



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 26, 2020

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What: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Children's Barnyard

Who: Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson

When: Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

**Where: Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum
1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS**

Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum Cuts Ribbon on New Children's Barnyard and Multipurpose Building

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson invites the public to join him in cutting the ribbon to the new Children's Barnyard and Multipurpose Building at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum on Wednesday, March 4, at 10:00 a.m.

"I want to invite the public to join us at this exciting time at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum as we cut the ribbon to the new Children's Barn and Multipurpose Building. This particular facility is an important endeavor used to further agriculture education and enhance the visitor's experience on the grounds of the Museum," said Commissioner Gipson. "The Children's Barnyard will provide the opportunity for children and adults who may not have been to a farm before, to experience farm life and get the chance to encounter agriculture and animals firsthand."

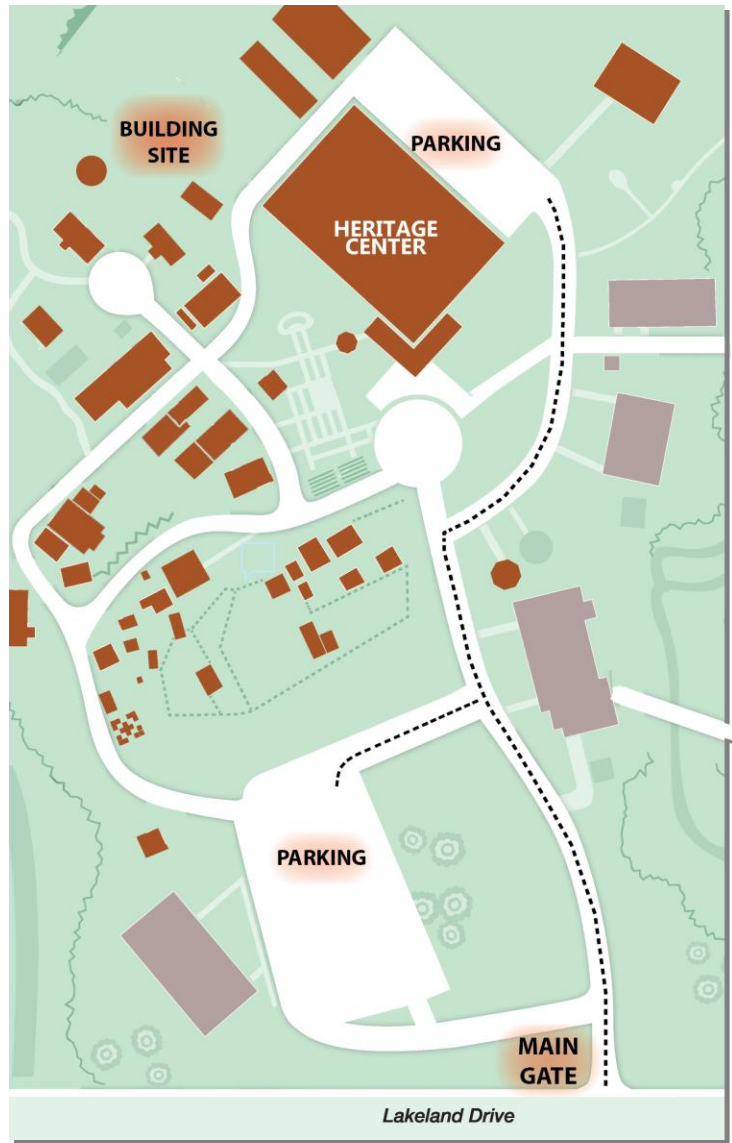
The construction of the Children's Barnyard and Multipurpose Building is part of the rebuilding efforts to replace buildings lost during a devastating fire on the Museum grounds in November 2014. The Children's Barn, which is approximately 2,500 square feet, features 10 stalls, a turnout area, chicken coop, hay loft, tack room and veterinary medicine exhibit. The facility will also house a variety of farm animals such as rabbits, chickens, goats, sheep, cows, mules, pigs and the famous rodeo horse, Gunsmoke.

The Multipurpose Building is connected to the Children's Barnyard by a covered walkway and allows visitors the opportunity to rent out the quaint venue for class school trips, meetings, birthday parties and other private events.

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Note to Media – Commissioner Gipson will be available for interviews. The ribbon cutting will take place outside of the Children's Barnyard. Enter the Museum through the main entrance on Lakeland Drive, and parking will be behind the Heritage Exhibit Center and in front of the Sparkman building. A map is attached for your convenience.

The Museum Foundation also invites the press to join the Pillars of Support Luncheon immediately following the ribbon cutting Wednesday, March 4, at 11:30 a.m. in the Forestry Auditorium. The luncheon is a celebration of the Museum's donors and all the new developments made over the past year. To RSVP to the luncheon, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pillars-of-support-luncheon-tickets-90045952869>.



Map of the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum grounds in Jackson, Mississippi.