A Place Called Mississippi
A Place Called Mississippi

David G. Sansing, PhD

CLAIRMONT PRESS, INC.
Atlanta, Georgia
Everyone is a part of history, including all of you who are taking this course and reading this textbook. History is the story of mankind, a record of human events from the origin of man to the present. And you are fortunate to be a Mississippian, because Mississippi is one of the most fascinating places in the world. People in Japan, Africa, and Europe know about Mississippi because of our great writers like William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Eudora Welty, and Margaret Walker, and other famous Mississippians like Elvis Presley and B. B. King.

General Ulysses S. Grant’s siege of Vicksburg during the Civil War is considered one of the great campaigns in military history. Grant’s personal correspondence, his memoirs, and other military documents and papers are located in the library at Mississippi State University in Starkville. Historians who continue to write about Grant’s daring Vicksburg maneuver must come to Mississippi to consult Grant’s private papers and visit the Vicksburg National Military Park.

On the day after the riot caused by James Meredith’s enrollment at The University of Mississippi on October 1, 1962, newspapers across the country and all over the world headlined the admission of the first black student to Ole Miss. Meredith is now a devoted alumnus, and his personal papers and correspondence are located in the library at The University of Mississippi.

The fall of Vicksburg during the Civil War and the Meredith crisis during the civil rights movement were two crucial and defining moments in American history. They both happened here in Mississippi, and you will learn all about those historic events during this semester.

Mississippians who visit other parts of the country are often amused by the attention they receive. People seem somehow intrigued to find a real live Mississippian outside its natural habitat. It may be that there is just no other place quite like Mississippi. William Faulkner said, “To understand the world, you must first understand a place like Mississippi.”
Some of you taking this course will make history, and your names will appear in books and newspapers. Some of you will become teachers who inspire thousands of students to reach for the stars, and in that way you will surely influence history.

Some student in a Mississippi high school reading this textbook today may become a major sports figure; a writer, artist or musician; an inventor or scientist; a city mayor or alderman; a county sheriff or supervisor; a state legislator; a U.S. congressman or senator. Perhaps a student studying Mississippi history today will become governor of Mississippi—or even president—tomorrow.

I hope you do not consider this class as just a dull and dry history course, because it is about you, where you came from, and how you got here. There is an old saying that the future belongs to those who prepare for it, and that nothing better prepares us for the future than an understanding of the past. You can become what you aspire to be. Study hard, and aim high in this course. I hope you enjoy reading this textbook as much as I enjoyed writing it for you.

David G. Sansing, PhD
Emeritus Professor of History
The University of Mississippi

About the Author
David G. Sansing was born in Greenville, Mississippi, and earned a BA and MA from Mississippi College and a PhD from the University of Southern Mississippi. After teaching ten years at Perkinston Junior College, he was appointed professor of history at The University of Mississippi in 1970.

Among his awards are the Martin Luther King Jr. Award, presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Mississippi Historical Society’s Dunbar Rowland Award; Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award; and the Mississippi College Order of the Golden Arrow. His books include A History of the Mississippi Governor’s Mansion, with Carroll Waller; Making Haste Slowly: The Troubled History of Higher Education in Mississippi; Natchez: An Illustrated History, with Carolyn Smith and Sim Callon; The University of Mississippi, A Sesquicentennial History; and Mississippi: Its People and Culture, a textbook.
**Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 9</th>
<th>CONFLICT AND CHANGE, 1932-1960</th>
<th>236</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>The Great Depression</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>BAWI and the War That Changed Everything</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>Reaction to the <em>Brown Decision</em></td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 10</th>
<th>THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, 1960-1971</th>
<th>262</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Mississippi and the Meredith Crisis</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>The Assassination of Medgar Evers</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>The Beginning of the End of Racial Segregation</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 11</th>
<th>MODERN MISSISSIPPI, 1971 TO THE PRESENT</th>
<th>290</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Administration of Bill Waller, 1972-1976</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>The Emergence of the Republican Party</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>Black Public Officials</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 12</th>
<th>MISSISSIPPI IN THE GLOBAL VILLAGE</th>
<th>318</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>The People of Mississippi</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Urbanization</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>Mississippi’s Changing Economy</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 13</th>
<th>FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT</th>
<th>346</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Basic Principles of American Government</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>State Government</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 14</th>
<th>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP</th>
<th>374</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>County Government</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Municipal Government</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 15</th>
<th>MISSISSIPPI’S LITERARY TRADITION</th>
<th>400</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Mississippi Writers</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Journalists and Historians</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 16</th>
<th>PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTISTS AND SPORTS HEROES</th>
<th>422</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Performing Artists</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2</td>
<td>Visual Artists</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3</td>
<td>Sports Heroes</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix I</th>
<th>MISSISSIPPI’S VITAL STATISTICS</th>
<th>452</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix II</td>
<td>MISSISSIPPI’S STATE SYMBOLS</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix III</td>
<td>MISSISSIPPI’S COUNTIES</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix IV</td>
<td>MISSISSIPPI’S GOVERNORS</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix V</td>
<td>MISSISSIPPI’S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ATLAS OF MISSISSIPPI</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GLOSSARY</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INDEX</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAPS
Map 1 Mississippi in the United States 5
Map 2 The Deep South 6
Map 3 The Hemispheres 6
Map 4 Latitude and Longitude 7
Map 5 Average Yearly Precipitation 8
Map 6 Average January Temperatures 9
Map 7 Average July Temperatures 9
Map 8 Hurricane Paths 13
Map 9 Mississippi's Soil Regions 15
Map 10 The Mississippi River 29
Map 11 Mississippi's Major Rivers and Lakes 31
Map 12 Mississippi's Drainage Basins 31
Map 13 Mississippi's Forest Types 32
Map 14 Bering Land Bridge 37
Map 15 Indian Tribes in Mississippi 46
Map 16 Mound Sites in Mississippi 49
Map 17 Indian Land Cessions in Mississippi 60
Map 18 Marco Polo's Travels 65
Map 19 Route of the de Soto Expedition 70
Map 20 The Early Colonial Period 72
Map 21 Proclamation of 1763 78
Map 22 Natchez District 80
Map 23 Disputed Boundary 82
Map 24 Mississippi Territory 85
Map 25 Early Nineteenth-Century Roads 97
Map 26 The Louisiana Purchase 99
Map 27 Slave Population, 1850 105
Map 28 The Missouri Compromise of 1820 111
Map 29 The Compromise of 1850 115
Map 30 The Election of 1860 148
Map 31 The Union and the Confederacy 149
Map 32 Early Railroads 157
Map 33 Yazoo Pass Expedition 161
Map 34 The Siege of Vicksburg 165
Map 35 The Civil War in Mississippi 166
Map 36 County Formation in Mississippi, 1820-1876 174
Map 37 The Shoestring District 179
Map 38 Percentage of Sharecroppers by County 194
Map 39 The Great Migration 230
Map 40 County Population, 2010 320
Map 41 Major Cities and Highways 328
Map 42 I-59 Technology Corridor 337
Map 43 Mississippi's Congressional Districts 353
Map 44 U.S. Federal Circuit Court Districts 356
Map 45 U.S. District Courts in Mississippi 357
Map 46 Mississippi Counties and County Seats 377

FIGURES
Figure 1 Enhanced Fujita Scale for Tornadoes 11
Figure 2 Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale 12
Figure 3 Hydrologic Cycle 30
Figure 4 Timeline: 1450-1850 39
Figure 5 Timeline: 1540-1800 67
Figure 6 Timeline: 1798-1860 89
Figure 7 Provisions of the Compromise of 1850 115
Figure 8 Timeline: 1793-1861 125
Figure 9 1859 Cotton Production 128
Figure 10 Timeline: 1861-1876 155
Figure 11 Major Provisions of the Black Codes 172
Figure 12 The Reconstruction Amendments 176
Figure 13 Tactics of the Mississippi Plan 179
Figure 14 Timeline: 1876-1900 187
Figure 15 Railroad Mileage in Mississippi, June 30, 1891 189
Figure 16 Population of Towns and Cities 190
Figure 17 Timber Production, 1870-1890 191
Figure 18 Cotton Manufacturing, 1870-1890 192
Figure 19 Woolen Manufacturing, 1870-1890 193
Figure 20 Timeline: 1900-1932 213
Figure 21 Jackson's Population Growth 215
Figure 22 Timeline: 1932-1960 239
Figure 23 School Appropriations, 1952-1953 255
Figure 24 Timeline: 1960-1971 265
Figure 25 Civil Rights Organizations 280
Figure 26 Major Civil Rights Legislation of the 1960s 284
Figure 27 Timeline: 1971-2012 293
Figure 28 Legislative Apportionment, 1890 to 1960 311
Figure 29 African Americans Elected to the Mississippi Legislature in 1979 312
Figure 30 Black Public Officials in Southern States, 2002 314
Figure 31 Growth of Mississippi’s Twenty Largest Cities, 1940-2010 329
Figure 32 Major Commodities in Mississippi, 2009 333
Figure 33 Production from 5,417 Mississippi Wells, 2009 335
Figure 34 Mississippi’s Largest Manufacturing Employers, 2009 337
Figure 35 Mississippi Exports to Foreign Markets, 2009 340
Figure 36 Three Forms of Government 348
Figure 37 Checks and Balances 349
Figure 38 Mississippi’s Four Constitutions 360
Figure 39 How a Bill Becomes Law in Mississippi 363

SIGNS OF THE TIMES
Chapter 1 4
Chapter 2 38
Chapter 3 66
Chapter 4 92
Chapter 5 124
Chapter 6 154
Chapter 7 186
Chapter 8 212
Chapter 9 238
Chapter 10 264
Chapter 11 292

OF SPECIAL INTEREST
Eugene Woldemar Hilgard, the “Father of Soil Science” 25
Phillip Martin, Chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw 61
Natchez: The Wickedest Waterfront on the Mississippi 86
The Burr Conspiracy 103
Sallie Reneau, 1837-1878 133
Ulysses S. Grant Papers at Mississippi State University 181
L. Q. C. Lamar 207
Holt Collier, the Roosevelt Hunt, and the Teddy Bear 219
The Chinese Flagship Program at The University of Mississippi 253
Journalist Jerry Mitchell of The Clarion-Ledger 287
The Past in the Present 308
Peavey Electronics in the Global Village 343
Mississippi Official and Statistical Register (The Blue Book) 371
Mississippi Department of Archives and History 396
John Grisham and Natasha Trethewey 419
Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield: The Black Swan 435

BUILDING 21st-CENTURY SKILLS
Using Your Textbook 35
Understanding Timelines 63
Primary Sources 89
Reaching Compromises 121
Understanding Cause and Effect 151
Finding the Main Idea 183
Interpreting Tables 209
Recognizing Push and Pull Factors 235
Distinguishing Fact from Opinion 261
Interpreting Political Cartoons 289
Creating a Bar Graph 317
Creating a Pie Chart 345
Map Skills 421
Creating a Concept Map 451

Above: Sardis Lake on the Little Tallahatchie River is one of Mississippi’s six major reservoirs.