Twenty years ago, I was a woe-deep in an old filing cabinet at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, trolling for tidbits on Vickborg's antebellum architecture. One thin red folder, marked "Shamrock," yielded a solitary 1925 snapshot of a remarkable mansion, obviously empty and only a step ahead of the wrecking ball. The tall shutters were splintered, windowspanes were shattered, and stucco was peeling in sheets from the tall Doric columns of its front and rear verandas. Two elegantly proportioned brick chimneys clung to the roofline like loose teeth. But behind the decay was a veneer of dignity that time and neglect had not erased.

My questions about Shamrock went unanswered at Archives. The professional historians could barely keep up with the demands of existing and endangered buildings throughout the state, and there was precious little time left to delve into the demise of those that were only memories. I went back to the files, dove in, and have yet to emerge fully. The sad truth is that Mississippi's pre-Civil War architecture disappeared at an alarming rate in the century after that conflict. Homes burned, churches and courthouses and college buildings were pulled down, and a lethal combination of neglect, weather, and progress relegated many an extraordinary structure to those sad red folders in steel filing cabinets.

Lost Mansions of Mississippi was published in 1996, featuring 59 houses throughout the state. To my surprise and satisfaction, it struck a deep chord of memory and regret with many people, including dozens who brought me their photographs and family stories. Over the next decade, I was working with photographer Mary Rose Carter on a series of books highlighting Mississippi's extant architecture and was determined not to leave this comfortable niche of memory and regret with many people, including dozens who brought me their photographs and family stories. Over the next decade, I was working with photographer Mary Rose Carter on a series of books highlighting Mississippi's extant architecture and was determined not to leave this comfortable niche

On a weekly basis beginning in 1979, Oraien Catledge photographed families in the neglected industrial area near downtown Atlanta known as Cabbagetown. As far distant and wary, demos knew to trust "the picture man" and welcomed him into their homes and lives. Though initially hindered by a lack of formal training with a camera, as well as a congenital visual impairment, Mr. Catledge eventually mastered a "face-to-face" approach that produced stark and intimate images. Reminiscent of the Great Depression work of Walker Evans, his photographs portray a compelling visual record of an era and way of life that have vanished with modernization. Two decades of his photographing in the rapidly gentrifying area has produced a remarkable inventory of more than 50,000 negatives.

Born in Summer, Mississippi, Oraien Catledge has been recognized nationally, and his powerful photographs are enduring contributions to the history of American photography. It was with a shared passion for the history of American photography and art, and culture in the Magnolia State, UPB books capture vivid moments of the states' past and present and offer portraits of the men and women who have called this rich land home.

In addition to its long tradition of publishing outstanding scholarship in a variety of subject areas, one of the hallmarks of the University Press of Mississippi's publishing program is its special focus on regional books. Through publications about history, art, and culture in the Magnolia State, UPB books capture vivid moments of the states' past and present and offer portraits of the men and women who have called this rich land home.

In 2009, encouraged by Richard Ford, the Mississippi Museum of Art and the University Press of Mississippi partnered to produce a solo exhibition and, simultaneously, to publish a monograph featuring the photography of Oraien Catledge. The staff of both organizations worked closely with Constance Lewis and Richard Ford to select images for the exhibition and the book. MMA mounted the artist's first museum retrospective, entitled Cabbagetown: Photographs by Oraien Catledge, in September 2013. Consisting of 85 black and white photographs, the exhibition opened in conjunction with the publication of an illustrated, hardcover book, Oraien Catledge: Photographs edited by Richard Ford and Constance Lewis and published by the University Press of Mississippi.

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of an effective Confederate navy indeed left only Vicksburg in the way of a Union-the Mississippi, including Memphis, had fallen into Union hands. To the south, the length. By early 1862, events proved them right. North of Vicksburg, towns along on lofty heights above the Mississippi River, became an early target, for Union conflict as a separate entity, while at the same time demonstrating the relationships to each other and beyond the state’s borders. No fighting happened in isolation; all battles resulted from grand strategic plans by both Union and Confederate military leaders. Sometimes these plans had an impact on Mississippi in curious ways. An early example was the first Union attack on Vicksburg. Vicksburg, sitting on lofty heights above the Mississippi River, became an early target, for Union strategists knew that the capture of Vicksburg would open the river its entire length. By early 1862, events proved them right. North of Vicksburg, towns along the Mississippi, including Memphis, had fallen into Union hands. To the south, the Union navy moved unopposed up to Natchez after taking New Orleans. The lack of an effective Confederate navy indeed left only Vicksburg in the way of a Union-controlled river. Yet Vicksburg would not fall for another year because the Union navy could not take the city alone. Federal infantry would be required, but Henry Halleck, whose huge army had occupied Corinth after Shiloh, began sending thousands of reinforcements to Tennessee and other states. Vicksburg had time to recuperate, and Halleck’s action also produced a period of fighting in north Mississippi that might have been avoided. Each campaign and battle followed had unique characteristics, making the war in Mississippi all the more fascinating. Every battle contained tactical and strategic actions that highlighted the quality, or lack thereof, of generals and the extraordinary bravery of men on both sides. Every chapter gave me a feeling of starting over as I plunged into a new topic. Even the chronological arrangement of the book proved a challenge, for after the first attack on Vicksburg, the battles of Iuka and Corinth intervened before the Vicksburg campaign moved forward again. Also, in looking at all the fighting, I surprisingly found Iku to be perhaps the strangest battle of all, and not just because part of the Union army could not hear the battle going on. After Vicksburg fell into Union hands, the next campaigns in Mississippi had far-reaching effects. William T. Sherman used the Meridian campaign to test his hard war vision, which he used to greater effect in Georgia. Sherman caused battles at Bircher’s Crossroads and Tupelo by sending forces into north Mississippi to keep Nathan Bedford Forrest away from his supply line in Tennessee. These Union raids destroyed supplies in Mississippi that Confederates retreating from Tennessee in 1863 and 1864 needed desperately, and the scope of military action in Mississippi becomes clear. Military actions in the state mattered from the beginning to the end of the Civil War. This book is a volume in the Heritage of Mississippi Series, sponsored by the Mississippi Historical Society in cooperation with the University Press of Mississippi. The volumes in this series are intended to cover the breadth of Mississippi history. Produced by scholars, these studies target a general audience, and professional historians will also find them useful.

—MICHAEL B. BALLARD

THE CIVIL WAR IN MISSISSIPPI

Major Campaigns and Battles

AWARDS, HONORS, AND REVIEWS

The Dictionary of Louisiana French created some buzz this winter. The Dictionary was a shared research project in Library Journal and was also reviewed in The Independent (Lafayette, LA), Country-Roads, and 225 Magazine (Baton Rouge). The Dictionary was also named the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Book of the Year for 2011.

The legs of murder scandal received several local publicity hits. Delta Magazines, Clarion Ledger, Causing Leader, Gator, and several other publications all praised the book. Melissa Tomrow, editor of Delta Magazine, offered this high praise. “Through Cole, you all but walk, drive and smell (gulp) the streets of Laurel, circa 1935, and take a front row seat in the courtroom. The tragedies unfold in page turning fashion.”

Ellis Anderson, author of Under surge, Under Siege was featured on NPR’s Wisters Katrina-themed episode this summer as well as NPR’s “Weekend Edition,” MBR.com, Blues Sun, Mississippi History Magazine, and the magazine Coastal Living.

Inside the Hollywood Fan Magazine also enjoyed some big publicity hits. The book was reviewed in Film Comment, online at LeonardMaltin.com, and a small mention in LA Times. The book was also featured as a Book Corner selection for the month of August at TCM.com and was promoted in the company’s email newsletters and News Premiere guide.

My Life with Charlie Brown has been a runaway hit, receiving print coverage in the Washington Post, Denver Post, Animazing Views Magazine, Richmond Magazine, and the Oregon AM Club.

Gordon Martin, author of Coast Them One by One: Black Mississippian Fighting for the Right to Vote was interviewed by Robin Roberts on Good Morning America on December 8. Glorious Days and Nights was reviewed in the Pittsburgh Tribune by Katrine Barnett. She offered, “For any jazz lover who has ever wished to have been around in the Golden Age, Glorious Days and Nights offers a wonderful glimpse of what it must have been like.”

Alan Lomax, Assistant in Charge: The Library of Congress Letters, 1935-1945 was reviewed in the Wall Street Journal. The review highlighted the resurgence of interest in Lomax’s recordings and his influence on the music world.

Black Velvet Art was recently featured in the New York Times art section. The piece featured an interview with author Eric Eliason and published the book as an inspiring take on a unique topic.

—STEVE YATES, UPM Marketing Director

BOOKSTORES EVALUATE THEIR ROLES AS CONSUMER HABITS CHANGE

Mississippi and Louisiana bookstores in a digital age as UPM has adapted to customer demand for electronic books, we have added ten new channels for our content in the last twelve months. We currently sell electronic books and author content through outlets. BOOKFRIENDS will recognize, such as the Amazon Kindle and the Barnes & Noble NOOK. And we advance the work of our authors into libraries and classrooms through devices and vendors you may not know about, such as the KNO Reader, library aggregators, and course pack creators.

The bookstores of Mississippi and Louisiana, our newest and longest standing customers, are also in the midst of change. We have listened with great interest and concern to their needs and challenges. And we take heart in their impressive drive to adapt and serve readers in their communities and beyond.

On February 10, Bob Miznsheimer wrote a fine article, “Is there hope for small bookstores in a digital age?” in USA Today about these challenges, saying, “Increasingly, consumers are ordering print books online and reading e-books delivered instantly to mobile devices and e-readers such as Amazon’s Kindle and Barnes & Noble’s NOOK.”

Miznsheimer found an inspiring universal in the particular story of Suzann Hermans’ Obbligo Books in Rinebeck, New York. And what he describes is happening in Mississippi stores such as Lorelei Books in Vicksburg right now. “By emphasizing service,” he writes, “her store’s popularity as a community gathering spot and even a new — and somewhat counterintuitive — plan to help her customers order e-books, Herman, 26, is betting that her small store will continue to buck prevailing winds in the book business.”

Jackson’s Lemuria began its own soul-searching quest of how to adapt and opened the query to its customer base and the worldwide web via its blog. You can follow the store’s staff and customer comments, and add your own at http://blog.lemuriasbooks.com/2011/en/bookstore-key-the-changing-book-business.

With Borders declaring that it has filed for debtor-in-possession bankruptcy on the day of this writing, we know the landscapes are changing fast. In Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, an independent bookstore is up for sale, and in Pascual Christian another is mourning an owner’s death. Two independent bookstores closed in Corinth, Mississippi in 2009 and 2010.

BOOKFRIENDS can keep fingers on the pulse of stores in Mississippi and Louisiana. The two websites Mississippi stores are described in detail and linked to at http://www.squads.com/Mississippi-Bookstores. And Louisiana stores are described and linked to at http://www.squads.com/Louisiana-Bookstores. Please visit these two websites often—UPM updates the two themselves whenever the Marketing Director travels and whenever we receive news.

—STEVE YATES, UPM Marketing Director

MAKING VOTES COUNT IN MISSISSIPPI

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is famous all over the world. Congressman John Lewis, formerly a leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), is respected throughout the United States, and Roy Wilkins of the NAACP and James Farmer of CORE are remembered by some, but despite a valiant effort by Prof. John Dittmer in his 1985 book, Local People, the brave African American citizens of the Deep South who stepped forward to testify against repressive registers of voters remain largely unknown. I wrote Count Them One by One so that the sixteen courageous black witnesses I testify for Forrest County Registrar Thomas Lemark in the first big case brought by the Justice Department in Mississippi in 1972 would be recognized.

As a young government lawyer I had prepared that case for trial. Twenty-seven years later I returned to Mississippi to find my witnesses, David Robertson had moved to Chicago to teach. Jesse Stegall had become principal of a Forrest county elementary school. Vernon Dalmour had been murdered by the White Knights of the Klan. These others had died, but the rest were still there in Forrest county, living the lives of civic participation they had fought to obtain. I was able to talk with them and the family members of those who had died.

When the book was published last fall, it was particularly satisfying for me to speak at the Centennial Conference on Civil Rights of the University of Southern Mississippi. Yet Vicksburg would not fall for another year because the Union navy could not take the city alone. Federal infantry would be required, but Henry Halleck, whose huge army had occupied Corinth after Shiloh, began sending thousands of reinforcements to Tennessee and other states. Vicksburg had time to recuperate, and Halleck’s action also produced a period of fighting in north Mississippi that might have been avoided. Each campaign and battle followed had unique characteristics, making the war in Mississippi all the more fascinating. Every battle contained tactical and strategic actions that highlighted the quality, or lack thereof, of generals and the extraordinary bravery of men on both sides. Every chapter gave me a feeling of starting over as I plunged into a new topic. Even the chronological arrangement of the book proved a challenge, for after the first attack on Vicksburg, the battles of Iuka and Corinth intervened before the Vicksburg campaign moved forward again. Also, in looking at all the fighting, I surprisingly found Iku to be perhaps the strangest battle of all, and not just because part of the Union army could not hear the battle going on.

After Vicksburg fell into Union hands, the next campaigns in Mississippi had far-reaching effects. William T. Sherman used the Meridian campaign to test his hard war vision, which he used to greater effect in Georgia. Sherman caused battles at Bircher’s Crossroads and Tupelo by sending forces into north Mississippi to keep Nathan Bedford Forrest away from his supply line in Tennessee. These Union raids destroyed supplies in Mississippi that Confederates retreating from Tennessee in 1863 and 1864 needed desperately, and the scope of military action in Mississippi becomes clear. Military actions in the state mattered from the beginning to the end of the Civil War.

This book is a volume in the Heritage of Mississippi Series, sponsored by the Mississippi Historical Society in cooperation with the University Press of Mississippi. The volumes in this series are intended to cover the breadth of Mississippi history. Produced by scholars, these studies target a general audience, and professional historians will also find them useful.

—MICHAEL B. BALLARD

40 years of UPM

Celebrating

100

years

of

Mississippi

Historical

Society
Upon discovering the purpose of the Book of Friends, Natsume makes it his mission to return all of the names his Grandmother took to their appropriate spirits. Yes, including the evil ones who want to kill him. He spends his time releasing the various spirits that come to him for help from their contracts and trying to stay alive in the face of the ones who'd rather just eat him and take the book for themselves. Takashi Natsume is a 15-year-old boy who wants nothing more but to live a normal life like everyone else. But to his dismay, he's inherited the ability to see "youkai," or spirits, from his grandmother Reiko. Natsume eventually discovers that Reiko had bequeathed to him a book of contracts in which she had bound youkai—the Book of Friends. However, without Reiko ever calling upon the spirits' names, they have been left in a confined state.