

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stephanie Evans Marketing & Events Manager, History Museum of Mobile (251) 301-0273

s.evans@historymuseumofmobile.com

HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE RESUMES MANAGEMENT OF COLONIAL FORT CONDE

Effective March 1, 2020, management of Colonial Fort Condé reverted to the History Museum of Mobile. "We are excited by the opportunities to serve the Mobile community through historical programming at Colonial Fort Condé," said Meg McCrummen Fowler, director of the History Museum of Mobile. "Colonial Fort Condé is a jewel of Mobile and an extraordinary place for history to come alive. We wish the Gulf Coast Ducks well at the beach and thank them for their management of the Fort. Now, we look forward to reintroducing the public to Fort Condé."

Colonial Fort Condé will be open seven days a week, and admission to the Fort will be included in the standard admission to the History Museum of Mobile. When the History Museum of Mobile is free on the first Sunday of each month (thanks to a sponsorship from Wind Creek Hospitality), the Fort will also be free. "Visitors to the History Museum will now have the added benefit of admission to the Fort," Fowler said.

Plans are still evolving for the programming at the Fort, adjacent to the History Museum. "Our vision is that Colonial Fort Condé would be a living history site, a thriving part of the downtown museum district and a place where locals and tourists alike come to experience Mobile's colonial history," said Fowler. Currently, museum exhibits inside the Fort explore the stories of Mobile under French, British, Spanish, and American rule. Future plans include a self-guided tours and regular demonstrations of colonial life from living history interpreters, including through colonial festivals.

The facility will continue to be available for event rentals, such as weddings, parties, and corporate events.

The original Fort Condé was built in 1723 by French explorers. Under various colonial powers, it went by different names, including Fort Louis, Fort Charlotte, and Fuerta Carlota. The extant remnants of the original fort, discovered during the construction of the Wallace Tunnel in 1966, may be seen in Mardi Gras Park, facing Church Street. The replica fort was opened in 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial celebration. About one-third of the Fort was reconstructed, and at a four-fifths scale.

HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE: The History Museum of Mobile is where Mobile's story begins. Over 117,000 objects weave together the rich, diverse, and often turbulent histories of Mobile and the surrounding area, from the prehistoric past to the present. Located in the heart of downtown, the History Museum of Mobile operates three campuses: The primary exhibitions are located in the Old City Hall-Southern Market building at 111 South Royal Street; Colonial Fort Condé is at 150 South Royal Street; and the Phoenix Fire Museum is at 203 South Claiborne Street. For more information, please visit: www.historymuseumofmobile.com

###