

News from MDAH

Windsor Ruins

In September the Department of Archives and History selected WFT Architects, P.A. to develop plans to stabilize Windsor. The project architect will be Lawson Newman who was the architect in charge of the restoration of the State Capitol as well as other historic buildings in Mississippi.

Of course, the columns were never meant to stand without support and about three cubic feet of their masonry disintegrates every year. Half the decorative stucco has been lost and continues to erode and four to six pieces of the iron capitals detach and fall every year.

So far, they have cut back the trees and underbrush and cleared the area between the site and the road. A temporary fence has been put up to protect visitors from falling debris, and a new has been installed.

Windsor Ruins was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971, acquired by MDAH in 1974 and designated a MS Landmark in 1985.

YouTube has some interesting videos of Windsor including one by Jerry Skinner who specializes in short bios of famous people as well as some historic places. There's also a video of a drone flying over the site. Just search for Windsor Ruins.

Newspaper Digitization

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the MDAH \$274,175 to support the third phase of the MS Digital Newspaper Project. Once digitized the files are uploaded to the Library of Congress's Chronicling America website which is free to use.

The MDAH holds more than 13,000 microfilm rolls of publications that range from the territorial era to present day. The first phase of the project which began in 2013 focused on Antebellum and Civil War era publications. The second phase began in 2015

and focused on newspapers published between the end of Reconstruction and the early 1920s.

This third phase will focus on newspapers published in "underrepresented" areas of the state between 1800 and 1922 along with African American titles published between 1923 and 1963.

MDAH has also partnered with Newspapers.com to digitize newspapers published before 1923 in our historically most populous counties of Adams, Hinds, Lauderdale and Warren. Newspapers.com is where the McComb Enterprise Journal can be found, and unfortunately, it's not a free website.

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