

Welcome to,
Oxford, Mississippi



Brief History of Oxford, Mississippi.

In the early 1800s, the land that would soon be Oxford, belonged to the Chickasaw Indian Nation. However, in 1837, fifty acres of the land was bought three men, John Chisholm, John J. Craig and John D. Martins, and therefore became a part of Lafayette County. In 1848, the University of Mississippi was built and became the first university in the state of Mississippi. The school started out with 80 students and grew rapidly. Unfortunately, The Civil War broke out in 1861, and three years later, the town of Oxford was set to flames and demolished, burning homes, the courthouse, and the town square, to the ground; and consequently, killing many residents and students. According to www.oxfordms.net, “As a result of the destruction that the Civil War inflicted, Oxford floundered until 1869 when a new government was appointed. Despite existing in the aftermath of war and an outbreak of Yellow Fever in 1878, Oxford endured, and before long thrived.”

Location.

Oxford, Mississippi is located in the north part of the state in Lafayette County. It is about 1 hour and



15 minutes from the Memphis International airport.

President and Political Economy.

When the city of Oxford was created, Martin Van Buren had been the President of the U.S. for only about a month and a half. 1837 is better known as 'The Panic of 1837' because the banks were struggling and paper currency consequently lost its value, resulting in rapidly increasing unemployment rates and, especially in the West and South, "a loss of agricultural exports and crop failures." (<http://www.encyclopedia.com>)



Oldest\ Largest Businesses Today.

The largest businesses and companies in Oxford today, in terms of employment, are The University of Mississippi (2,600 employees), North Mississippi Regional Center, Baptist Memorial Hospital, and Olin Corporation- Winchester Division, all three with 1,100 employees. The oldest business in Oxford as of today is Neilson's Department store. This store is the oldest company in the southern United States



because it has been around since 1839, which is 175 years.

City Government.

According to oxfordms.net, "The Mayor and seven Board of Aldermen make policy decisions in accordance with procedures and responsibilities set out in State law. The Board of Aldermen of the City of Oxford, Mississippi is composed of seven members. Six aldermen are elected according to their respective wards, and one aldermen elected at-large."

Historic Attractions and Festivals.

There are many historical attractions in Oxford but here are just a few. One of the attractions that one can see in Oxford is the Civil Rights monument on the Ole Miss campus. This monument represents a man named James Meredith who was the first African American student at Ole Miss in 1962. He went on to become a civil rights activist. If anyone is interested in the University in Oxford, we could go to the



University Museum. We could also visit the L.Q.C House. According to visitoxfordms.com, “The L.Q.C. Lamar House was declared a National Historic Landmark for Lamar’s involvement in national political affairs after the end of the Civil War. Its meticulous restoration revealed a handsome, though modest Greek Revival structure. In the 1870s, it was home to Lucius Lamar while he reflected on Confederate defeat and resolved to work for reconciliation



between North and South.”

Lastly, we could walk through one of the two historical cemeteries. As for Festivals in Oxford, there is an Oxford Film Festival where filmmakers from all over the world come and present their creations in the Lyric Theater. Another is the Oxford Blues Festival, where blues artists come and perform concerts in the Oxford Square.

Where to Stay.

In the City of Oxford, there are over ten quaint bed and breakfasts to stay in. There are also many typical



hotels, one of which is located on the Ole Miss campus.

Why Go to Oxford?

Oxford (as proved above) is a lovely, quaint city. It is filled with wonderful American history, and contains the beautiful, unique Ole Miss campus.

Links to Visit.

<http://visitoxfordms.com/>

<http://www.oxfordms.net/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rTkKgwIP64>

<http://neilsonsdepartmentstore.com/>