

There came for consideration of the Mayor and Members of the Council of the City of Gautier, Mississippi the following:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 000-2014

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GAUTIER, MISSISSIPPI, REQUESTING THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY DESIGNATE HILDA FIRE TOWER AS A MISSISSIPPI LANDMARK

WHEREAS, The Gautier Historic and Preservation Commission through its scope, mission, and purpose of preserving and promoting historic locations throughout the City of Gautier has identified the need to preserve the Hilda Fire Tower and have the Hilda Fire Tower identified as a Mississippi Landmark.

WHEREAS, The Hilda Fire Tower has served as a city landmark for many years;

WHEREAS, The Hilda Fire Tower serves as the entrance to the city off Interstate 10;

WHEREAS, The Hilda Fire Tower represents the history of Gautier's first major industry of lumber and sawmilling that helped to develop the community;

WHEREAS, The Hilda Fire Tower has played a major role in protecting the lumber business of the area for many years;

WHEREAS, The City of Gautier's name, in fact, came from the Gautier and Son's Sawmill business; and

WHEREAS, The Hilda Fire Tower is closely identified with the history of the city and is now an important part of the city's historical community;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the City of Gautier hereby supports the Gautier Historic Commissions mission of preserving the Hilda Tower as a historic location and being identified as a Mississippi Landmark and urges the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) to designate the Hilda Fire Tower located at 6200 Gautier-Vancleave Road, Gautier, MS 39553 as a Mississippi Landmark.

Motion made by BLANK, seconded by BLANK and the following vote was recorded:

AYES:

NAYS:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

PASSED AND ADOPTED by Mayor and Members of the Council of the City of Gautier, Mississippi, at the meeting of June 3, 2014.



Gautier Historic Commission

Gautier, Mississippi

City Hall
3330 Highway 90
Gautier, MS 39553-5124
Phone (228) 497-2332
FAX (228) 497-8028

May 12, 2014

Mrs. Samantha Abell
City Manager
3330 West Hwy 90
Gautier, MS 39553

Dear Mrs. Abell:

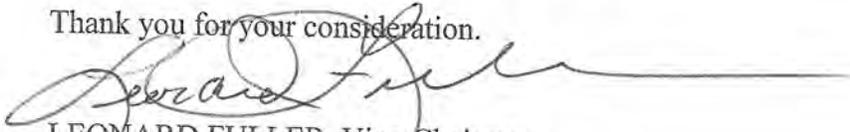
The Gautier Historic and Preservation Commission is in the process of trying to preserve the Hilda Fire Tower and list it as a Mississippi Landmark. Today it serves as a city landmark to the entrance to the city off Interstate 10. The fire tower is closely identified with the history of Gautier and is now an important part of the city's historic community. We wish to preserve the tower for its historic value to the city and for future generations. By placing the tower on the Mississippi Landmark status, we would be able to preserve the tower.

To establish a Mississippi Landmark, we will need the city to make a resolution to save the fire tower. We are asking the council to make a resolution to do so. For your information, I have enclosed a copy of the historic commissioners' resolution.

Many of the fire towers in the state have been torn down and cut up for scrap iron. Only two within the state have been placed on the Ten Most Endangered Historic Places in Mississippi.

I hope that the council will consider this resolution so that we can preserve the tower. The tower has been a part of the city for many, many years, and failure to preserve it would be a major historical loss for the city.

Thank you for your consideration.


LEONARD FULLER, Vice-Chairman
Gautier Historic and Preservation Commission

You may contact me at 228-497-6520 or by email: nitafuller@cableone.net



Gautier Historic Commission

City Hall
3330 Highway 90
Gautier, MS 39553-5124
Phone (228) 497-2332
FAX (228) 497-8028

Gautier, Mississippi

July 10, 2014

In a regular meeting of the Gautier Historic and Preservation Commission, the following resolution was passed to acquire a Mississippi Landmark Designation for the Hilda Fire Tower located at 6200 Gautier-Vanceleave Road in Gautier, Mississippi.

RESOLUTION

Resolution that the Mississippi Department of Archives and History designate the Hilda Fire Tower, located at 6200 Gautier-Vanceleave Road, Gautier, MS 39553, as a Mississippi Landmark.

Whereas the Hilda Fire Tower has served as a city landmark for many years;

Whereas the Hilda Fire Tower serves as the entrance to the city off Interstate 10;

Whereas the Hilda Fire Tower represents the history of the city's first major industry of lumber and sawmilling that helped to develop the community;

Whereas the Hilda Fire Tower has played a major role in protecting the lumber business of the area for many years;

Whereas the City of Gautier's name, in fact, came from the Gautier and Son's Sawmill business; and

Whereas the Hilda Fire Tower is closely identified with the history of the city and is now an important part of the city's historical community; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the Gautier Historic and Preservation Commission urges the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) to designate the Hilda Fire Tower located at 6200 Gautier-Vanceleave Road, Gautier, MS 39553 as a Mississippi Landmark.

Signed and passed on July 10, 2014.

WILLIAM (BILL) BRAY, Chairman

LEONARD FULLER, Vice-Chairman
Researcher

Mary Elsie Hubley, Secretary

City of
Gautier



Drawing by
the City of Gautier
GIS Division

GAUTIER HISTORICAL TOUR



1. MARTIN CEMETERY
2. GEORGE FARRAGUT HOME
3. GEORGE FARRAGUT MARKER
4. JEAN BAPTISTE GRAVELINE
5. LOOK OUT FIRE TOWER
6. ST. PIERRE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
7. WEST PASCAGOULA SCHOOL
8. TUCEI'S FISH CAMP
9. HISTORIC GAUTIER CEMETERY
10. THE OLD PLACE
11. SINGING RIVER POTTERY
12. SINGING RIVER LEGEND
13. GAUTIER & SONS SAWMILL
14. GENERAL STORE/DEPOT
15. LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE
16. LIZZE LADNIER HOUSE
17. FRANKLIN CEMETERY
18. GAUTIER SCHOOL
19. NEW ERA CHURCH
20. CREOSOTE PLANT
21. JENNIE ORRELL HOUSE/RAILROAD
22. LABROT HOUSE
23. TWELVE OAKS
24. McRAE CEMETERY
25. OLDFIELDS-LEWIS HOME
26. LEWIS CEMETERY
27. GRAVELINE INDIAN MOUND
28. LYON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
29. OLD SPANISH TRAIL

Section 39-7-11, (2) of
**THE ANTIQUITIES
LAW OF MISSISSIPPI**

Mississippi Code of 1972,
as amended

All other sites, objects, buildings, artifacts, implements, structures and locations of historical or architectural significance located in or under the surface of any lands belonging to the State of Mississippi or to any county, city or political subdivision of the state may be declared

Mississippi Landmarks by majority vote of [the Board of Trustees of Mississippi Department of Archives and History]. Every Mississippi Landmark shall be so designated based upon its significance within the historical or architectural patterns of a community, a county, the State of Mississippi, or the United States of America. Upon such action by the board, the designation of the Mississippi Landmark shall be recorded in the deed records of the county in which the landmark is located. All such designated sites or items located on public lands within the State of Mississippi may not be taken, altered, damaged, destroyed, salvaged, restored, renovated or excavated without a permit from the board or in violation of the terms of such permit.

What does Mississippi Landmark status mean?

Any proposed work that could affect the historical or architectural character of a Mississippi Landmark is subject to review by the Permit Committee. Property owners are required to notify the Permit Committee in the early planning stage, and always prior to the letting of bids, of proposed projects that may affect designated or potential Mississippi Landmarks. This is done by filing a *Notice of Intent Form of Public Construction, Public Improvement, or Transfer of Public Property to Private Ownership*. This form may be obtained from the Historic Preservation Division.

Staff members of the Historic Preservation Division are available to work with public officials, architects, and engineers to insure compliance with the Antiquities Law. There is no charge for this service.

Can private property be designated a Mississippi Landmark?

Yes. The law provides a process for the designation of private property at the **→ request of the owner**. Interested property owners must submit a notarized resolution requesting Mississippi Landmark designation, along with documentation of the historical or architectural significance of their property. Resolution forms can be obtained from the Historic Preservation Division. The review process for publicly owned Mississippi Landmarks, as described above, applies to privately owned Mississippi Landmarks as well.

How can I get more information on the Mississippi Landmark Program?

Contact: (

Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P. O. Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0571
Telephone 601-576-6940
Fax 601-576-6955
e-mail: msshpo@mdah.state.ms.us

A complete copy of the Antiquities Law can be obtained from the Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History.



THE ANTIQUITIES LAW AND The Mississippi Landmark Program

Section 39-7-3 of

THE ANTIQUITIES LAW OF MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Code of 1972,
as amended

It is hereby declared to be the public policy and in the public interest of the State of Mississippi to locate, protect, and preserve all sites, objects, buildings, shipwrecks, and locations of historical, archaeological, or architectural significance, including, but not limited to, historically or architecturally significant buildings, structures relating to significant engineering accomplishments, prehistoric and historical American Indian or aboriginal campsites, dwellings, and habitation sites, archaeological sites of every character, treasure imbedded in the earth, sunken or abandoned ships and wrecks of the sea or any part or the contents thereof, maps, records, documents, books, artifacts, and implements of culture in any way related to the inhabitants, prehistory, history, natural history, government, or culture in, on or under any of the lands, tidelands, submerged lands, and bed of the sea within the jurisdiction of the State of Mississippi.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Antiquities Law?

The Antiquities Law, passed in 1970 and amended in 1983, affirms the State's interest in locating, protecting, and preserving historic properties. These properties, which include sites, objects, and buildings of historical, archaeological, or architectural significance, are identified in the law as "Mississippi Landmarks." The Antiquities Law places the responsibility of implementing the law on the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The Board has established a Permit Committee, composed of the Department director and professional staff in the Department's Historic Preservation Division, to designate properties as Mississippi Landmarks and to review any proposed changes to these properties. This process insures that Mississippi's historic, architectural, and cultural heritage is preserved for future generations.

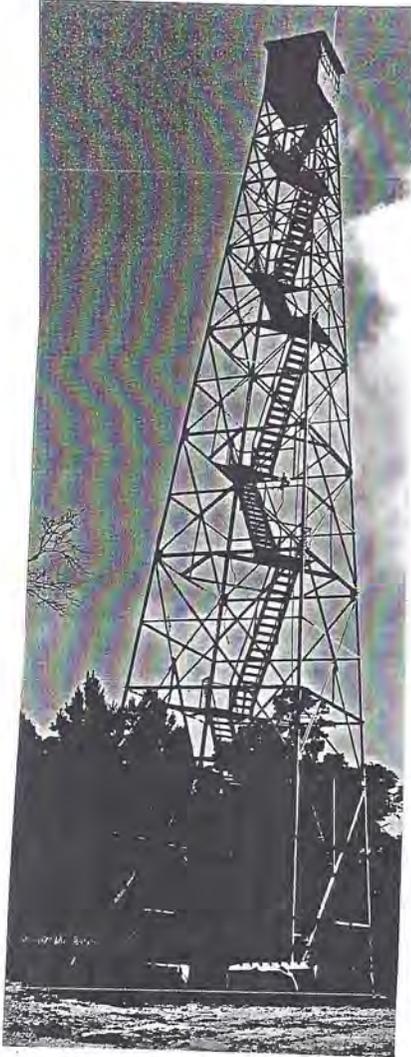
What properties does the Antiquities Law affect?

Any publicly owned property (belonging to the state, counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions) may be determined to have significance and designated as a Mississippi Landmark by the Permit Committee.

How are properties designated as Mississippi Landmarks?

The process begins when a property is identified as eligible for Mississippi Landmark status and is officially placed "under consideration." The owner of the property is then notified and given the opportunity to comment on the possible designation of the property. Public comment is also solicited through a legal notice in the local newspaper. The comment period is thirty days. At its next meeting after the comment period, the Permit Committee considers any comments received and takes formal action on the designation of the property as a Mississippi Landmark. The Mississippi Landmark designation is then recorded in the deed records of the appropriate county's Chancery Clerk office as a perpetual preservation easement.

Hilda Lookout Tower



The detection and control of fires has been a special problem to the Forest Service throughout history. Federal involvement in fire control began with the National Park Service and was later introduced into the forest reserves. In a forest under proper protection with a watch station, one man could detect fires and notify the proper response team to extinguish the fire.

The opening of the Fernando Gautier and Sons Sawmill in Gautier in 1867 gave rise to the importance of the timber industry in this area. In addition, the location of the Creosote Plant in 1874 which provided treatment of timber against rot and the Toredoworm, was a major boost to the local timber industry. With the community relying heavily on jobs connected to the timber industry, the need to protect the forest was critical, and the location of a fire tower in the area was of great importance.

The earliest lookout stations, dating back to 1905, were high peaks. The South Mississippi forest flatlands provided no high elevations, so structures made of wood became the first towers in the 1920s. At the inception of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a workforce of massive construction projects began in 1933 and continued through 1942. Consequently, the lookout tower became the most distinctive structure used in forest-fire control.

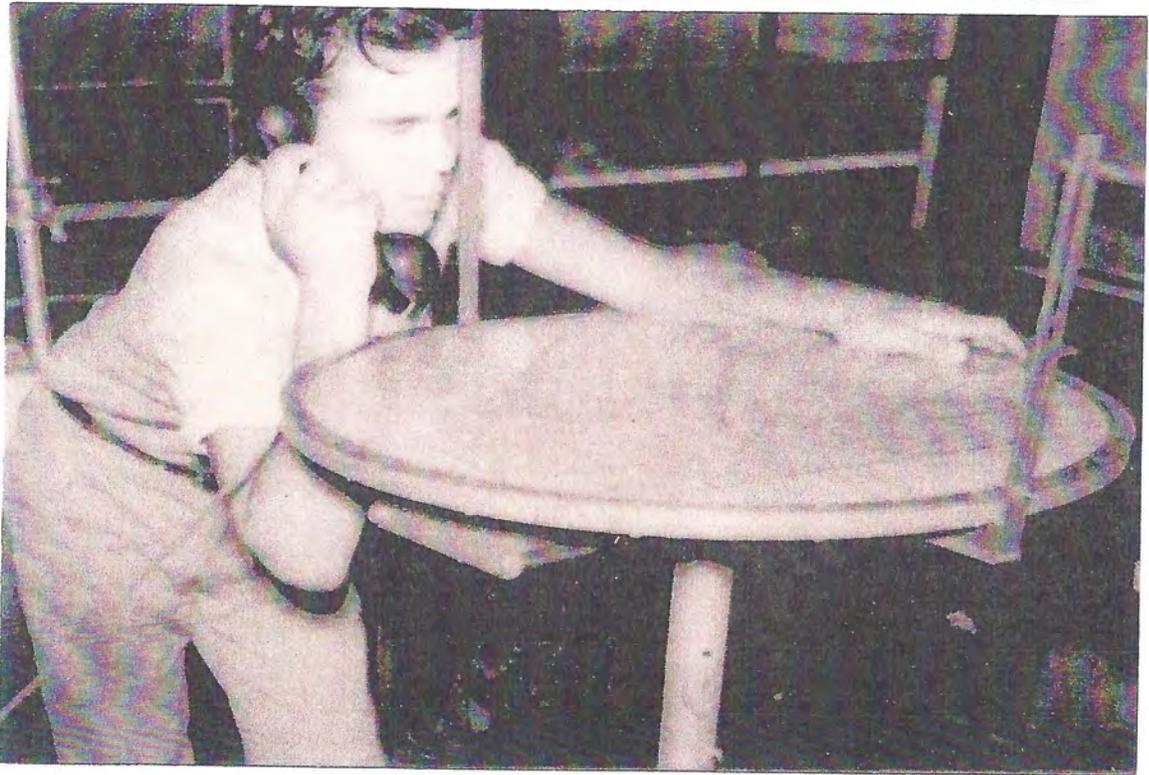
In 1934, Mississippi had 16.2 million acres in forest land. Fire fighting became necessary to protect the forests. Mississippi had already constructed 394 towers throughout the state. However, some of these towers have been taken down and cut up for scrap iron. The tower in North Gautier is called the Hilda Lookout Tower (ID#711246).*

During World War II, the aircraft warning service was established, and in 1942, volunteers were placed in selected fire towers located along the Mississippi Gulf Coast to detect foreign aircraft. After the end of World War II and the phasing out of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the forest protection was turned over to the Mississippi Forestry Commission which was founded in 1926.

The Hilda Lookout Tower, located in Gautier, was used extensively from the 1930s until the 1980s until updated communications became available along with airplane

reconnaissance. The tower is 110 feet high, depending upon the foundation. A house on top of the tower is 10' x 10', part metal and part wood, and it houses an observer. At the height of fire season and high winds, a person would keep watch around the clock. The Hilda Tower used a compass table with two sighting arms at each end. A person could line up the two pointing arms with the smoke and communicate the degrees to the next fire tower by ham radio. The other fire tower would do the same, and where the two lines crossed on the map would be the location of the fire. The volunteer U. S. Coast Guard has erected a communication antenna on top of the tower. The tower still gives good visibility over the surrounding area and the City of Gautier. The Hilda Tower is a landmark of importance to the City of Gautier in recognizing its past history of forestry and sawmilling.

*Hilda, located just off Old Spanish Trail, was a place named for a turpentine manufacturer's wife. Hilda appears on the L&N Railroad map West of the Gautier Depot. Hilda was also the location of the First Consolidated Lyon's School.



History of the Timber, Lumber Business in Gautier

From 1874 to 1949, there was a vast forest of virgin timber in Jackson County, Ms. During this period, Jackson County was an ideal location for sawmills and a timber boom. The Leaf, Chickasawhay, Escatawpa and Pascagoula Rivers were excellent water ways to transport logs to the sawmills.

Timber was responsible for the area's first industry. When the lumber boom began in 1880, Jackson County ranked second in the state in total valuation of its timber products. The sawmills of the county had a combined capacity of producing six million feet of lumber a day. At the turn of the century, the county was responsible for furnishing four-fifths of the lumber shipped from the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

With the vast amount of lumber being produced from the forest, it was apparent that a means of detecting and locating forest fires was critical. Mississippi constructed 394 towers throughout the state. The tower in North Gautier is called the Hilda Lookout Tower (ID#711246). The tower was used from the 1930's until the 1980's.

One of the early steam sawmills in the district was built by Tetar at West Pascagoula (Gautier). Many sawmills sprang up in the area, but the most notable one was the Gautier & Sons Mill in 1866. Fernando Upton Gautier came to the West Pascagoula area, bringing with him the sawmill operation from the Tchouticabouffa area. Soon after the mill became operational, it began producing 10,000 to 30,000 board feet a day. The sawmill was forced out of business due to the 1906 hurricane. Lumber from the mill built the old stately homes still standing among the beautiful moss-draped oak trees in the historic areas of Gautier. Fernando Gautier later sold a part of his property to the L&N Railroad, making it a railroad stop for water to be used in the train's steam engine. The name of the West Pascagoula station became known as Gautier in 1910.

In 1874, the first pressure treating plant was constructed and operated by Putnan and Tobias. It forced the creosote through the wood, enabling it to last for decades. In 1881, the L&N Railroad began operation.

The opening of the L&N Railroad Creosote Plant was a major boost to the expansion of the settlement. The timber industry continued with the L&N Sawmill. Logs were floated down the West Pascagoula River (Singing River), and hoisted up to be cut into cross ties and bridge timbers for the construction of the railroad. The plant was the oldest timber-treating plant in United States. The plant was closed in 1954, and timber milling was no longer operated in Gautier except for some small mills.

Sources:

Jack Womack: A Short History

Jackson County Genealogical Society: History of Jackson County:1989

FERNANDO GAUTIER AND SONS SAWMILL

This sawmill operated at this site from 1867 until 1906, employing more than twenty local citizens and producing 30,000 board feet of lumber per day at its peak. The sawmill was well situated with easy access to the river, railroad, plentiful forests, and a nearby creosote plant. In 1906 after a hurricane severely damaged the plant and devastated the area's timber supply, Gautier closed the sawmill. Due to the contribution of the mill this area was named for Fernando Gautier in the 1890s.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, 2007

Fernando Upton Gautier (1832-1891) lived on the Tchouticabouffa in 1844. He became a farmer and engaged in logging on the Biloxi River. His entrepreneurship later included a store and sawmill.

Fernando moved to West Pascagoula (Gautier) after the Civil War and moved his sawmill operation in 1865. He joined with his two sons, Henry and Walter, to build the F. Gautier and Sons Sawmill.

Hilda Fire Tower symbolizes forest conservation

By IOANNE ANDERSON
Correspondent

Of 261 fire towers that have served Mississippi, one of those that remains standing is the Hilda Fire Tower on the east side of Gautier-Vanceleave Road in Gautier, just south of Interstate 10. It is on the itinerary of the Gautier Historic Commission Tour.

This tower was used extensively from the 1930s to the 1980s, when airplane surveillance became a key part of fire lookout. It is about 110 feet high, according to Leonard Fuller, GHC chairman. The house on top is 10 feet square, con-

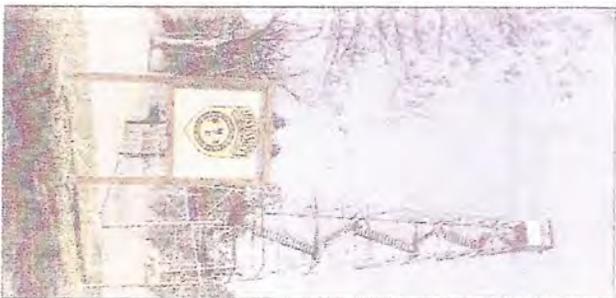


Photo submitted by Joanne Anderson
Hilda Fire Tower in Gautier



structed partly of metal and partly of wood, and is where the observer was housed.

"At the height of five sea-son and high winds, a person would keep watch around the clock," Fuller said.

During World War II, the aircraft warning service was established, and in 1942,

volunteers were placed in selected fire towers located along the Mississippi Gulf Coast to detect foreign aircraft. After the war and the phasing out of the Civilian Conservation Corps, forest protection was turned over to the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

In the pre-GPS era, the Hilda Tower had a compass table with two sighting arms at each end. The observer would line up the two pointing arms with the smoke and communicate the degree angles to the next fire tower by ham radio. That tower would reciprocate, and at the point where the two lines crossed on the

map would be the fire location.

Today, the U.S. Coast Guard has erected a communication antenna on top of the tower, which still gives good visibility over the surrounding area and the city of Gautier.

"The Hilda Tower is a landmark of importance to the city in recognizing its past history of forestry and sawmilling," Fuller said. "With the community relying heavily on jobs connected to the timber industry, the need to protect the forest was critical, making the location of a fire tower in the area of great importance."

Hilda was in fact a com-

munity located just off Old Spanish Trail and named for a turpentine manufacturer's wife. It appears on the L&N Railroad map west of the Gautier Depot and also was the location of the First Consolidated Lyon's School.

The Hilda fire tower was probably built between 1933 and 1942 by the CCC. Before fire towers were used, the earliest lookout stations dating back to 1905 were high peaks. Since the South Mississippi forest lands provided no high elevations, structures made of wood became the first towers in the 1920s.

See Tower Page 5c

Tower

»Continued from Page 1C

In 1934, Mississippi had 16.2 million acres in forestland, according to GHC research. Some of the towers built throughout the state have been taken down and cut up for scrap iron. Only five Mississippi towers are listed in the National Historic Lookout Register.

These towers, according to www.Lookouts.com, are:

1) The Airey Tower in DeSoto National Forest in Stone County. It was constructed in 1934 by a CCC company with enrollees from New Jersey. It is a radio relay site and is on standby status for fire detection.

2) The Moore Lookout Tower is in Bienville National Forest in Scott County. The first listing on the Register from Mississippi, it is an impressive example of a tower design that was constructed only on the National Forests in the Gulf States, and even there was not common. Built by a local contractor and a CCC crew, the 100-foot steel tower is topped with a 12-square-foot wooden cab with catwalk.

3) The Paret Tower is in DeSoto National Forest in Perry County. It was built in 1934 by a CCC unit with enrollees from New Jersey. Located on the former Black Warrior Ranger District of the DeSoto National Forest, it views a 16,000-acre National Forest tract used as a firing range by the National Guard. It is one of the few remaining of about 50 state and federal fire towers in southern Mississippi.

4) The University Tower is in DeSoto National Forest in Stone County. Once the U.S. Navy owned 23,000 acres of land in southern Mississippi to provide virgin longleaf timber for ship masts. After wooden sailing ships were phased out, this land was transferred to the State of Mississippi 100 years ago as

US Gazetteer > Mississippi Gazetteer > Mississippi Features > Mississippi Cultural Features Type: tower

SHARE

Mississippi Cultural Features: Towers

Additions and/or corrections to the database are encouraged! [Simple Add/Edit Procedure.](#)

Displaying 1 to 75 of 394 records

Next ▶

Name	County	USGS Topo Map
Airey Lookout Tower	Stone	Airey
Alderge Lookout Tower	Benton	Canaan
Amite Lookout Tower	Amite	Liberty
Ashley Lookout Tower	Copiah	Georgetown
Bagley Lookout Tower	Lafayette	Malone
Banner Lookout Tower	Calhoun	Banner
Barge Lookout Tower	Winston	Barge Lake
Batesville Lookout Tower	Panola	Batesville
Baxter Lookout Tower	Jasper	Montrose North
Beaumont Fire Tower	Perry	Beaumont
Benndale Fire Tower	George	Avent
Benton Lookout Tower	Benton	Camp Hill
Big Creek Lookout Tower	Wayne	Water Oak
Bilbo Lookout Tower	Pearl River	Big Swamp
Blue Hill Lookout Tower	Prentiss	Altitude
Brownsville Lookout Tower	Hinds	Brownsville
Suck Branch Lookout Tower	Pearl River	White Sand
Bude Lookout Tower	Franklin	Bude
Buffalo Lookout Tower	Wilkinson	Garden City
Carrollton Lookout Tower	Carroll	Coila
Cato Lookout Tower	Rankin	Braxton
Center Lookout Tower	Union	New Albany East
Choctaw Lookout Tower	Choctaw	Reform
Church Hill Lookout Tower	Jefferson	Church Hill
Clem Lookout Tower	Jefferson Davis	Mount Carmel
Coffeeville Lookout Tower	Yalobusha	Coker Lake
Coursey Lookout Tower	Smith	White Oak
Covington Lookout Tower	Covington	Collins
Crawford Lookout Tower	Benton	Whitten Town
Crosby Lookout Tower	Wilkinson	Laneheart
Crystal Springs Lookout Tower	Copiah	Crystal Springs
Dearbrook Lookout Tower	Noxubee	Cliftonville
Denmark Lookout Tower	Lafayette	Denmark
Dennis Lookout Tower	Tishomingo	Belmont
Elico Lookout Tower	Jackson	Vestry
Energy Lookout Tower	Clarke	Snell
Enterprise Lookout Tower	Clarke	Stonewall
Errata Lookout Tower	Jones	Sandersville
Fairview Lookout Tower	Itawamba	Fulton SE
Franklin Lookout Tower	Franklin	Meadville
Franklin Lookout Tower	Franklin	Meadville
Glen Lookout Tower	Alcorn	Kendrick
Glenville Lookout Tower	Panola	Looxahoma
Green Lookout Tower	Greene	Jonathan
Greens Creek Lookout Tower	Jefferson Davis	Bunker Hill
Hamilton Lookout Tower	Calhoun	Atlanta
Harrison Lookout Tower	Harrison	Success
Hazlehurst Lookout Tower	Copiah	Hazlehurst
Heidelberg Lookout Tower	Jasper	Heidelberg
Heucks Lookout Tower	Lincoln	Fair Oak Springs
Hickman Lookout Tower	Stone	Silver Run
Hilda Lookout Tower	Jackson	Gautier North
Hiwannee Lookout Tower	Wayne	Shubuta
Holder Lookout Tower	Jasper	Lake Como
Hoodtown Lookout Tower	Copiah	Utica East
Hopewell Lookout Tower	Itawamba	Bexar
Hurley Lookout Tower	Jackson	Harleston
Improve Lookout Tower	Marion	Improve
Jasper Lookout Tower	Jasper	Paulding
Jeff Davis Lookout Tower	Warren	Yokena
Jefferson Davis Lookout Tower	Jefferson Davis	Prentiss East
Kosciusko Lookout Tower	Attala	Kosciusko
Lacy Lookout Tower	Pearl River	McNeill
Lafayette Lookout Tower	Lafayette	Oxford South
Lamar Lookout Tower	Lamar	Baxterville NE
Latimer Lookout Tower	Jackson	Latimer

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Lauderdale Lookout Tower	Lauderdale	Meridian South
Leaf Lookout Tower	Perry	McLain
Lee Lookout Tower	Stone	Browns Lake
Lee Lookout Tower	Lee	Mooreville
Leesdale Lookout Tower	Adams	Jeannette
Lincoln Lookout Tower	Lincoln	Zetus
Lone Pine Fire Tower	Forrest	McLaurin
Luce Fire Tower	George	Earlville
Maben Lookout Tower	Oktibbeha	Double Springs

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		Lat(DMS)	Long(DMS)	
	DMS = Degrees/Minute/Seconds			
Hazlehurst (Wilson)	Unknown	314911	902648	N/A
Heidelberg	Unknown	315407	885506	N/A
Helena	Not Standing	303050	882955	Gone <2005
Heucks	Unknown	313646	901815	N/A
Hickman	Unknown	304400	891546	N/A
Hiwannee	Unknown	314747	883751	N/A
Holder	Unknown	315800	891016	N/A
Homing	Unknown	310934	903528	N/A
Hoodtown	Unknown	320003	903610	N/A
Hopewell	Unknown	340928	881500	N/A
Hurley	Unknown	304039	883001	N/A
Hurley	Unknown	303937	883003	N/A
Improve	Unknown	312155	894332	N/A
Jackson (Hilda)	Standing	302550	883909	Standing 01/2005
Jasper	Unknown	320602	890307	N/A
Jeff Davis	Unknown	321208	905231	N/A
Jefferson Davis	Unknown	313218	894806	N/A
Knoxville	Unknown	312337	910320	N/A
Kosciusko	Standing	330433	893718	Standing 2005
Lacy	Unknown	303807	893915	N/A
Lafayette (Thackers)	Standing	341937	893447	Standing 03/2004
Lake Lowndes	Unknown	332418	881905	N/A
Lamar	Standing	310849	893005	Standing 10/2005
Latimer	Unknown	303203	885136	N/A
Lauderdale (Tamola)	Unknown	323049	882732	N/A
Leaf	Unknown	310027	885044	N/A
Lee	Unknown	342155	883628	N/A
Lee	Not Standing	305131	892017	Gone (footings present) <2005
Leesdale	Unknown	312834	911004	N/A
Lexington	Unknown	330341	900100	N/A
Lincoln	Standing	313111	903207	Standing 01/2001
Lodi	Unknown	333250	892655	N/A
Lone Pine	Unknown	311017	890909	N/A
Longview	Unknown	332517	885327	N/A
Lorman	Unknown	315049	910608	N/A
Louin	Unknown	320530	891505	N/A
Luce	Not Standing	305713	882918	Gone <1971
Maben	Standing	332959	890421	Standing 2007
Madison	Not Standing	322801	901037	Gone <04/2003
Marietta	Unknown	343217	882952	N/A
Marion	Unknown	322628	884047	N/A
Mars Hill	Unknown	325645	891515	N/A
Maxie	Not Standing	305716	891119	Gone - moved to farm near Sumrall <2004
McCool	Standing	330633	891909	Standing 2003
McCower	Unknown	332034	883219	N/A
McHenry	Not Standing	304347	890840	Gone <11/1958

Hilda fire tower

1 message

Sam Morgan <smorgan@mfc.state.ms.us>
To: nitafuller@cableone.net

Tue, Jun 14, 2011 at 4:48 PM

Mr. Fuller,

As the Jackson County forester for the Mississippi Forestry Commission, I would like to learn more about the Hilda fire tower located at 6200 Gautier – Vancleave Rd. Surprisingly, there is very little information to be found on the internet.

Along with the history of the tower, I am also looking to find any possible local, state, or federal grants that may be available to assist in preserving this historical icon.

The tower is currently in disrepair, but in fair condition. I would estimate that within 2-3 years it will be unsafe to climb the timber stairs. As a matter of public safety the State will likely remove the tower within the next 10-15 years unless preventative maintenance can be done.

Thank you for your time,

Samuel Morgan

Jackson County Forester

Mississippi Forestry Commission

6200 Gautier- Vancleave Rd.

Gautier, MS. 39553

(601)- 528-0544

the Netherlands, established the Royal Netherlands Military Flying School at Hawkins Field.

The Civil Air Patrol in Jackson attempted to gather funds and support for the restoration of this historic building; however, they have not found success, as the airport authority that owns the terminal has continued to let the building deteriorate. However, there is hope for the terminal as the building is a Mississippi Landmark, helping to protect it from demolition, and a Save America's Treasure's grant of \$350,000 was approved in 2009 to stabilize the building.

Mississippi Industrial College Holly Springs, Mississippi

The search is still on for ideas on redevelopment of the structures that were built as part of the college founded for African Americans in 1905. At the request of the owners of the property at the time, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the complex was designated a Mississippi Landmark by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in 2002.

The complex of buildings was then sold to Holly Springs-based Rust College which is located across the street from the Industrial College. Without funds to maintain or restore the buildings, many have fallen prey to deterioration and a storm several years ago caused the roof of one building to completely collapse, and now some walls of the same building have collapsed. Rust College has been working for several years to try and get federal funding for the buildings; however they have not been successful.

Moore Fire Tower Forest, Mississippi

The Mississippi Forestry Service has allocated funds to repair and replace many of the damaged steps, fix the twisted and rusted beams, and replace the roof. Some cosmetic repairs still need to be made to the interior of the structure, but at present it is structurally sound. The tower will not be opened to tours, but visits to the tower may be incorporated with other tours so that interested visitors are able to at least see the structure.

Kippay Road and Turkey Creek North Gulfport, Mississippi

The Turkey Creek community has experienced mixed success, setbacks, and unexpected challenges. Turkey Creek is significant as it was developed as a post-Civil War African American community and in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it grew to become a thriving community as numerous African Americans came to the Coast in search of work.

In addition to an individual listing for the Benton House, the Turkey Creek community was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district in 2009. Nevertheless, escalating threats of urban sprawl, de-forestation and environmental problems continually must be faced. A tightening band of transportation and commercial development, and the proximity to active and inactive chemical plants pose additional obstacles to community survival. However, hopes have been lifted by support from historic preservationists and environmental justice advocates who learned of the plight of the area largely through MHT's timely concern and publicity.

During Hurricane Katrina, Turkey Creek suffered severe flooding and high winds which damaged many of the houses. After the storm volunteer groups assisted with repairs and the National Trust for Historic Preservation donated money to help with recovery of the neighborhood. Eight houses within the Turkey Creek Historic District, including the home of the community's founder, Melinda Benton, were awarded grants through the Hurricane Relief Grant Program for Historic Preservation, administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. As the restoration of these

*Mississippi's 10 Most
Endangered Historic Places
Mississippi Heritage Trust*

Save!

TO: *Mississippi Landmark Applicants*
From: Hal Bell, Review and Compliance Assistant
Subject: *Mississippi Landmark Designation*

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the designation of a historic property as a *Mississippi Landmark*. Attached is a flier that briefly explains the *Mississippi Landmark* program and answers frequently asked questions about the state's Antiquities Law, which governs the *Mississippi Landmark* program.

We trust that it is clearly understood that this designation, which is being made at the request of the owner, entails a long-term commitment on the part of the owner to the preservation of this historic property. Once a property is made a *Mississippi Landmark*, the Department of Archives and History will only consider rescinding the designation under extraordinary circumstances

To assist the Department in expediting the evaluation process, please complete the enclosed "Mississippi Landmark Eligibility Assessment Questionnaire" and return it to the Historic Preservation Division along with the following materials:

- 1) Photographs.** For buildings, please submit at least two photographs of the exterior that provide a good overall view of the structure and at least two photos of the interior that illustrate the primary rooms and any significant details, such as stairways, mantels, and/or artwork.
- 2) Map.** Please include a copy of a city, county, or USGS map with the location of the historic property clearly indicated. The map should be sufficiently detailed to easily locate the property.
- 3) Resolution.** To speed the designation process by avoiding time-consuming legal notifications and public notices if the property is determined eligible for landmark designation, please complete the appropriate version of the enclosed "Resolution for *Mississippi Landmark* Designation." Historic properties belonging to the state, counties, municipalities, school districts, and other political subdivisions should use the "Resolution for *Mississippi Landmark* Designation of Publicly Owned Property," which must be signed by the chief elected official or agency head of the governing body. Properties belonging to private nonprofit organizations should use the "Resolution for *Mississippi Landmark* Designation of Privately Owned Property," which must be signed by the chief officer or legal representative of the organization. The resolution must be notarized.
- 4) Legal description.** The precise legal description of the historic property for which *Mississippi Landmark* designation is sought must be attached to the completed resolution as "Exhibit A." This should be the property description as recorded in the county deed records.

The Permit Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History meets on the second Thursday of each month to handle matters related to the *Mississippi Landmark* program. In order for a request for *Mississippi Landmark* designation to be processed, a complete packet of the above listed items should be received by the Department at least one week prior to the meeting. Submission of incomplete or inaccurate information in the packet will delay the processing of the *Mississippi Landmark* evaluation/designation.

Again, thank you for your interest in the Mississippi Landmark program. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at the above address or phone number.

Enclosures