



WEST FELICIANA RR BUILDING . 1834
THE WILKINSON COUNTY MUSEUM 1991

THE WOODVILLE CIVIC CLUB

FOUNDED IN 1971

E.MAIL NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2020



THE BANK OF MISSISSIPPI . 1819
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM 2004

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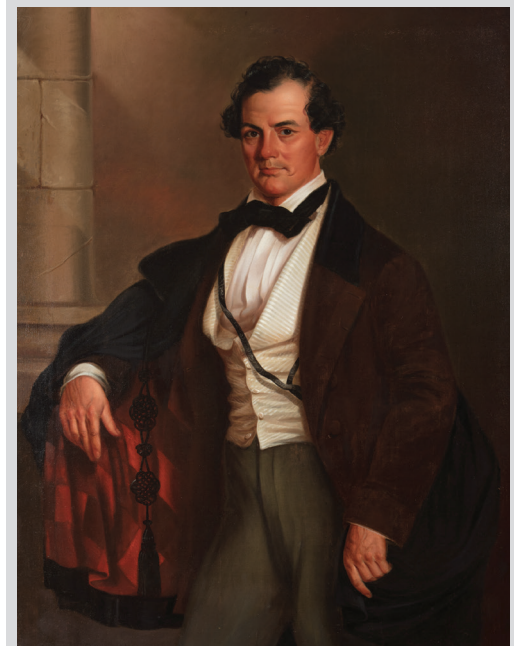
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Two Famous 19th C. Men From Woodville Featured In Recent Neal Auction Sale in New Orleans

Theodore Sidney Moise was a native of Charleston, South Carolina who then moved as a young man to Woodville, Mississippi. His artistic career began at an early age, and he advertised himself throughout the South as a portraitist and animal painter. Moise's career flourished in New Orleans, where he moved in 1842.

Moise's technical skill is apparent in the important three-quarter length portrait of Francis Dubose Richardson offered here, and he portrays the gentleman with the dignity

and respect of his position as an attorney, state representative, and philanthropist. Born in 1812 in Woodville, Mississippi, Richardson married Bethia Liddell in 1839, of Elmsley Plantation in Woodville, and the couple moved to Bayou Teche in Iberia Parish, Louisiana. By 1850, Richardson had become a successful sugar planter and refiner, and he built Bayside Plantation along Bayou Teche, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Having our native son, Frances Dubose Richardson, immortalized in this significant, rare, and historic Southern portrait by Theodore Sidney Moise, another Woodvillian, underscores the elegance of our early days.



Theodore Sidney Moise (American/Louisiana, 1808-1885), "Francis Dubose Richardson (1812-1901)", 1854, oil on canvas, unsigned, 49 3/4 in. x 40 in., framed. [Sold for \$20,740]

Our thanks to our friends at Neal Auction in New Orleans for sharing their research and allowing us to use this photograph.

Stutzman Blacksmith Shop & House Donated To The Civic Club By Arlin Dease

Mr. Arlin Dease has deeded the Stutzman House and Blacksmith Shop back to the Civic Club in a generous donation made this past December.

In 2008 the Civic Club held a meeting with many Stutzman heirs, after the death of the last resident in 2006, Ms Olivia Stutzman, to explore options for the preservation of this early landmark. In the meanwhile title was acquired by Mrs. Mabel Maryman Clark and in December of 2012, Mrs. Clark donated the property to the Civic Club.

In December of 2015 it was purchased by Arlin Dease and the funds from that purchase

facilitated the printing costs of the 2nd edition of THE PLANTATION WORLD OF WILKINSON COUNTY 1792-2012. During his ownership Mr. Dease secured the house and removed an unwanted addition.

It is hoped that the Civic Club will oversee a preservation project for the Blacksmith Shop which would allow it to be a permanent exhibit relating its history; and that the house and lot might be sold and restored perhaps for use as a small residence.

We are grateful to Mr. Dease for his generous donation and his continued commitment and contributions to preservation in our community.

The restoration of the house should qualify

under the guidelines of The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program, administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the nation's most effective program to promote historic preservation and community revitalization through historic preservation.



With permission Mississippi Heritage Trust



Built by French immigrant Jacob Stutzman and later operated by his son Joseph, the Stutzman Blacksmith Shop is last known standing blacksmith shop in the region. Boasting original signage for Groves Tonic and Bromo Quinine, the shop still contains much of its original equipment. Oral histories and local records state that the house, which features 12-inch plaster walls, was constructed around 1805, making it one of the oldest houses in Wilkinson County. Home to four generations of the Stutzman family, the house has been vacant since 2006. Both the house and shop are in poor condition and will be lost if action is not taken soon.

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www.historicwoodville.com
Available with PayPal

The Woodville Civic Club has supported the Mississippi Heritage Trust from it's founding in 1992 and with enthusiasm for its enormous contributions to preservation in this state. We are encouraged by the inclusion of our Stutzman House and Blacksmith Shop in this 20th year list of the 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in Mississippi.