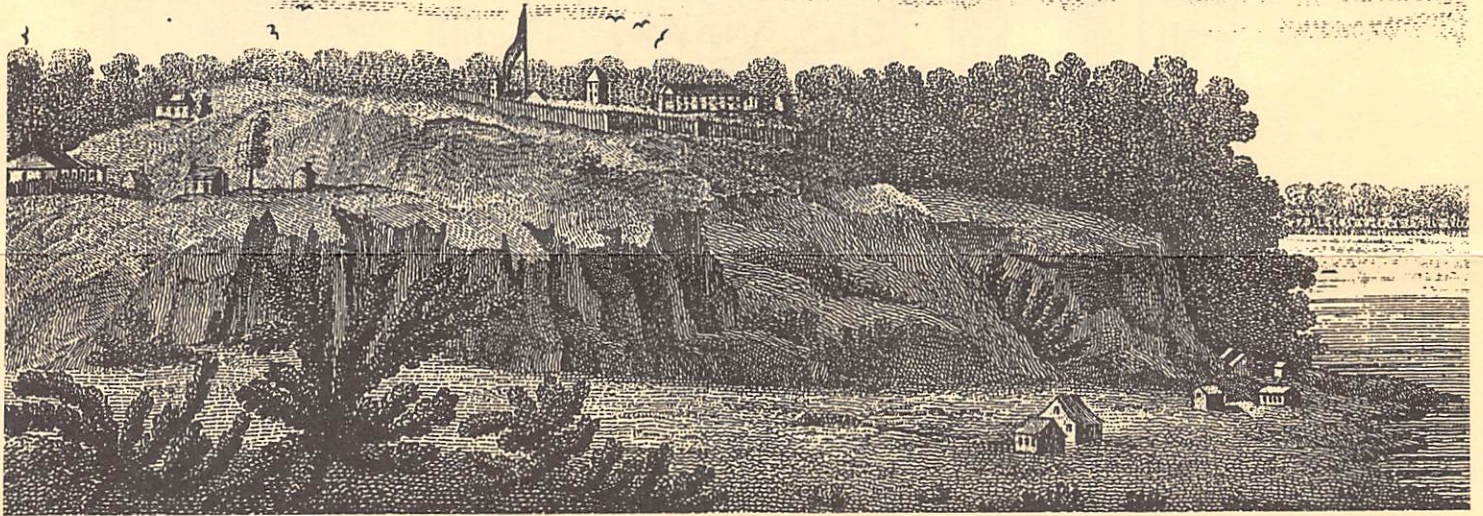


Natchez

National Historical Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

YOUR VISIT



The Mississippi River flows from Minnesota to Louisiana through a land rich with history. At a bend in the river in Mississippi lies the town of Natchez, whose turbulent and complex history continues to evolve and change, just as the mighty Mississippi River upon whose shores it lies.

The three units which comprise Natchez National Historical Park reflect the legacy of Natchez from its emergence as the symbolic capitol of the "Cotton Kingdom," back to its beginnings as an outpost of the Old Southwest.

MELROSE ESTATE

John and Mary McMurrin built their estate, Melrose, in 1848. The McMurrins owned several cotton plantations in Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas.

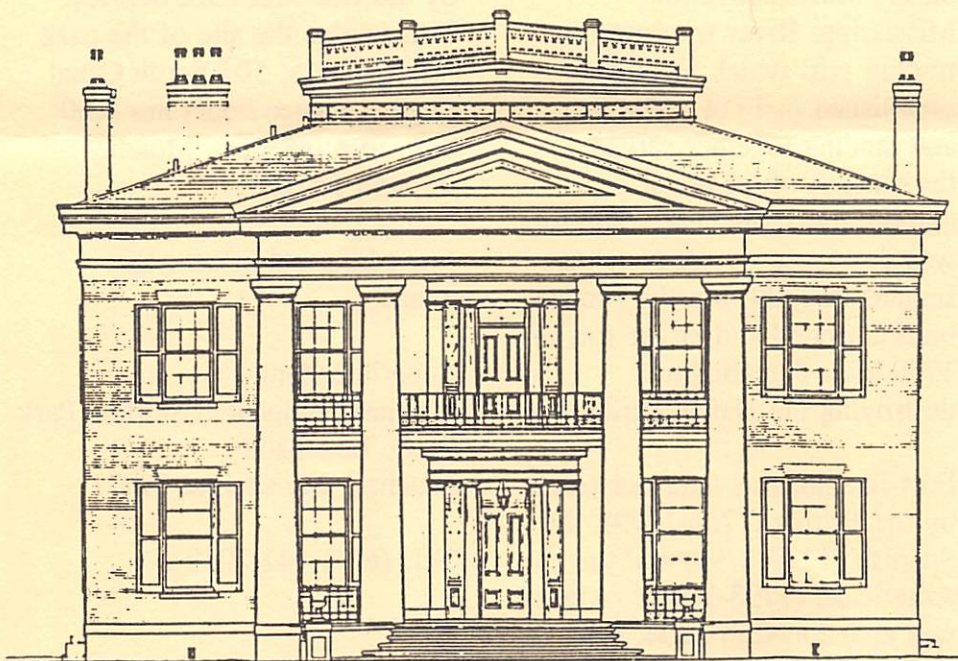
The estate represents an era when Natchez was a major center of the South's cotton culture and economy.

Various factors contributed to Natchez' preeminence in antebellum America; good climate, inexpensive fertile land, available credit, its location on the Mississippi River, and an established plantation system based upon slave labor.

Approximately eighty acres in size, the estate is located at;

1 Melrose-Montebello Parkway
Natchez, Mississippi.

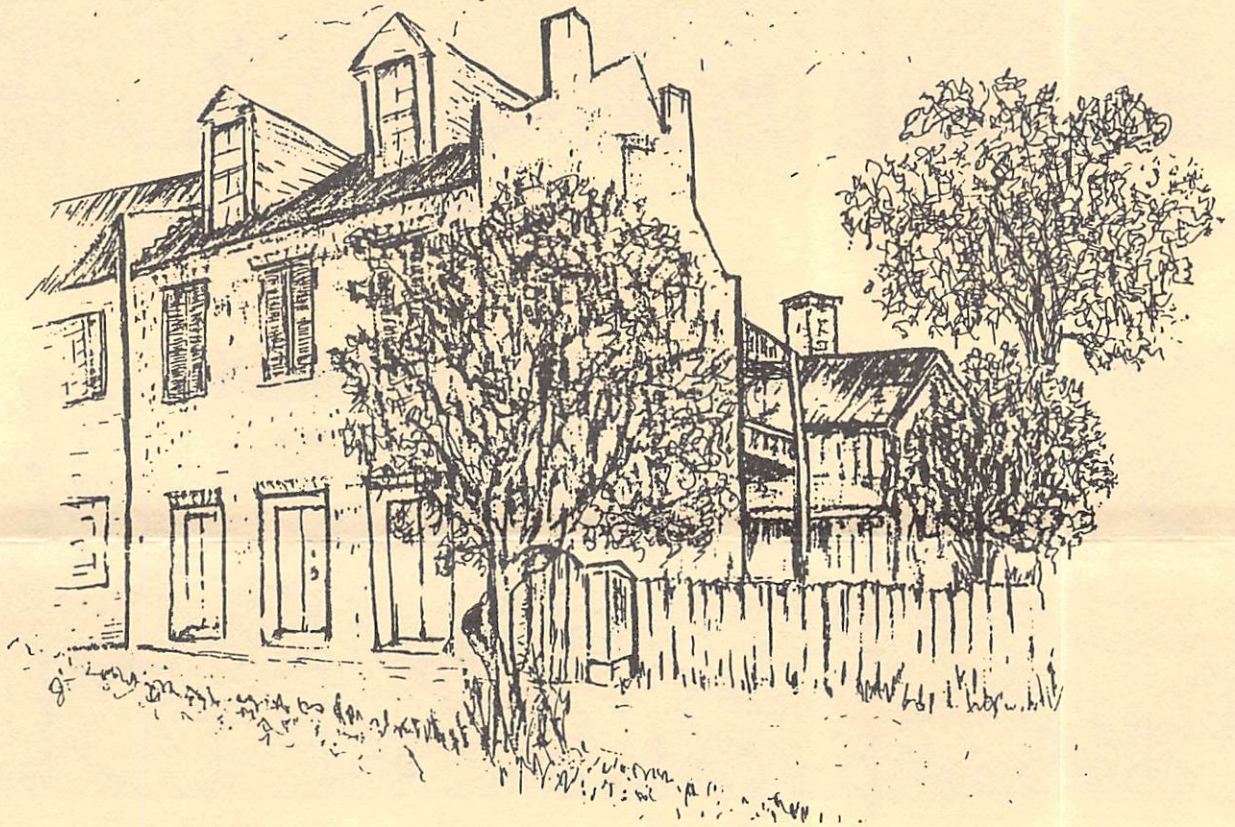
The grounds are open, free of charge, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tours of the mansion are conducted daily between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.



Admission

Adults:	\$5.00
Golden Age Passport	\$2.50
Children age 6 - 17	\$2.50
Children under age 6	Free
Educational Groups	Free

Group reservations can be made by contacting Natchez National Historical Park at (601)446-5790.



THE WILLIAM JOHNSON HOUSE

William Johnson was a prominent free African American who chronicled life in antebellum Natchez within the pages of his diary. Born a slave, Johnson was freed at the age of eleven and went on to become a barber, a popular trade among free African Americans. He soon established his own barber shop which became a clearinghouse for the news of the day.

Plans for the 1841 townhouse include a visitor reception and exhibit area on the first floor to chronicle the African American history of Natchez. The upper floors of the William Johnson

House will tell the story of the life of Natchez' unique diarist and will re-create his family living quarters as they appeared in 1851, the year of Johnson's death.

Although it is closed to the public while undergoing restoration, you are encouraged to visit the house on 210 State Street and view an outdoor display concerning William Johnson.

FORT ROSALIE



In 1716 the French erected a palisade known as Fort Rosalie on the bluffs above the Mississippi River to protect a trading post which had been established in 1714. The fort and landing together served as the nucleus of a French agricultural settlement. The fort was destroyed by the Natchez Indians in 1729, but the French built a second and larger fort in 1730 after defeating and destroying the Natchez tribe.

Fort Rosalie was later occupied by the British (1763-1779), the Spanish (1779-1798) and the Americans (1798-1804). After it was abandoned in 1804, the remains of the fort disintegrated.

Property including the old fort site is currently being purchased by the National Park Service. This is also the site of the park headquarters, 504 South Canal Street. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For additional information contact,

Superintendent
Natchez National Historical Park
P. O. Box 1208
Natchez, Mississippi 39121

Tel. (601) 442-7047