

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Natchez National Historical Park



Melrose Gardens & Grounds

Self-guided tours of Melrose gardens and grounds are available 7 days a week from 8:30am to 5:00pm FREE of charge.

Seasonal Melrose garden tours are offered staff permitting. These tours focus on the many camellias and other ornamental shrubs that are currently in bloom, as well as the historic layout of the gardens and the National Park Service efforts to preserve their historic character. Call 601-446-5790 or visit www.nps.gov/natc under the "schedule of events" link for current programs.



Melrose Landscape

Historically, Melrose was a suburban estate with two landscapes: the utilitarian (vegetable garden and service area back of the big house) and the ornamental (the flowering gardens, orchard, and front lawn). The formal garden area of the 1800s ornamental landscape features many spring-blooming shrubs such as camelias and azaleas as mentioned in the many letters of Mary Louisa McMurren, its first owner.

Bloom Schedule:

Bloom times may extend from one season into the next. Actual times dependent upon weather.

Spring

Azalea
Banana Shrub
Cherokee Rose
Dogwood
Iris (Cemetery & Louisiana)
Redbud
Spirea
Wisteria

Summer

Crape Myrtle
Daylily
French Hydrangea
Fuzzy Deutzia
Gardenia
Magnolia grandiflora
Naked Lady

Fall

Spider Lily
Tea Olive

Winter

Camelia (japonica & saszanqua)
Holly Berries

Natchez National Historical Park

The park was established by Congress to preserve and interpret the history of Natchez, Mississippi. The Mississippi River brought success and prosperity to some and enslavement and despair to others. This is evident throughout the park, from the magnificent antebellum estate of John T. McMurren, to the downtown home of African American barber and diarist William Johnson, to the French Fort Rosalie.

