OFFICE	1930/1981/2011	115,300
WOOLFOLK	OFFICE	1949/2001	446,616
WALTER SILLERS	OFFICE	1970/2008	271,471
101 W. CAPITOL	OFFICE	1983	50,000
301 BUILDING	OFFICE	1986	83,690
620 BUILDING	OFFICE	1978/2010	34,397
666 BUILDING	OFFICE	1973/2011	34,964
700 BUILDING	OFFICE	1987/2009	63,597
515 E. AMITE (WORLDCOM)	OFFICE	2008/2009/2010	112,000
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	EDUCATION	1925/1999	136,632
BOLTON STATE BLDG.	OFFICE	1998/2009	136,611
HATTIESBURG SERVICE CTR.	OFFICE	1998	27,555
GM&O DEPOT	OFFICE	1927	5,200
WINTER ARCHIVES BLDG.	LIBRARY/MUSEUM	2003	145,036
OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM	MUSEUM/OFFICE	1839/2000/2010	52,200
CAPERS BUILDING	OFFICE/LIBRARY	1971	44,700
WAR MEMORIAL	MUSEUM	1940	44,400
STATE RECORD CENTER	WAREHOUSE	1981	26,721
MANSHIP HOUSE	MUSEUM	1989/2001/2012	5,928
SILLERS GARAGE	PARKING	2009	301,376
WOOLFOLK GARAGE	PARKING	2001	156,798
ROBERT E. LEE GARAGE	PARKING	1996	115,300
WOOLFOLK ANNEX	OFFICE	2001	34,143
OLD NAVAL BUILDING	STORAGE	1949	25,000
TRAILWAYS BUS STATION	CARPENTER SHOP	1986	13,328

## **CAPITOL FACILITIES INFORMATION**

# MISSISSIPPI CAPITOL COMPLEX JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



#### GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY -

## STATE MUSEUMS

## **EUDORA WELTY HOUSE**

1119 Pinehurst Street, Jackson 39202 (601) 353-7762 www.mdah.state.ms.us/welty/index.htm

The Eudora Welty House is a National Historic Landmark and one of the nation's most intact literary house museums, reflecting Welty's life there over 76 years. Welty left her house and collection of thousands of books to the State, and the Welty family donated furniture and art. Visitors will see Welty's house as she lived in it.

### JIM BUCK ROSS AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY MUSEUM

1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson 39202 (601) 713-3365 www.mdac.state.ms.us

Celebrating Mississippi's proud agricultural legacy, the museum invites visitors to park their vehicle, walk across a rustic bridge, and enter a bygone era. Guides reveal how agriculture and forestry molded the history and heritage of the State. Various museums of the Ag Museum include the Heritage Exhibit Center, the National Agricultural Aviation Museum, the Fitzgerald Collection, Small Town Mississippi, the Fortenberry-Parkman Farmstead, the Ethnic Heritage Center, and the Forestry Auditorium.

## MANSHIP HOUSE MUSEUM

420 East Fortification Street, Jackson 39202 (601) 961-4724 www.mdah.state.ms.us/museum/manship.html

The Manship House was built on a four-acre lot in a sparsely settled area of Jackson when it was a city of about 3,000. Although the city has grown up around the house, it stands in its original setting of native trees and shrubs, some of which may have been planted by Manship himself. The Manship House Museum closed July 1, 2010, for repairs.

## **MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE**

2148 Riverside Drive, Jackson 39202-1353 (601) 354-7303/F (601) 354-7227 www.mdwfp.com/museum

Located in LeFleur's Bluff State Park, the Museum's buildings and group feature a 73,000-square-foot exhibit complex overlooking a 300-acre natural landscape, 2.5 miles of nature trails and an open-air amphitheater.